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CITY OF HAUSER

11837 N. Hauser Lake Road, Hauser, Idaho 83854

HAUSER CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

(ZOOM Meeting & Public Attendance)

REGULAR MEETING – June 9, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Hoerner
3. **ROLL CALL – Council:** Hoerner, present; Pomykala, present; Finley, present; Duchesne, present.
Staff: Mihara, zoom; Wheeler, zoom; Espe, absent; Sauter, present; Fondahn-Baker. Present.
4. **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA, DECLARATION OF CONFLICT, EX-PARTE CONTACTS:** None
5. **MINUTES**
ACTION ITEM:
. Minutes of May 12, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.: Council Member Hoerner moved to approve the May 12, 2026 Minutes. Council Member Duchesne seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.
6. **MAYOR, Bill Ray:** No report.
7. **REPORTS**
. Cindy Espe, Code Enforcement: Absent.
8. **TREASURER, Lee Wheeler**
ACTION ITEM:
. Treasurer Report – June 2026: The General and Highway funds, which are made up of the Savings and Checking accounts, are just under \$865K; Profit/Loss versus the budget are similar as the previous months and he is pleased with how our budgeting process has developed over the last couple of years; Building Revenue is on par and a little bit over \$2K which will level out throughout the year; IT computer expense is something for next year's budgeting which will be coming up soon and Council can dissect what those services are, but they are significantly more than previous years; Coleman Engineering services are lingering; Alpine Summit auditors have completed 2023 and are

60% finished with 2024 and will wrap up FY 2025 this summer; Council Member Duchesne questioned the Hauser Lake Fire Protection and Kootenai County EMS transactions. Wheeler answered that they are impact fees associated with building permits that we collect from the applicants. We also have a very small fee that we recover for that processing, it comes in and goes right back out. Council Member Pomykala moved to approve the June 2026 Treasurer Report. Council Member Hoerner seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

9. COUNCIL MEMBERS & STAFF

. **Jeff Hoerner, Public Works – Streets & Roads:** No report other than commenting that the Post Falls Highway District is finishing up the roadwork in the Woodlake neighborhood.

. **Alice Pomykala, Land & Buildings**

ACTION ITEM:

. **Landscaping Bid – Pinpoint Landscaping LLC:** We haven't had lawn service for a couple of months and the grounds around City Hall are looking overgrown, so Pinpoint Landscaping was contacted to mow and do a lot of clean up. They are bonded and licensed in Idaho and Washington and will be a one-time job. Our current contractor (A&B) does not want to continue the work if his contract is not finalized. The Mayor said he has not reviewed the Attorney's revised contract for A&B yet. In the interim, Pinpoint will start with their services as soon as possible. Council Member Hoerner moved to accept Pinpoint's bid of \$650 to get started for mowing and cleanup, plus obtain a monthly estimate for on-going work. Council Member Duchesne seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

. **Daniel Finley, Special Projects:** It took a while to figure out YouTube in reference to uploading files in the City's computers but will go smoothly once completed. He reviewed the process with the City Clerk and should be easy to manipulate files and Zoom meetings, but they must be monitored because files are inserted one by one and generate a summary of the video each time; Council Member Finley commented that something we should be aware is that that Kootenai County Commissioner Mattare has been fighting with the City of Hayden for a long time over the cost of Sheriff's office. He reached out and said, 'Heads up, here's my white paper on how much it costs for deputies per hour and here's how much I've calculated it to be for Hauser, which, if I remember the numbers right, it's around \$78K/year.' The argument being that if you take the amount of money that the cities send to the county for the sheriff's department, the jail, etc., subtract that from the number of the dollar amount of the cost of calls it takes, and the difference is what the cities owe us for providing law enforcement to their jurisdictions. Otherwise, in his view, it's the county taxpayers that are subsidizing law enforcement in those cities that don't have their own police department. He's gone through and done all these calculations and is eventually going to broach this topic with all the cities in whatever time frame he has. He's already been going through it with Hayden. Now I don't know if his real concern is with Stateline because they have 37 citizens, I think 12 registered voters, and they have hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of sheriff hours because of all the businesses there. I don't think Embers has the same call rate as the businesses in Stateline, so I don't know if the same arguments necessarily apply, but it's something for us to have on the radar and something for us to be prepared to answer. I know Council Member Duchesne has put some work into how to answer it and I have some thoughts on how to answer it too. It's something to talk to Attorney Mihara about,

obviously. Mr. Mihara interjected and encouraged Council to be very careful with touching this issue because we have a historic \$100 per year rate with the sheriff's office which they have been honoring. Other jurisdictions have not been so lucky. Finley stepped in and said, "To be clear, none of us touched it. I did not touch it." The Mayor questioned Finley as to how did he hear about it? Finley answered that Mattare brought it up. "Exactly," replied the Mayor. Finley continued, "He's been going around to all the cities and doing this." Mayor Ray interjected that he hasn't come to him. Finley continued, "He's been doing this with Hayden and is going after Stateline." The Mayor asked again, "Where did you hear about him . . ." Attorney Mihara spoke up and commented that Hauser has not had this problem, and reiterated that he recommend to the Council not to create this problem. Council Member Finley closed by saying, "I don't think we need to do anything at the moment. At least it needs to be on the radar, because at some point, Mattare might." Council Member Duchesne had a couple of thoughts on it. First, it is his understanding, and he could be wrong, that Mattare's objective was for cities that were difficult to deal with, like Hayden, that he wanted to go to the state legislature and get some legislation passed that would allow the law enforcement agencies to charge back the cities for this funding discrepancy, and he said something to the effect that he has sympathetic ears in Boise. So, if he does that without any interaction and succeeds, then that could be very bad. Duchesne said he doesn't think it's at that stage, but he doesn't know much about it. The other thing is, he continued, that he read the paper that Mattare wrote and that he thinks it has errors in it. It says there were 300-375 incidences in the City of Hauser, but he doesn't know where Mattare got this data. But it is very likely that many of those incidences are in the county adjacent to Hauser and not actually in the City of Hauser. He believes his data is incorrect. Duchesne did not talk to him and doesn't intend to reach out and talk to him. He continued by commenting to our Attorney that we'd have this arrangement for the sheriff's department. He asked our Treasurer, what did we pay them last year and this year? The Mayor interjected and said they haven't. "They haven't asked, but we do have a MOU (Memo of Understanding) with them." Duchesne asked if we paid them last year? Mayor Ray answered that he didn't think so and didn't recall this. He turned to our Attorney asking to refresh his memory. "When we first started this whole thing with them there was some conversation about it and they said they weren't interested. Help me out with this. I don't remember exactly how it went." Attorney Mihara turned to Council again and advised them and the Mayor not to touch this issue and to leave it alone and let the sheriff's office bill us or not bill us as they deem fit. Council Member Duchesne thought that was sound advice. "I think it's a good idea that we all are aware that the Kootenai County Commissioner is focused on this, and that includes Hauser. I don't know where it will go but we have our view of what our agreements are." The Mayor interrupted, "I can almost assure you, he doesn't know about that MOU."

- . **Mark Duchesne, Council Member:** Talked to PFHD/IDOT and received positive feedback in reference to funding and design for the intersection at Cloverleaf. There are several steps and it will likely take a few years to complete. The next phase will be the design work to incorporate the Cloverleaf intersection into the Stateline to Pleasantview project. They must get through their design process first, and once complete, make a cost estimate and seek funding approval. On another note, Duchesne presented two posters with a write up for the 7/14 Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) and suggested the City use posters like these to spread the word of the upcoming meeting posting them City of Hauser's Facebook and local HOA pages. Mayor Ray asked if Council Member Duchesne had run these by Attorney Mihara for review and Duchesne replied that he had

not. Mihara advised that in order for Council to direct staff to make postings, it would have had to have been an Action Item on this month's meeting Agenda and Council would need a vote of approval for the action. Mihara offered another option to Council calling for an emergency meeting, but it must fall within certain guidelines to be considered an emergency. He also stated that Council can simply suggest the City Clerk take similar communication action, but it would not be a formal directive, and the action would be up to the discretion of the City Clerk.. The Mayor was concerned about the write-up not being accurate within the timeline for the Comp Plan to be reviewed. Council agreed they liked the poster idea, but that it would need to be distributed in the proper manner.

. **Kristin Sauter, City Clerk:** No report.

. **Laurie Fondahn-Baker, Deputy Clerk:** No report.

10. CITY ATTORNEY, Kinzo Mihara

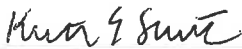
. **General Legal Update:** There are no claims against the City this month.

. **AOI Update and Meeting Information:** Announced there will be a public meeting with the county on 6/11 at 10:00 a.m. and doesn't anticipate any movement more than what there already has been with other cities. The cities have been limited to 1/8 mile from their city boundaries for the area of impact.

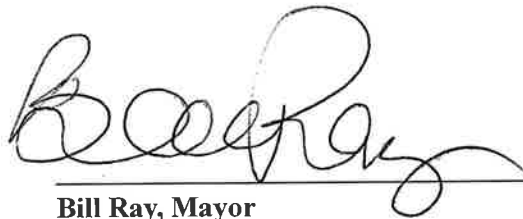
11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT



Kristin Sauter, City Clerk



Bill Ray, Mayor