



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

480 East Avenue North
Ketchum, ID 83340
<http://ketchumidaho.org/>

Robin Crotty
208-726-3841

Monday, March 4, 2019

4:00 PM

Ketchum City Hall

Present:
Mayor Neil Bradshaw
Council President Michael David
Councilor Jim Slanetz
Councilor Courtney Hamilton
Councilor Amanda Breen

Also Present:
Ketchum City Administrator Suzanne Frick
Ketchum City Attorney Matt Johnson
Director of Finance and Internal Services Grant Gager
Director of Planning & Building John Gaeddert
Associate Planner Abby Rivin
Police Chief Dave Kassner

1. **CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Neil Bradshaw**

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCILORS**

Councilor Amanda Breen thanked the community for all the public comment she has received on tonight's agenda.

Council President Michael David encouraged more valuable input this evening and asked that all accusations be held back.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw talked about all the work the street crew has done. He advised the public that snow will be put back in Town Square for an upcoming event.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC on matters not on the agenda (Comments will be kept to 3 minutes)**

a. **Presentation by Hemingway STEAM School 6th and 7th grade students on future Cities Project**

Associate Planner Abby Rivin introduced Hemingway STEAM students. The students talked about the presentation they made on future cities and the awards they've won and gave details about the project.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked for comments from the public for matters not on the agenda. There were none.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA: Note: (ALL ACTION ITEMS) The Council is asked to approve the following listed items by a single vote, except for any items that a Councilmember asks to be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.**

a. **Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 19, 2019**

Councilor Jim Slanetz pulled 5a for clarification that he is in support of the bike path as it stands today.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Slanetz, Councilor
SECONDER:	Amanda Breen, Councilor
AYES:	David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

- b. Authorization and approval of the payroll register
- c. Authorization and approval of the disbursement of funds from the City's treasury for the payment of bills in the total sum of \$169,981.65 as presented by the Treasurer.
- d. Recommendation to approve Contract 20312 with Sun Valley Events for 2019 Wagon Days Weekend – Assistant City Administrator Lisa Enourato
- e. Recommendation to approve Contract 20313 with Red's Meadow for 2019 Wagon Days Weekend – Assistant City Administrator Lisa Enourato
- f. Recommendation to approve Resolution # 19-006 Declaring certain assets as surplus

Motion to approve b,c,d,e,f

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael David, Council President
SECONDER:	Amanda Breen, Councilor
AYES:	David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND DISCUSSIONS (Public comment and input taken on the following items)

- a. **ACTION:** Hemingway School Subdivision Plat Amendment and ROW Vacations (including portions of an alley in Block 31, an alley in Block 52, and portions of 9th and 10th Streets) – Continued from February 19, 2019 Director of Planning and Building John Gaeddert

Mayor Neil Bradshaw talked about the motion before them explaining that the findings will need to be reviewed by the City Attorney and then brought back to the council for final approval.

Attorney Jim Laski, representing the Parkwood Drive coalition wanted to be sure that the council had received his letter from last week, and the 2 emails that were sent today. Jim Laski talked about the City following the same rules as everybody else. He is requesting the School District become a partner and not just say they are a partner. He requests the city hold off on approval and questioned why if the bike path is not changing, the application continues to talk about the bike path?

Michael Haxby, 220 Parkway Dr., voiced support of Mr. Laski's comments and asked council to give careful consideration to this topic this evening.

Jeff Booth asked Mayor and Council for a community meeting and voiced his support of Jim Laski's comments as well.

Mickey Adler voiced her support of Jim Laski's comments and talked about the importance of following rules and legal process. She would like to sit down and talk about this issue to be sure all questions and concerns are addressed.

John Moran Jr., Parkway resident, said all open government is good government. He advised that he has not received any notices, he only knows what he read in the paper. He talked about all he heard in the past meeting and would like the council to adhere to the policy of open government.

Marilyn Moran on Parkway appreciates all the answers to her emails and talked about the confusion among the homeowners. She asked council to take another look at this and have meetings with the homeowners to get to the bottom of this.

Brian Fletcher, Finance Manager with the School District, talked about the school administration meeting next week and offered to add an action item to their agenda if it would be helpful to move this forward. They're happy to follow whatever timeframe the council needs. They are in support of the bike path and the sheep.

Michelle Bruner 233 Parkway Dr. supports her neighbors and Jim Laski's comments.

No further public comments.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked Attorney Matt Johnson to clarify the process to be sure the City is following the law. Matt Johnson explained that the findings of fact will not be preapproved tonight. After his review of the final findings, they will come back to council on the 18th for a vote. Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked Attorney Jim Laski if he agreed with the course of action. Jim Laski stated that the Parkway neighbors would need the school district to be a partner prior to moving forward. Matt Johnson advised that this will be in the findings that will be before council in two weeks. Mayor Neil Bradshaw clarified there is no change to the bike path on the west side of the school. Mayor Bradshaw asked Attorney Jim Laski what the council needs to do to be able to allow the school to expand. Jim Laski talked about the public comment and the need for a traffic study. Matt Johnson explained Idaho Code and advised that the school district attorney would need to weigh in. Matt Johnson explained again that all questions will be addressed and clarified in the Findings of Fact.

Councilor Amanda Breen questioned why the bike path is mentioned in the staff report? She has no interest in moving the bike path, the school district does not want to move the bike path and there is no MOU with the Sheep. Councilor Jim Slanetz agrees with Councilor Breen. Attorney Jim Laski voiced concern regarding the fact that it is in the staff report. Council President Michael David agrees that this has nothing to do with the bike path. He would like to get this cleaned up and move on. Attorney Jim Laski said it is dishonest to say that this application is for the city and the school district when the school district has not signed on. Attorney Jim Laski asked that a neighborhood meeting be held. Mayor Neil Bradshaw agreed.

Motion to table until the next meeting and continue public comment.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael David, Council President
SECONDER:	Jim Slanetz, Councilor
AYES:	David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

b. ACTION: Recommendation to approve Contract 20319 for Public Safety Services with the City of Sun Valley – Mayor Neil Bradshaw

Mayor Neil Bradshaw thanked everybody for their input. He is in support of this proposal and said it is up to the council on how to move forward to make the best decision. He talked about service levels and said we may be two cities but one community. Mayor Bradshaw would like to put community safety first and do it fiscally responsibly. He made it clear that the City of Ketchum Fire Department would be dissolved. The service will be provided under the City of Sun Valley. He talked about the union and paid on call members and clarified that they want to retain the volunteers. Mayor Bradshaw talked about comments he has received and addressed the question of “why the rush”. He talked about the professionals in both cities and about the current level of service with the County. He went on to talk about the Kragness report saying things in the fire department are not running smoothly and things have been wrong in the fire department for many years. This opportunity brings us all together. Mayor Bradshaw talked about losing the ambulance contract and having to run Ketchum on a skeleton crew. He talked about maintaining the ISO rating and touched on jobs and the fact that he cannot guarantee jobs and that the Public Services Director will need to be able to make those decisions. Mayor Neil Bradshaw opened the meeting for public comment.

Lara McLean, Ketchum Firefighter, praised Mayors and staff for foresight saying they are in full support; however, this is not a consolidation it is a handoff. She talked about the relationship with Ketchum Rural and Ketchum City Fire and it being soured. She would like a JPA or a Fire District developed. She talked about the Union being willing to work with the City and about Idaho Code and a Joint Powers Agreement.

Pam Morris, publisher of Idaho Mountain Express, talked about the response to her public records request advising her of a 10-day extension. She asked if the Council should vote on something, they cannot provide documents for until two weeks after the decision.

Jerry Seifert, previous Mayor 1975-1988, talked about when law enforcement was put in place in Ketchum and about the contract before them. He questioned what is trying to be accomplished? He talked about the definition of consolidation. Jerry Siefert voiced his opposition to dissolving a relationship that has worked so well with the County. He said that Ketchum has a very high ISO rating and sees no reason to dissolve the police services with the county or to dissolve the Ketchum Fire Department.

Chris Harrison, Patrol Deputy, said no job should define what a man can and cannot say. He said this is not a consolidation, this is a hostile takeover, this is not fair and not right.

Rachel Martin, Volunteer, Paid on Call for Ketchum, referenced not hearing a presentation prior to public comment. She agrees with all the public comments she has heard regarding consolidation and this not being a consolidation. Rachel Martin talked about the contract in the packet referring to all the employees having to apply to Sun Valley with reduced benefits and questioned what will Ketchum do if they don't apply? She talked about the current pay scale and how it should be structured as well as the services available in each city and the level of care and response times.

Colleen Quindlan, Fire Fighter, EMT at Station #2 with the Rural District, paid on call member advised that there is a lot of passion behind this issue but also a lot of distrust. This was presented as a consolidation; however, it is not. She talked about just learning that Ketchum Fire would dissolve last Monday. She suggested exploring a fire district and voiced concern about how full-time staff will be treated and talked about budget numbers. She brought up the talk of a combined station and the many problems before them.

Will Freuhling, Chief Deputy for the Blaine County Sheriff's Department talked about a letter that was submitted today. He said the men and women in this room wearing the uniform are here because they care about Ketchum. He asked the council to vote no. They want to work for the City of Ketchum and Blaine County, not the City of Sun Valley.

Beth Ward, business owner in Ketchum, thanked everybody for their service in the community. As a business owner she is in support of consolidation but not in support of going with Sun Valley. It makes sense to build a joint district, but she does not think it's a good idea for a contract. She requested the people doing fire and police be involved in the decision.

Jed Gray, a 70-year resident of the Valley and Chairman of the Ketchum Rural Fire Department, spoke in support of consolidation saying this is the mechanism that will work. It's not our job to figure out how the consolidation will work, that's the council's decision. Rural Fire will decide how to be involved later.

Tom Bowman, City of Ketchum resident, talked about his previous experience and his support of consolidation however, he is unsure if this contract for services is the way to go. He talked about his support of Walt Femling, however, voiced concerns about Walt Femling retiring and new councilors being elected and what would happen then. He suggests a firm foundation to build the consolidation of emergency services on.

Len Harlig advised that he lives in Blaine County and is a tax payer for Rural Fire and Ambulance District. He talked about his experience and is grateful for the consolidation efforts, however, there are a lot of questions that have not yet been answered. He suggested more help and cooperation for the people who are being affected. He supports Tom Bowman's comments. This is the most important issue in the North Valley in the last 45 years and suggested more time before deciding.

Mickey Garcia, Ketchum Resident, supports the integration but has concerns. He talked about the Union thinking they're not being treated fairly and about the agreement with Blaine County. He suggested to rearrange the blocks to see how they look.

Dr. Terry O'Connor, representing St. Luke's Wood River Hospital as an Emergency Room Physician, the Ambulance District as the County Medical Director and State of Idaho as a Governor appointed Commissioner on the Bureau of Medical Services. He commends this group for their efforts but does not agree with the process that has been proposed for absorption of Ketchum Services. He does not think it will improve the level of service in Sun Valley or Ketchum. He addressed response time. There is excellent room for growth. Dr. O'Conner talked about a JPA and how that can go forward and thinks it warrants some consideration. He offered to be involved as a representative for the Ambulance District and the County.

Angenie McCleary, Blaine County Commissioner and serves on the Ambulance District Board, talked about the process and public input and advised that the employees need to be involved in the process. She said the Sheriff's office has offered excellent service and talked about the Ambulance side and the County's involvement. She questioned how the ambulance contract will be handled and suggested Dr. Jerry O'Connor be involved.

Tom McLean talked about the service in the community and suggested using all the experience in the room to be able to move forward. He would like more involvement from all. He agrees this reset has the opportunity to be successful but not at the expense of his brothers and sisters. He said there has already been a reset and he does not want to see that happen again. He would like their involvement in the process.

Miles Canfield, 178 Bordeaux St., asked why we have a City of Ketchum and responded by saying it is for the life and safety of citizens. He raised the question of Ketchum voters having a say in emergency services if the services are moved to Sun Valley. He also questioned what is wrong with the contract with the Blaine County Sheriff. Miles Canfield said that questions have not been answered clearly. He requested that the process be reviewed or turned down tonight.

Phillip Rummel, Blaine County Sheriff's Office, talked about council wanting the best people in charge of public safety and stated they already have the best this valley has to offer. He talked about the experience of the Ketchum officers and putting them with less experienced people.

Jim Plummison advised that he has lived in this community for 30 + years and has have gone thru a lot and has seen many Mayors and Councils come and go. The consolidation that were talking about has a lot of ragged ends and there is unrest among the employees. He said the council is out of line and if they go forward, they would be writing their own political demise. He suggests putting off the signing of the contract and get serious and talk with the employees. He agreed with Miles Canfield's comments and advised that we can do this correctly and not in a big hurry.

Kerry Taylor, Blaine County Sherriff's department, agrees with Mr. Canfield and talked about response time, stability and retention of officers. She talked about all that Chief Harkins has given them for encouragement and retention. She does not see room for improvement.

Seth Martin, 19-year veteran of Ketchum Fire Department as well as a paramedic, advised he is here tonight as a Fire Commissioner for the Wood River Fire Protection District and a member of the Joint

Powers Board between the Wood River Fire Protection Board and the City of Hailey. He talked about the JPA with the City of Sandpoint and the Sagle Fire District in Northern Idaho. He talked about the creation of the JPA and referenced Idaho Code. Seth Martin read aloud Wikipedia's definition of an expert and referenced the people who have been working on the contract as not being experts and advised that nobody in the room except the doctor fits the definition.

Josh Richet, 10-year deputy, said it has been unanimous tonight, thru public comment, that the room does not consider this a consolidation. He talked about graveyard coverage and the proposed coverage. He said if the council votes yes today, they are not voting on consolidation. Josh Richet asked the crowd to stand if they are not in support of today's proposal.

Jed Gray, citizen, said in the previous meeting he thought a new district would be formed and consolidation strengthens every dept. He does not think you should advocate to get a job done.

Dave Kassner, Ketchum Division of the BCSD and has worked for the City of Ketchum for 32 years, said he is not comfortable talking on this topic and went onto say that currently the City of Ketchum is getting the best law enforcement they've ever had. It is a very young and vibrant crew, and a great staff. Dave Kassner suggested, for the City of Ketchum's sake, they maintain the contract with Blaine County.

David Hurd of Ketchum appreciates all services offered and talked about all topics before the council and the urged them to vote no action. He talked about the public process and presenting everything before voting.

Public comment closed at 5:55 p.m.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked for legal clarification. City Attorney Matt Johnson clarified Mr. Martin's comments and explained the JPA and the Blaine County contract for services. Mayor Neil Bradshaw expressed his appreciation that there is not opposition to consolidation but the public in the room is not in favor of how we are moving forward. Mayor Bradshaw explained that his role is to move things forward, listen and react. He asked council for comments and questions.

Councilor Jim Slanetz agrees with most of what people said tonight. He did not envision consolidation as it has been presented. He talked about the support he has heard of reducing the redundancies and advised that he thinks he is in support of a JPA and would like to look further into that. He would like to work with both departments and work thru the legality issues. Jim Slanetz advised that Miles Canfield had a good point and has concerns about the voters not having a say. He would like the backing of the public on this before moving forward. The contract with Blaine County versus Sun Valley was discussed. Jim Slanetz voiced concern over dissolving the fire department and saying the police dept has a different structure.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton said there have been conflicts in the past with the Sheriff's contract and the problem with fire is all the apparatus involved. She talked about worst case scenario and said that it's important that the structure be looked at. Courtney Hamilton advised that she was shocked at last Mondays' presentation, she thought it was going to be an individual entity. She talked about support of

a JPA. She referenced speaking with Mr. Kragness and said she would love to see consolidation but not as it is written. Courtney Hamilton said more people and entities should be in support before moving forward. She also stated that it is hard for her to say this is a great idea when in fact this is not the case.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw suggested calling this unified rather than consolidation. He talked about the cost of doing nothing and that being his biggest concern. Mayor Bradshaw advised that we have already heard from Ketchum Rural and they are considering contracting with Sun Valley and raised questions on the Ambulance Contract. We could go from an ISO rating of 3 to a rating of 8 if we lose Ketchum Rural. This would affect everybody's pocketbook.

Councilor Amanda Breen talked about her support of all the hard work that has been done. She thinks maybe we should have had an intermediate meeting to see if that is the direction to go because this is not the right way to go. She agrees with the public and if we would have had a better process, we maybe could have been able to come to a better solution tonight, but this is not it. Mayor Neil Bradshaw said it is clear we are not moving forward with a motion tonight however, he wants to be sure we keep moving. He does not want us to go down a path of doing nothing because that will make it worse. What we currently are doing is unsustainable. There are big financial impacts.

Council President Michael David echoes and agrees with fellow councilors. He said there is a lot of work to do moving forward. We need to come up with a plan to do consolidation and to come at this as a team. He agrees we have a good working relationship with Blaine County and agrees that Walt Femling has the experience and ability to get this done but questioned what will happen when he retires. He would like to start repairing the areas that need to be repaired and would like to put a plan together for consolidation of fire and look at the contract for services for the Police.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton reiterated that council has done nothing for far too long. She is in support of making a stronger fire department. She would like the Ketchum Rural relationship to grow and possibly we should create a stronger joint entity that would be better for all of us. She is in support of looking at a Fire District as well that would be merged with Ketchum Rural and Sun Valley and we would eventually have North and South County Fire Districts.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked for thoughts on just integrating the police side with Sun Valley and asked if council would be in support. Councilor Amanda Breen opposed this. She said we have a working contract with Blaine County with excellent staff and administration. Putting that under the City of Sun Valley makes no sense at all because we have the depth and the breadth of the Sheriff's office that they just don't have. If there is another way to have some sort of Joint Agreement, possibly in conjunction with the sheriff contract then she would consider it. The current Sheriff's contract was discussed. Councilor Jim Slanetz said Fire and Police are two separate issues. Linking them together is difficult. We currently have a contract with Blaine County, and it may not be the best and we may want to look at Sun Valley but there is not a rush. Councilor Courtney Hamilton agrees with the other councilors. Jumping from one contract to another on the police side does not make much sense. Mayor Bradshaw would like a better place for our firefighters to work out of. He said we will have to explore another route for this consolidation. He is encouraged by what he has heard tonight and the process and would like to work towards something that will work for everybody. Amanda Breen said we really need to find out how Sun

Valley feels and how they want to move forward. Mayor Neil Bradshaw advised that his thought was to unify, however, clearly the personnel related issues become front and center.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked how to move forward. Councilor Courtney Hamilton said she would like to see more people involved. Councilors Breen and Slanetz said things need to be changed substantially before moving forward. Courtney Hamilton questioned how a new fire station works into all this. Mayor Bradshaw advised we need to have some visibility on our next step before talking about a new fire station.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw attempted to table this conversation.

Motion to approve Contract for services with the City of Sun Valley.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael David, Council President
SECONDER:	Amanda Breen, Councilor
NYES:	David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

7. STAFF AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS (council deliberation, public comment not taken)

- a. **ACTION: Recommendation to approve Agreement 20320 terminating Purchase and Sale Agreement 20307 with Valkyrie LLC and Barsotti Investment Company LLC to sell and exchange real property at Lots 7 and 8 Block 6, Ketchum Township (6th and Leadville) and 290-298 Northwood Way---Mayor Neil Bradshaw**

Attorney Matt Johnson explained what signing this contract means. The legal challenge is moot. Matt Johnson advised that he has a few concerns regarding a future lawsuit because of the article in the paper.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Agreement 20320.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Amanda Breen, Councilor
SECONDER:	Courtney Hamilton, Councilor
AYES:	David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

Councilor Courtney Hamilton said this is very disheartening. She said it is hard to have such push for housing and to have certain individuals shut it down. The only action to counteract that is to build a stronger community. Build bridges instead of burning them. To spend the tax payers' dollars on frivolous lawsuits because it benefits them is unfortunate. She believes in the strength of the community, but she does not see that when it comes to community housing. Council President Michael David said every single time a housing project comes forward it has been met with lawyers. He reiterated that claim has no merit and were not giving up. Mayor Neil Bradshaw said process is key and communication is key. Councilor Jim Slanetz does not want to give up on the lot.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. **Discussion pursuant to 74-206 1 (f)**
b. **Discussion pursuant to 74-206 1 (c)**

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 1 (f) (c) at 6:40 p.m.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Slanetz, Councilor
SECONDER: Courtney Hamilton, Councilor
AYES: David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

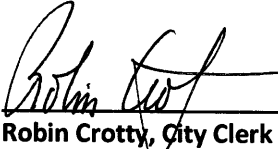
Motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:55pm

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Michael David, Council President
SECONDER: Courtney Hamilton, Councilor
AYES: David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:56 pm.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Michael David, Council President
SECONDER: Courtney Hamilton, Councilor
AYES: David, Slanetz, Breen, Hamilton


Robin Crotty, City Clerk


Neil Bradshaw, Mayor

