



**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

**May 20, 2025
6:00 PM**

Location: City Council Chambers, 408 N. Spokane Street, Post Falls, ID 83854

WORKSHOP – 5:00 pm 2nd Floor Conference Room

- a. Salary Survey Discussion

The workshop was canceled.

REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 pm City Council Chambers

The regular agenda is scheduled to start at 6:00 PM, but may start earlier depending on the completion of any preceding workshop.

CALL TO ORDER BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MALLOY

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Samantha Steigleder, Aaron Plew, Joe Malloy, Nathan Ziegler, Randy Westlund, Ryan Davis

Samantha Steigleder, Aaron Plew, Joe Malloy, Nathan Ziegler, Randy Westlund, Ryan Davis –
Present

Mayor Ron Jacobson– **Excused**

**CEREMONIES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, PRESENTATION:
ACTION ITEM**

Post Falls City Hall and business offices will be closed on Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day.

The City of Post Falls and American Legion Post 143 will co-host a Memorial Day ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery on Monday, May 26th at 11:00am.

- a. Appointment of Len Crosby and Jerry Lyon to the Industrial Development Corporation

Motion by City Council Ziegler to Approve the Appointment of Len Crosby and Jerry Lyon to the Industrial Development Corporation.

Second by City Council Westlund.

Ayes: City Council Steigleder, City Council Plew, City Council Malloy, City Council Ziegler, City Council Westlund, City Council Davis

Motion Carried

Second by City Council Davis.

Ayes: City Council Steigleder, City Council Plew, City Council Malloy, City Council Ziegler, City Council Westlund, City Council Davis

Motion Carried

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There are generally two types of public hearings. In a legislative hearing, such as adopting an ordinance amending the zoning code or Comprehensive Plan amendments, the Mayor and City Council may consider any input provided by the public. In quasi-judicial hearings, such as subdivisions, special use permits and zone change requests, the Mayor and City Council must follow procedures similar to those used in court to ensure the fairness of the hearing. Additionally, the Mayor and City Council can only consider testimony that relates to the adopted approval criteria for each matter. Residents or visitors wishing to testify upon an item before the Council must sign up in advance and provide enough information to allow the Clerk to properly record their testimony in the official record of the City Council. Hearing procedures call for submission of information from City staff, then presentation by the applicant (15 min.), followed by public testimony (4 min. each) and finally the applicant's rebuttal testimony (8 min.). Testimony should be addressed to the City Council, only address the relevant approval criteria (in quasi-judicial matters) and not be unduly repetitious.

ACTION ITEMS:

None

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/RETURNING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

This section of the agenda is to continue consideration of items that have been previously discussed by the City Council and to formally adopt ordinances and resolutions that were previously approved by the Council. Ordinances and resolutions are formal measures considered by the City Council to implement policy which the Council has considered. Resolutions govern internal matters to establish fees and charges pursuant to existing ordinances. Ordinances are laws which govern general public conduct. Certain procedures must be followed in the adoption of both ordinances and resolutions; state law often establishes those requirements.

ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Spokane Street Rehabilitation Project, Contract Amendment with Welch Comer Engineers

Public Works Director John Beacham presenting: This is a change order for Welch Comer for services to assist with traffic concerns (with safety and congestion) with the Spokane Street Rehabilitation project. Welch Comer provided review of traffic modeling data and recommended solutions to address the eastbound traffic volumes. Some of the implemented changes were successful, and the situation was improved. The total amount of the contract amendment is \$8,000, using \$5000 in contingency. This is all paid for through the \$700,000 from ITD for the extending of paving limits. The project is essentially done at this point.

Malloy: We do still anticipate coming in at under the \$700,000 by the time this project is complete, correct?

Beacham: Correct.

Motion by City Council Ziegler to Approve the Spokane Street Rehabilitation Project, Contract Amendment with Welch Comer Engineers.

Second by Westlund.

Ayes: City Council Steigleder, City Council Plew, City Council Malloy, City Council Ziegler, City Council Westlund, City Council Davis

Motion Carried

City Council Westlund, City Council Davis
Motion Carried

b. Railroad Quiet Zones

City Engineer Rob Palus presenting: Back in 2018, this issue was brought to council for consideration. More recently, we received an inquiry into the feasibility of a railroad quiet zone in Post Falls. The railroad lines and crossings in the city were shown. Railroad quiet zones are designated sections of railroad track where train horns are not required to sound at public crossings. The engineers on those trains would still have the right to blow the horn for safety reasons in these zones. In 2019, KMPO enacted standards for the establishment of railroad quiet zones within the county. The potential quiet zone identified in KMPO's policy included 9 miles of track from the UPRR line from McGuire Road to Meyer Road. Planning level costs for installing and maintaining this zone in Post Falls were explained and are estimated at approximately \$13 million and \$70,000 (per year maintenance cost) respectively. The cost to include railroad quiet zone feasibility in the Transportation Master Plan would be approximately \$95,400. Funding would be difficult as impact fees likely don't qualify, and it is difficult to find grant dollars for railroad quiet zones specifically. The benefits and disadvantages of railroad quiet zones were presented. I'm looking for direction on whether the council would like to include the railroad quiet zone feasibility in the Transportation Master Plan, or if we do not include it at this time.

Plew: The railroad can revoke the quiet zones if they see fit.

Palus: Correct.

Ziegler: Do we have safety data for this area for the railroads?

Palus: Yes, most of our crossings in town have been fairly low as far as collisions. There was one fatality before ITD installed lights and crossing gates at the intersection of Spokane Street with the UPRR line in 2020. I can come back with more information about the safety of the other intersections in Post Falls if you would like.

Ziegler: Would that help with funding possibilities?

Palus: If you can demonstrate there is a safety issue or problem, that improves your chances of getting grant funds. Our crossings would probably not rank high enough to get many dollars.

Steigleder: I would like to see this, but I don't think we have the ability to put it in the budget now.

Westlund: Yes, this is a clear no to me.

Malloy: This isn't a safety issue or capacity issue, this is a nuisance issue.

Ziegler: This would be nice as an amenity, but it's too expensive.

Davis: What are the blast requirements?

Palus: I believe it is two short blasts and one long one.

5. CITIZEN ISSUES

This section of the agenda is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Council regarding City-related issues that are not on the agenda. Persons wishing to speak will have 5 minutes. Comments related to pending public hearings, including decisions that may be appealed to the City Council, are out of order and should be held for the public hearing. Repeated comments regarding the same or similar topics previously addressed are out of order and will not be allowed. Comments regarding performance by city employees are inappropriate at this time and should be directed to the Mayor, either by subsequent appointment or after tonight's meeting, if time permits. In order to ensure adequate public notice, Idaho Law provides that any item, other than emergencies, requiring Council action must be placed on the agenda of an upcoming Council meeting. As such, the City Council can't take action on items raised during citizens issues at the same meeting but may request additional information or that the item be placed on a future agenda.

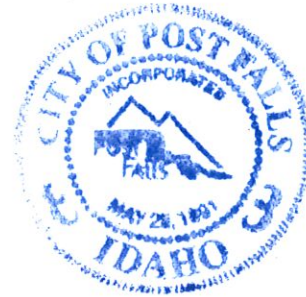
None

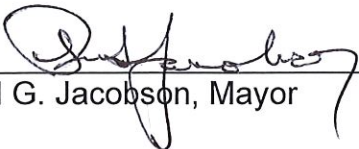
ACTION ITEMS:

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment at 7:14 pm





Ronald G. Jacobson, Mayor



Rhiannon O'Neill, Deputy City Clerk

Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meeting should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk, 408 N. Spokane Street or call 208-773-3511. City Council and City commission meetings are broadcast live on Post Falls City Cable on cable channel 1300 (formerly 97.103) as well as the City's YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofPostFallsIdaho>).

Mayor Ronald G. Jacobson

Councilors: Samantha Steigleder, Aaron Plew, Joe Malloy, Nathan Ziegler, Randy Westlund, Ryan Davis

Mission
Building Community.