



**CITY OF BLACKFOOT  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES FROM MAY 04, 2021**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led 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**

Councilman Jensen motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of the minutes from 4/6/2021, 4/13/2021 and Payables, Councilwoman Simpson seconded; all were in favor, motion carried.

**CITY TREASURER – GRAHM ANDERSON**

**Treasurer Report**

The City is starting the reconciliation of the April statement. March marked the half way mark of the fiscal year 2021. Budget wise, department heads are doing a good job staying within their budget. We are currently in the middle of budget season and moving on to round two of budget meetings. During the audit, Morgan recommended the city increase the asset threshold from \$5,000 to \$15,000; the reason being mostly to keep up with inflation and with some changes that have come down through with governmental accounting standards. Part of the change were due to GASB 87 which updates how we track leases. Update on ARPA, Treasury is expected to release information guidelines on May 10<sup>th</sup> on what the city can use ARPA funds on. Once the first half of the 2.4 million dollars is disbursed, the state will have up to twelve months to disburse the second half.

**MAYOR MARC CARROL**

**Nomination of new library board member**

Former library board member Margaret Peterson resigned from her position. Mayor Carroll stated he would like to nominate Janet Rockwood as a new member of the city library board. Councilman Gardner motioned to approve Janet Rockwood to serve as a Library Board Member, Councilman Brown seconded the motion; all were in favor, motion carried.

**Proposed Extension of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Blackfoot Firefighters Union**

Mayor Carroll met with the President and Vice President of the IAFF. An agreement was proposed for a two-year extension. Mayor Carroll proposed to the City Council that the agreement be extended till 09/30/2023. Councilman Jensen motioned to approve the extension of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the IAFF for two years ending on 9/30/2023, Councilwoman Simpson seconded; all were in favor, motion carried.

**Recommendation for Reduction of Workforce**



The City is looking at changing a couple of positions in the Parks & Recreation Department. It was decided over a year ago to extend a full-time mechanic position to one of the seasonal workers to replace the full-time position that Wade Gardner previously held. Currently the City is not in need of a full-time mechanic and is instead, looking at adding a full-time position over the Recreation Department. Mayor went over a section of the Personnel Policy Manual, under Reductions in Force (RIF); employee assignments may be affected by reductions in force due to changes in staffing and work needs. The council agrees that this is more of a change of a classification under the Mayors control. Councilman Brown moved to change to a classification with changes in wording made to policy. Councilman Gardner seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

### **Rate & Utility Fee Study**

The City has received a rate and utility fee study proposal from the FCS Group. The Council reviewed the entire proposal but Councilman Brown had questions on the Stormwater feasibility study portion and the amount they proposed. Currently the city has roughly a \$70,000 budget that is pulled out of the wastewater treatment budget and set aside for stormwater. It was stated that about 20%-30% of the collection crew spend their time cleaning out storm drains, taking care of retention ponds, or swells. Mayor explained the city's engineering standard now requires all development to put in infiltrators. The City needs to come up with a plan where we can begin to collect funding for the storm water operation. The fees for funding this project would come from residences and commercial. It was proposed to hire a company to advise the City on how to structure fees. Councilman Jensen explained that he does not believe the city can justify charging homeowners for rainwater that falls on the city streets. Councilman Brown questioned if the city needs to spend \$41,000 on having a stormwater feasibility study done. The Council discussed doing the stormwater study themselves and agreed to not pay for study. Councilman Brown moved to approve the utilities rate and fee study minus the stormwater study bringing the total cost to \$119,120. Councilman Jensen seconded the motion; all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Covid 19 Update**

Currently Bingham County is at 0.5 COVID 19 cases per thousand residents in the county. All eight counties in Southeast Idaho are in the green minimal risk area. All the counties are showing downward trends and currently in Bingham county we have 125 active cases, all in recovery. Masks are no longer required when entering the city building.

### **Tabled Items:**

#### **Proposed Zone Code Amendment**

Councilwoman Simpson motioned to pull the proposed zone code amendment off the table. Councilman Brown seconded the motion; all were in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Proposed Zone Code Amendment – P&Z Kurt Hibbert and Board member Ron Ramirez Ron Ramirez did an executive summary**

Mr. Ramirez spoke about design standards and stated units that have a design standard have a higher occupancy rate. A list was created for builders with options in changing features of the outer appearance of residential property. Councilman Jensen commented on section 19 – Animal section, stating it is not P & Z's job to regulate how many pets are allowed. Being that we have ownership restrictions already in place in the animal control section of the police code and he suggested there is a



need to update the wording. He also had an issue with the design standard and believes that it is not the city's place to require or restrict property owners on how they can build their building and suggests that it would be more acceptable to enforce upkeep and maintenance on buildings. Councilman Gardner commented that it would be easy for a builder to pick three choices of the features from the design standards list. Mr. Ramirez explained the idea is not to be so restrictive in setting minimum standards, but more set recommendations for the beautification of the city. Councilman Jensen expressed his concern with the section that talked about how much land can be occupied by buildings, saying that he thinks the setback mandates are a bit restrictive. Mr. Ramirez stated that as far as the size of the building, it did not change much. The green space of 40% of the land being vegetation is what P&Z added as a requirement so they do not pave 60% for parking. Mr. Hibbert stated this chart has gone out to dozens of developers with the understanding that they are listing expectations and if there are any issues, P&Z can go back to the commission and make amendments to that table. Mr. Ramirez mentioned that most of the things on the Use Chart are commercial usage, so P&Z has changed the verbiage as to what is authorized. P&Z will be coming up with new standards to identify what will be required for buildings in the historic downtown district, the general business district and highway districts. Councilman Gardner made a motion to table the proposed zone change amendment until the next meeting with a laundry list and bring back next month, Councilman Brown seconded the motion; Councilman Brown, Councilman Gardner and Councilman Jensen voted in favor and Councilwoman Simpson opposed, motion carried.

#### **Planning and Zoning: Kurt Hibbert**

#### **Proposed Zone Change from R-1 to R-3 on Property located on Lawrence Lane**

A zone change application was approved through P&Z to propose the change of zoning on Lawrence Lane, south of Honeybrook Subdivision from R-1 to R-3. Concerns were discussed regarding water pressure, width of the road, and when the road will be completed. Councilman Gardner motioned to adopt the findings of fact from the Planning & Zoning Commission, seconded by Councilman Brown; all were in favor, motion carried.

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS  
AND RESOLUTION ADOPTED  
BY THE  
PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD  
CITY OF BLACKFOOT  
April 13, 2021

#### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:**

At the regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board of the City of Blackfoot on March 23, 2021, the Board held a public hearing on the request of Honeybrook Investments to change the zone on property located on Lawrence Lane, Blackfoot, Idaho, from R-1 (single residential) to R-3 (Multi Family) and to consider the recommendations to provide City Council pursuant to the application that is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference. During the public hearing, testimony was heard from the Applicant and evaluated by the Board. The matter was discussed with the Planning Administrator with a review of the relevant City Code. Testimony against the proposal was presented



primarily focusing on traffic, losing country atmosphere, density of R3 zoning, and other similar concerns. The applicant rebutted by addressing the amenities that will be completed and the demand for the units being constructed on other parcels. After reviewing any documents submitted by the applicant and by any other interested parties, the Board finds and concludes as follows:

**FINDINGS and CONCLUSIONS:**

1. The property currently is zoned R-1. The Applicant has requested a designation of R-3 to better suit the adjoining properties that are multi-family zoning.
2. That after consideration of the surrounding areas, the Commission has determined that a zone of R-3 is appropriate.
3. The proposed zone change to R-3 complies with and advances the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan and is consistent with the uses in the area.
4. The zone change will allow the City to provide and maintain existing future capabilities of public utilities.
5. It appears the amendment to R-3 will not adversely affect other property in the vicinity.
6. The proposed zone will not adversely affect the public health, safety or welfare and does more accurately reflect the likely future uses of the area.

**RESOLUTION AND CONCLUSIONS**

UPON MOTIONS DULY MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT:

The Board recommends that the City Council amend the zoning of the proposed area from R-1 to R-3.

These findings of fact, conclusions, and resolution formally were adopted by a majority vote of the Planning and Zoning Board on April 13, 2021.

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Secretary of Planning & Zoning Board  
City of Blackfoot, Idaho

Councilman Brown moved to approve Ordinance No. 2205 to rezone the property located on Lawrence Lane from R-1 to R-3 as presented and waive the required readings, Councilman Gardner seconded; all were in favor. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2205



AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLACKFOOT, IDAHO, CHANGING THE ZONE FROM R-1 TO R-3 ON THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLACKFOOT, IDAHO AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: That the zoning of the property described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, located on Lawrence Lane, in Blackfoot, Bingham County, Idaho, be and hereby is, changed from R-1 to R-3.

SECTION 2: That the Blackfoot City Zoning Map be amended to reflect this zone change.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and City Council this 4th day of May, 2021.

CITY OF BLACKFOOT, IDAHO

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marc Carroll, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A:

**Legal Desc: T3S R35E SEC 11 T-440 LESS FALCON RIDGE DIVISION #1  
(RP1310252)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

City of Blackfoot

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Marc Carroll

Attest:

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

Prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patty Ojeda

