

STATE OF IDAHO)
COUNTY OF BONNER)
CITY OF PRIEST RIVER)

MINUTES OF THE PRIEST RIVER CITY COUNCIL – 02/17/26

SPECIAL MEETING

OPENING – Mayor Connolly called to order the special meeting of the City Council at 5:35 pm on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at the Priest River City Hall Council Chambers, 552 High Street, Priest River, Idaho.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Council President Turner, Council Member Mullaley, Council Member Brower, and Council Member Wagner. Absent: None.

Staff Present: Mayor Connolly, City Clerk/Treasurer Thomas, City Attorney Ford Elsaesser, Chief of Police McLain, Director of Utility Operations Sifford, and Planning and Zoning Administrator Gabell.

3. WORKSHOP

A. TWO RIVERS PARK – STANCRAFT DESIGN UPDATE

Nelson Erickson from StanCraft was in attendance to present the latest design draft of the proposed development of Two Rivers Park. Discussion ensued, regarding truck and trailer parking, car parking, marina layout and phasing, cantina and food truck spaces, playground space, beach space, green space, pickleball and basketball courts, RV check-in and staging space, RV spaces, trail system, cabin spaces, frisbee golf course, fishing pier/overlook opportunities, bathroom facilities, amphitheater, wetlands, a potential RV dump station, community sites, and the next steps in the due diligence period.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. PREVIOUS MINUTES – CC 02/02/26

B. PAYABLES

C. MONTHLY RESERVE TRANSFER – JANUARY 2026

D. TREASURER’S MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY 2026

Council Member Turner made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Mullaley seconded the motion. After discussion and consideration, the motion passed unanimously.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS

None

6. UPDATES

A. PARKS AND TREE COMMISSION

City Clerk/Treasurer Thomas gave an update on the Parks and Tree Commission. Discussion ensued.

B. LAW ENFORCEMENT

Chief of Police McLain gave an update on Law Enforcement.

C. PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Connolly gave an update on Public Works.

D. PROJECT UPDATES

1. WELCH COMER – PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Welch Comer provided a written project status update.

Various project updates were given.

E. BUILDING & ZONING

Planning and Zoning Administrator Gabell gave an update on Building & Zoning.

1. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE – COMPLETE DRAFT

Discussion ensued regarding the complete draft of the comprehensive plan update.

2. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – MAP DRAFT

Planning and Zoning Administrator Gabell presented the draft Comprehensive Plan Map. Lengthy discussion ensued.

3. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT

Planning and Zoning Administrator Gabell presented the draft Public Engagement Plan. Discussion ensued.

7. BUSINESS

A. SAFETY POLICY UPDATE

City Clerk/Treasurer Thomas explained the updates to the City's Safety Policy. Discussion ensued.

Council Member Brower made a motion to table the updates to the Safety Policy for modification of the presented language. Council Member Turner seconded the motion. After discussion and consideration, the motion passed unanimously.

B. EMPLOYEE JOB DESCRIPTION UPDATES – ADMINISTRATION, BUILDING & ZONING, PARKS, STREETS, WATER, AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Connolly and City Clerk/Treasurer Thomas presented the updated Job Descriptions. Discussion ensued.

Council Member Turner made a motion to approve the updated job descriptions for the Administration, Building & Zoning, Parks, Streets, Water, and Wastewater Departments, with the addition to the Water and Wastewater Operator Job Descriptions that the City will only pay for up to two licensing tests per license type. Council Member Mullaley seconded the motion. After discussion and consideration, the motion passed unanimously.

C. CONTROL #2026-02-02 – WEST BONNER LIBRARY DISTRICT – REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF PARK RESERVATION FEE AND SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FEE FOR REPTILE LADY VISIT

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Brower made a motion to approve the waiver of one \$70.00 park reservation fee and one \$25.00 special event permit fee for the West Bonner Library District for the use of the City Park for the Reptile Lady Visit. Council Member Turner seconded the motion. After discussion and consideration, the motion passed unanimously.

D. CONTROL #2026-02-04 – WEST BONNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #83 – REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION FEE

Superintendent Kim Spacek, Kendra Salesky, and Jared Hughes were present to address the Council regarding their request. Lengthy discussion ensued.

Council Member Mullaley made a motion to table the request by the West Bonner County School District #83 for the waiver of water and sewer connection fees for additional information. Council Member Turner seconded the motion. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

ADJOURN:

Council Member Mullaley made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 pm. Council Member Brower seconded the motion. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes of 02/17/26: _____

Second: _____

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

Jeff Connolly
Mayor

Laurel Thomas, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer