



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 05, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

Mayor Jeremy Grimm called the regular meeting of the Sandpoint City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in Council chambers at City Hall, 1123 West Lake Street, Sandpoint, Idaho.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Jeremy Grimm
Councilor Deb Ruehle, City Council President
Councilor Joel Aispuro
Councilor Justin Dick
Councilor Kyle Schreiber
Councilor Pam Duquette
Councilor Rick Howarth

As required by the City's adopted Code of Ethics and Civility, as the presiding officer, Mayor Grimm identified law enforcement personnel in the room serving as sergeant-at-arms for the meeting: Sandpoint Police Captain Rick Bailey.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Grimm led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Reports

Mayor Grimm reported that an amendment to the agenda was proposed and an amended agenda was posted earlier in the day, adding a topic for discussion under executive session. Because the amendment was made less than 48 hours prior to the meeting, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-204(4)(b), before the amended agenda could become effective, Council would need to vote to accept the amendment.

Motion made by Councilor Aispuro, Seconded by Councilor Dick.

Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

The Mayor expressed appreciation to the public for adhering to the winter parking rules and to Arts and Historic Preservation Planner Heather Upton for arranging for the new historical informational panels and permanent meeting rules sign installed in the chambers lobby. He also provided brief updates on plans for improvements to the downtown parking lot, Phase 3 of the downtown rehabilitation project, the City's applications for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program grants which were not awarded for funding assistance for Great Northern Road improvements, and short-term rental regulation legislation. He announced Wastewater Treatment Plant project open houses scheduled in Council chambers, noon to 1:00pm on Thursdays, beginning February 6; additional information on the City website. The Mayor reported that staff has started work on the FY2026 budget, and he addressed information that had been relayed in a letter to the editor regarding City taxation, as well as information circulating on social media regarding proposed changes to the City's parking management policies. The Mayor encouraged the public to visit the City website in order to obtain accurate information on City projects and other activities and to contact the Mayor or staff with any questions. The "subscribe" feature on the City's new website has been enhanced to include the opportunity to subscribe for email notification when news or new meeting agendas are posted.

Council members provided reports from recent meetings of the citizen advisory boards on which they serve as Council liaison. Kudos from Council President Ruehle on the fun new artwork gracing the City snowplow blades and to the snowplow drivers for their good work.

1. At the invitation of the Mayor, Department Directors provided reports on projects and activities in their respective departments.

Public Comments

Mayor Grimm recited the rules and procedure for public comment, followed by an opportunity for comments from the public regarding Consent Calendar and Old/New Business items on the agenda and other topics relevant to the business of the City of Sandpoint. Information only; no Council action.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Grimm noted for the record the amount of bills presented for payment approval, followed by a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Aispuro.

Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

2. The minutes from Council's January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting were approved as presented.
3. Bills in the amount of \$2,572,290.30, reflecting \$1,463,637.37 for regular payables and \$1,100,889.70 for payroll, were approved for payment.
4. The Monthly Financial Report on Cash and Investment Transactions, September 2024, was accepted.
5. The Monthly Financial Report on Cash and Investment Transactions, October 2024, was accepted.
6. The Monthly Financial Report on Cash and Investment Transactions, November 2024, was accepted.
7. The Monthly Financial Report on Cash and Investment Transactions, December 2024, was accepted.
8. **Resolution 25-008** Authorizing a Grant Application to the Idaho State Homeland Security Program for Grant Funding to Allocate toward the Purchase of an Air Compressor for Fire Department Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

Old/Unfinished Business - none

New Business - none

Executive Session

9. Council voted to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(c) to acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency and Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code.

Motion made by Councilor Dick, Seconded by Councilor Schreiber.


Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

10. The executive session was held as noted above.


Adjourn

Following conclusion of the executive session, the regular meeting was reconvened and immediately adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that the foregoing minutes, prepared by the City Clerk, were approved by City Council during their meeting held February 19, 2025.



Jeremy Grimm, Mayor



Attest: Melissa Ward, City Clerk