

APPROVED



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CITY OF STANLEY

City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Stanley Community Center, 510 Eva Falls Stanley, ID 83278

Call to Order: (Mayor Botti) 10:03 am

Roll Call: Councilmember Cardoso – Present; Councilmember Hernandez – Present; Councilmember Thompson – Present; Councilmember Cron – Present; Mayor Botti – Present

Also Present: Hannah Fake – City Clerk, Savannah Pedersen – Treasurer, Inga Franks, Joe Mierwinski

Workshop:

Idaho Dark Sky Assoc. Park and Community Building Rental Waiver Action Item

MOTION by Councilmember Hernandez to waive the fee for the Park and Community building Rental waiver. Second by Councilmember Cardoso.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Cardoso – yea; Councilmember Hernandez – yea;

Councilmember Thompson – yea; Councilmember Cron – yea; Mayor Botti – yea.

None Opposed; ALL IN FAVOR

FY 2026-2027 Budget Workshop #2

- Discussion with Chamber recommendations for the new lease agreement. There was discussion of rent cost as the lease isn't fair market value, but the Chamber is providing a service to the community and City and so that should be taken into consideration. Councilmember Thompson provided background that the Chamber had provided all the funds for the City remodel so the deal was that the Chamber would have a space here in the building. The agreement is to generally try and clean things up with lease and make it just about renting the space. The Council checked in about the bathroom being open to the public. All utilities are included, except internet which is paid for by the Chamber.
- Thompson asked about the lease term of 1 to 5 years. The lease has changed every year for the last few years and so it is good to review it. If nothing changes the lease will automatically continue. The Chamber likes the ability to discuss it every year. Councilmember Cardoso asked if there was any change to operations regarding the sheriff's department and there was not.
- The Chamber has updated their bylaws so there are no term limits, they now only have 5 seats on their board (down from 7). They would like to make the rent payment annually.
- Discussion on option tax budgeted for Chamber. They have requested \$25,000. Savannah asked them to explain this request further.
 - o Joe Mierzwinski and Inga Franks explained that the main reason for the request is that they have a full-time employee. Her salary is \$36,000 per year and the state grant doesn't cover much of it. The Chamber covers the cost of employees using dues and the funds they receive from the City. This combination of funding also covers events that the chamber takes on that are not covered by the grant like the employee hoedown. The Chamber understood that in past years the City hasn't received as much option tax and the chamber didn't have the same number of employees but now, they have full time staff. They also want to have funds in their account for operation costs as all the grants are reimbursements. They are looking to have greater transparency in the future in terms of what benefits are available and finances. They are planning a big update for the website. Emily, the office manager is regular year-round employee working 5 days/week in the

summer and in the winter 3 days/week. She is also helping with events. The position does not have any benefits.

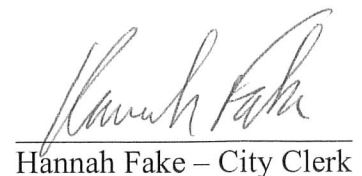
- In the past the City has provided funding to the Chamber quarterly. The Chamber would like to continue requesting quarterly and understand it depends on revenues.
- Cardoso asked about other employees including Danni. Joe replied that she is the marking vendor and is an independent contractor and is paid per task. They are changing the photography contractor.
- There was discussion about the chamber raising membership dues to help cover costs as dues have not been raised in many years.
- The Mayor asked how stable the funding from the travel grant was. The Chamber felt secure they would continue to receive funding. The requirements regarding how that funding is spent may change as the state is wanting to see more regional marketing. The grant doesn't sponsor many events. The state grant is use it or lose it and they are more likely to approve spending on shoulder season events.
- There was a question about how much each event gets: Winterfest gets 7k, sawtooth fest gets 4k, dark sky 3k, street dance 8k, hockey gets 4k. Only nonprofits can receive funding. Cardoso said he wanted to see less funding go to street dance because it only benefits three businesses in town. There was further discussion about the different events and how funding can be allocated.
- 5 minute break taken before moving on. Inga and Joe left the meeting.
- Thompson said that the chamber needs to be able to provide a stable position because if they don't provide stability for their employees, we will be back where we were last year with no one staffing the office.

General budget discussion

- Thompson asked what the gross pay for city employees was because we want to make sure they can afford rents. There was discussion around employee salaries increases. Treasurer Pedersen is conservative in budgeting, so it is unlikely to ever be as high as budgeted.
- Discussion about rearranging budget lines 241, 602, and some items that were mixed up in other lines to be clear.
- Reviewed changes to valley creek preserve line items to split the funding to cover cost of maintenance over many years.
- A snow removal line was added for ice rink since that hasn't been a cost in the past but was this year.
- The ice rink, ski club, and snowmobile grooming we used to provide funding to but didn't manage. We now manage those programs. Kimberly is in charge of these programs.
- There was discussion around the fireworks budget. Cron asked for the breakdown for the fireworks budget and said he thinks it's a lot of money for an hour. There was discussion on reducing the budget.
- The council plans to move forward with the chamber budget request and reevaluate evaluate it at each request for funding and once they receive a copy of the Chamber's budget.
- The council discussed which project they would prefer to see for the community building. The Council wants to prioritize replacing the boardwalk over the roof as the roof is currently fine.
- There was discussion around funding and the groomer program. Kimberly explained some of the costs within this past year.
- Plan to pass preliminary budget at July 9th meeting.

Adjournment: 12:40 pm


Steve Botti – Mayor


Hannah Fake – City Clerk