

BLACKFOOT CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
September 2, 2014  
7:00 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Paul Loomis welcomed those in attendance and invited everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken and those in attendance were: Councilman Brown, Councilman Gardner, Councilman Jensen, and Councilwoman Simpson.

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Loomis presented the consent agenda which includes the following: payables and transfer airport lease agreement – Mike Marquette. Councilman Brown moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Jensen seconded. All were in favor. Motion passes.

**Public Hearing on Re-Opening 2014 FY Budget**

Mayor Loomis stated that the City was able to secure a grant in the amount of \$272,760 to conduct the beacon, lighting, and windsock upgrades at the airport. Of the total project cost of \$414,178.75, the FAA will pay \$372,760; Idaho Department of Transportation will pay \$17,810.12; and the City will pay the balance of \$23,608.63. The City is responsible for 5.7% of the overall costs. In order to receive the grant money in this fiscal year and complete construction before October 1, 2014, the 2014 FY Budget will need to re-opened. Re-opening the budget will allow authority to spend the funds for the airport upgrades.

Mayor Loomis opened the meeting to public comment. As no one had any comments, Mayor Loomis closed the public hearing and reconvened the City Council Meeting.

**Approve Amended 2014 Appropriate Ordinance**

Councilwoman Simpson asked if there were sufficient funds in the airport fund to pay for the upgrades. Mayor Loomis stated the balance of the airport fund was \$466,356.57, so there are adequate funds to complete the upgrades. The funds will come out of the 2014 FY Budget.

Mr. Sandow read Ordinance No. 2125 into public record:

ORDINANCE 2125

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLACKFOOT, IDAHO, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2118 THE APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2013; APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONIES THAT ARE TO BE RECEIVED BY THE CITY OF BLACKFOOT, IDAHO, IN THE SUM OF \$372,760.00; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO FILE A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE WITH THE IDAHO SECRETARY OF STATE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Blackfoot, Bingham County, Idaho:

Section 1. That Ordinance No. 2118, the appropriations ordinance for the City of Blackfoot, Idaho, for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2013, be, and the same is hereby amended as follows:

That the additional amount of \$425,000.00 be appropriated out of the revenues from the Airport budget in the sum of \$425,000, to be used for authorized activities.

Section 2. The City Clerk of the City of Blackfoot is hereby directed to file a certified copy of Ordinance with the Idaho Secretary of State, in accordance with Idaho Code 50-1003.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication.

PASSED by roll call vote of the City Council at a convened meeting of the Blackfoot City Council held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014.

Approved by the Mayor of the City of Blackfoot, Idaho this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Loomis, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzanne McNeel, City Clerk

Councilman Gardner motioned to approve Ordinance No. 2125 and to waive any further readings. Councilwoman Simpson seconded. Mayor Loomis requested a roll call vote:

Councilman Brown	-	Yes
Councilman Gardner	-	Yes
Councilman Jensen	-	Yes
Councilwoman Simpson	-	Yes

All were in favor. Motion carries.

#### **P&Z Commissioner Nominations**

Mayor Loomis stated there were two resignations from the P&Z Board: Mr. Mercado and Mr. Twiggs. Both Mr. Mercado and Mr. Twiggs served as P&Z commissioners for a long time and have done an outstanding job. Councilman Jensen stated that both the gentlemen have served on the P&Z Board for as long as he can remember and he feels the City should give something to both of them for their service. Mayor Loomis instructed the City Clerk, Suzanne McNeel, to find something appropriate as a gift from the City.

Mayor Loomis presented Mr. Gary Baumgartner and Mr. Rick Bigler as nominees for P&Z Commissioners. Councilman Jensen motioned to approve the nominations of Mr. Gary Baumgartner

and Mr. Rick Bigler as presented as new members of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Councilman Brown seconded. All were in favor. Motion passes.

Mayor Loomis announced there is one more position open on the Planning and Zoning Board, so he will nominate another individual in the near future.

### **Forestry Intern Report on Tree Survey**

Mayor Loomis asked the Forestry Intern, Annie Whittier, to come forward and present the information she has spent the summer collecting. Ms. Whittier stated she went around and counted all of the trees that were on city property. She completed diameter checks on them, checked the condition of the tree, noted any issues with each tree, and cleaned up the parks and golf course.

Mayor Loomis said when Ms. Whittier was not busy with the tree inventory, she did whatever needed to be done. Mayor Loomis thanked Ms. Whittier for her work over the summer.

Councilman Brown asked Ms. Whittier how many trees are on city property. Ms. Whittier responded that she counted 2,338 trees.

Mayor Loomis asked Gary Bates, to come forward and give some background on the tree inventory. Mr. Bates mentioned he works with the Idaho Community Forestry Program but he does serve as Blackfoot's Community Forestry Advisor. The data collected will not just sit on a shelf. The major purpose of the data collection is to gauge the resources that need to be managed. Mr. Bates will create a management plan for all the trees on City property and will consult with the Mayor, Scott Hays, and Vaughn Key on what should be included in the plan.

Mr. Bates sent out reports of the data collected. Based on diameter, most of the trees are in the early mature phase of growth, which means they are not going to need a lot of maintenance. The trees will save about \$23,000 in energy costs and \$18,000 in natural gas annually. With regards to storm water interception, the trees intercept 3 million gallons of water, which is a savings of \$19,000 annually. There is an issue with the trees and that is that there is only 4.1% canopy. The ideal canopy cover is 25%. If the canopy can be increased, the benefits mentioned will be amplified. Right now, each tree has an average value of \$8,100. For every dollar the City pays for tree maintenance, they receive \$4.95 in benefits. The overall health of the trees is 89% good and 9% fair. There are not many trees that need to be critically addressed, but there are some improvements that can be made as part of the management plan. The total replacement tree cost for all of the trees is \$18,596,682.

Mayor Loomis asked how many new trees were planted in the past year. Mr. Hayes stated there have been about 30 new trees planted. Mayor Loomis wanted to know if the City was planting enough trees to maintain the canopy. Mr. Bates replied he would prefer to have strategic planning of trees to cover asphalt wherever possible or to maximize specific benefits. Mr. Bates stated he would be more than happy to discuss strategic planning at the next Forestry meeting.

Councilwoman Simpson wanted to know what a canopy tree was. Mr. Bates responded that canopy is based on ground spread. Mr. Bates noticed there are too many Colorado spruce planted. The canopy trees should be diversified. Councilman Jensen asked about canopy trees on private land. Mr. Bates explained that private trees were not studied, although he has been working on collecting baseline data for the region and more results will come about from that in the future. This data will be used to generate GPS maps of trees within city limits, but will not be completed for another 2 years.

Mayor Loomis has been working on a rewrite of the tree ordinance and that is one of the things that Mr. Bates has pushed for. Mr. Sandow mentioned that the City of Aberdeen is currently reworking their tree ordinance and suggested tweaking that ordinance to fit the needs of Blackfoot.

### **Updates**

Mayor Loomis gave the Council a couple of updates. Congressman Simpson's office contacted the Mayor to inform him that the US Department of Transportation will announce the TIGER grant winners by the 15<sup>th</sup> of September. The Music in the Park Concert Series for summer 2014 was very successful. Mayor Loomis contacted Doug Waring to thank him for his efforts with Music in the Park and to ask him if he would like to do it again next summer. Mr. Waring stated that he would like to arrange next year's concerts. Mayor Loomis challenged Mr. Waring to include Hispanic bands in the next series to celebrate the Hispanic population in town. Bingham Memorial donated \$3,600 for the Music in the Park concert series.

### **Conflict of Interest Affidavit**

Councilman Brown stated that his employer has a requirement that all employees that serve on public boards must formally enter into minutes an affidavit explaining his relationship with his employer and disclosing a conflict of interest. Mr. Sandow read the cover letter and affidavit as part of public record:

**August 25, 2014**

**Via U.S. Mail**

**Mayor Paul Loomis  
157 North Broadway  
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221**

Re: Bart Brown

Dear Mayor Paul Loomis:

Please find attached an affidavit explaining my relationship with KeyCorp and its subsidiaries. I understand that this relationship will not prevent me from serving on the City Council for the City of Blackfoot, Idaho. Nevertheless, I want to make certain that I disclose my interest publicly. Please have the attached affidavit entered as a matter of record in the minutes and transcripts at the beginning of the next city council meeting for the City of Blackfoot, Idaho. I also request that any materials related to KeyCorp and its affiliates not be distributed to me.

I greatly value the opportunity to serve and will do so while abiding with the highest ethical standards.

Very Truly Yours,

  
**Bart Brown**

cc: **Via U.S. Mail  
Garret Sandow  
157 North Broadway  
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221**

**AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF **Idaho** :  
 :  
COUNTY OF **Bingham** : ss  
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I, Bart Brown, having been duly cautioned and sworn hereby state the following based upon personal knowledge:

1. I am a member of the City Council with the City of Blackfoot Idaho.
2. I am also an employee of KeyBank National Association ("KeyBank") and serve as a Vice President/Relationship Manager.
3. KeyBank and KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc. ("KBCM") are each subsidiaries of KeyCorp.
4. I own stock in KeyCorp, which represents less than .1% of the outstanding shares of that company.
5. In connection with my commencement of service on the Blackfoot City Council, I am providing notice of my association with KeyBank, and plan to withdraw from all decisions and deliberations related in any manner to matters related to my employer.

**FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.**

  
Bart Brown

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 2nd day of September, 2014.



  
Notary Public

**Financial Report**

Heather Schild presented the end of month budget for July. The fiscal year is 83% completed, so revenues and expenditures should be around 83%. The general fund revenue is at 93.4%. Expenditures are down and revenues are up. The department heads are doing a good job of keeping their budgets on target. The monthly treasurer report is of value to the Council, as it lets them know how the City is doing incrementally.

**Public Comment**

Mayor Loomis invited Ann Haxby to come forward and comment, as she had asked to do. Ms. Haxby found the tree report interesting. She has a concern about the weed control within Blackfoot. Out of town people have stated that the City looks awful, particularly the weeds around City buildings. She would like to see better weed control as it is the worst she has ever seen it.

Mayor Loomis stated he got in touch with the Chamber of Commerce and he is going to propose that host an award for best yards as a promotion to beautify the City. The railroad crews have also been spending more time keeping weeds in check along the tracks.

**Adjourn**

Councilman Jensen moved to adjourn. Councilman Brown seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

City of Blackfoot

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Mayor Paul Loomis

Attest:

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City Clerk Suzanne McNeel