

City of Spirit Lake
Special Council Workshop
City Hall
6042 Maine St.
Spirit Lake, Idaho 83869
November 14, 2018
1:00 PM

Mayor Eastman called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.; roll call was taken with Councilors Gary Ventress, Angel Vanderwilt, Becki Gaddum, and Joy Porter present.

The Chief of Police, Dennis Sanchez, requested the meeting to discuss current nuisance ordinances and how the ordinances are lacking or vague. A request was made by the Chief to include abandoned vehicles on private property. Council discussed how the ordinances have changed and currently parked vehicles do not have to be currently registered or running. The chief informed the Council that enforcement would be complaint driven.

The next item of discussion was an ordinance on vicious dogs. Mayor Eastman directed the City Clerk, Michelle Wharton, to research Ordinance #421 and when it was removed. The Chief explained how the ordinance would give the police the ability to label a dog “viscous” through the courts and require certain restrictions through the state and county for the owners of such dogs. The Chief concluded that an amended dog ordinance would give the police department authority to take action if a dog is deemed vicious and will help insure keeping the community safe.

The Police Administrative Assistant, Heather McDaniel, discussed a request for a finger print background check ordinance. The ordinance would include fingerprinting all City employees, personnel, and Park & Rec volunteers.

Heather noted that the current City policy does not have disqualifiers when applicants apply with the City and is requesting the City adopt a policy and create disqualifiers. The process would include adopting an ordinance to allow the background checks and to follow guidelines and policies required of information custodians, who are required to protect the information. Mayor Eastman directed Michelle to add the fingerprinting information to the new employee handbook that is currently being rewritten. Heather continued with the Park & Rec volunteer background check request and explained it would be an application process and a potential cost to the City. There was discussion of possibly performing the background checks at the Spirit Lake Police Department.

The next item discussed was a proposal for an ordinance for special event permits or street closure permits. The Chief explained the fees are to help with staffing officers if a street closure is needed. The Mayor opened the discussion that maybe the permits should be considered on a case by case and not by the number of participants. An application and application process was

discussed and how to approve the type of events. The Chief discussed that the application has been created, but is still being revised and not ready for Council review or approval. Council member Joy Porter questioned if funeral processions would be included and considered a parade or event. The Chief did not consider a funeral procession an event that would qualify as one that needed to be permitted. Council member Joy Porter further questioned how events would be charged; the example given was the 4th of July events, parade, park, and fireworks, and if multiple fees and applications would be required. There was input and discussion of cleaning deposits and park usage fees to help offset costs to the City when the park is used for private events.

The next item discussed; a resolution to increase police fees for VIN inspections from \$3.00 to \$5.00, unaltered dog licenses from \$18.00 to \$20.00 per year, and solicitation permit fees from \$20.00 to \$25.00. The Chief explained the \$10.00 bike license/registration fee and it is optional to use this service.

The next item discussed; Employee vacation and comp time accrual. It was discussed that some changes have happened over the years and currently employees have to wait six months before accruals start accruing or can be used. The Chief suggested that accruals should start accruing from the date of hire.

The next item of discussion; Employees are not receiving holiday pay on the actual holiday and the employee who works on the "observed" holiday is the one receiving the benefit of the holiday pay. The police department is requesting an exception for 24 hour personnel that allow employees to accrue holiday pay on the actual holiday and not the observed holiday.

The next item of discussion; Police paid overtime versus earning compensation time. The discussion included the current policy of where police do not earn overtime or compensation time until exceeding 86 hours, not 80 hours. The Chief requested that the policy be changed and officers earn overtime after exceeding 80 hours, so the police grant money for overtime is more accessible to the officers. The City would need to adopt an exemption to the FSLA policy.

The final item of discussion; A new police facility and the pros and cons of combining City Hall and the Police Department in one building.

There was a brief discussion on the current budget is not in Caselle and the City Clerk is working to get the information entered so financial reports can be ran for the police department.

The Mayor stated the Council and the Mayor need to review the packet before forwarding the information packet or ordinances to the City attorney, Susan Weeks.

Workshop adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Renee Eastman, Mayor

Attest:

Michelle Wharton, City Clerk