

**City of Stanley  
Council Meeting/Discussion  
January 13, 2022**

**IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE CITY:**

Mayor Steve Botti by zoom, Council President Laurii Gadwa by zoom, Councilmember Austin Clegg, Councilmember Tim Cron, and Councilmember Gabriel Cardoso. All answered to roll call. City staff members included: City Clerk/Treasurer Cari Tassano and Maintenance supervisor Greg Wallace.

**OTHER ATTENDEES:**

JoAnne Flynn, Keri York, Lin Gray, David Penny, Jeff Welker, C.J. Sherlock, Ken Carlson, Gary Gadwa all attended by zoom call, and Michael Powell.

**DISCUSSION:** Hold a general discussion to consider the merits of a request by Wood River Land Trust to rezone Valley Creek Preserve to Open Land District. This is not a public hearing on a rezoning ordinance and there will be no vote for the proposal at this meeting. The discussion was opened at 4:01 p.m. to receive comments.

Councilmember Cron is in favor of Valley Creek Preserve being rezoned to the Open Land District; this is a great benefit for the town of Stanley.

Keri York: is the program director at Wood River land Trust. in 2015 the land trust was able to purchase 34 acres known as the: Valley Creek Preserve. This occurred through a generous donation from the Hosac family and a grant from the governor's office of species conservation. The reasons the land trust wanted to acquire this property is to protect anadromous fish habitat, protect other wildlife habitat and provide reasonable public access. The grant has several stipulations, including protection of fish and wildlife habitat. In 2017 we held a public management meeting; the plan is currently posted on the WRLT website. The plan includes near-term action items: interpret signage and an informational kiosk that has been completed and is located on the City of Stanley property. Long-term action items, rezoning would be the first long-term action item. VCP cannot remain in the Residential B Zone. Uses for the land have to be compliant with the zoning. In the VCP management plan (conceptual only), listed under public access, it states: to determine appropriate compatible uses, determine access needs and access points, and protections of the wetlands and the floodplain.

Jeff Welker feels there is one common goal by several residents, they would like to see the completed management plan or a preliminary site plan prior to the rezoning. Welker would also like to see the zone renamed protected zone. It was discussed that it would be difficult to have different rezones for the preserve.

Ken Carlsen concurs with Jeff Welker. He also has concerns with parking options.

Gary Gadwa: acknowledges the management plan is a conceptual plan and looks forward to seeing an action plan.

Joann Flynn: Feels that once the property is zoned Open Land District, the public will no longer have any control of what happens in the district. She supports seeing a management plan.

Councilmember Clegg: feels the WRLT does a good job in Idaho protecting natural resources. The Open Land District Ordinance is not just for VCP and encourages everyone to read the ordinance. WRLT has used these processes with other project and feels that the best first step would be to rezone the property; which is the most efficient and best way to move forward with the preserve.

Botti stated his assumption during the process of the management plan is that the VCP will be a nature preserve, and that the WRLT is not contemplating developing it into a city park to include ball fields, swing sets or intensive development. York stated that the management plan goals besides giving the public access were to protect the wildlife habitat, fisheries, fish habitat, water quality and education and interpretation. One of the things that we do when we have a nature preserve is we try to balance resources and the value of the preserve. In this case protecting the fish wildlife habitat is the primary goal of our acquisition and of course, which is stipulated within the grant by the governor's office, inviting and educating the public on the salmon habitat, wildlife habitat and to provide appropriate places for minimal public access points, and at the same time protecting the resources we all care about. When you provide the public with trails and restrictions via signage, Gadwa feels this would reduce inappropriate behavior around wildlife habitat.

Parking and access were discussed further in length. It is a very tricky process because there are several private property owners that surround the preserve and there is not a direct connection from the City of Stanley's property.

Closing comments from the City Council: Council President Gadwa would like to propose that we hold a public hearing in the February council meeting for rezoning VCP to the Open Land District as requested by the WRLT. Council President Gadwa moves to schedule a public hearing in February to rezone Valley Creek Preserve. Councilmember Cron seconds. All approve. Motion passes.

Close of Discussion: 5:22 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Botti at 5:23 p.m.

Roll call was retaken: all city councilmembers were still present.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS:**

none

**MAYOR COMMENTS:**

none

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

none

**COVID-19:**

Unfortunately, we still have active cases in Custer County and still find it necessary to hold council meeting with a zoom option.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

none

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

12/09/21 Council Meeting and the payment approval report – unpaid and prepaid bill for January/February. Council President Gadwa moves to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Cardoso seconds. All approve. Motion passes

**INSTALLATION OF MAYOR AND 2 CITY COUNCIL SEATS 3&4 – 4 YEAR TERMS:**

Cari Tassano administers the oath of office to the newly elected Mayor Steve Botti and presented him with a certificate of election for a term of 4 years. Steve Botti administers the oath of office to the newly elected Councilmembers Laurii Gadwa Seat #3 and Gabriel Cardoso Seat #4 and presented them with certificate of election for a term of 4 years.

**APPOINTMENT OF CITY CLERK/TREASURER 2 – YEAR TERM:**

Mayor Botti stated he would like to re-appoint Cari Tassano as City Clerk/Treasurer for another 2-year term and asked for the City Councils support. Council President Gadwa moves to re-appoint Cari Tassano as our City Clerk/Treasurer for the next two years. Councilmember Clegg seconds. All approve. Motion passes. Mayor Botti administered the oath of office to the newly appointed City Clerk/Treasurer.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT:**

The City Council is in receipt of the written report from the Custer County Sheriff's office. the Council acknowledges the report.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING:**

The previous approved Stanley Sawtooth Chamber of Commerce meeting for their annual membership/board meeting has been charged to January 20, 2022.

**PIONEER PARK:**

none

**STREET AND ROADS:**

none

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

Cemetery: none

Code Review: none

Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association: SIHA hiring for the summer season. Grant project for the barn roof is now put on hold.

Snowmobile Groomer: The new groomer has arrived. Ski trail grooming has had all new staff and we have had heavy snowfall. Trails are now improving.

Chamber of Commerce: call volume in the chamber office and on the website has increased from the previous year. Challis Messenger will be publishing an article for winter recreation and events. Members, please join our membership meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

none

**NEW BUISNESS:**

Solicitation for private companies interested in developing workforce housing. Council President Gadwa moves to move forward with request for qualifications. Councilmember Cardso seconds. All approve. Motion passes.

Set up a special meeting for consideration of an additional RV for employee housing. A tentative meeting was setup for February 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**BUILDING PERMITS:**

none

**BUILDING PERMITS/CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL:**

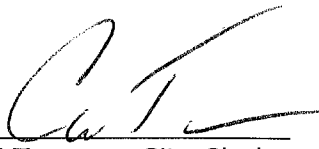
none

**CITY CLERK REPORT:** Priorities for the City Clerk for the month of January:

Alcohol Beverage Licenses  
Working on 2021 Audit  
Streets and Roads State report  
State & Federal quarterly returns  
State annual return  
Treasury Report  
Winterfest permit with SNRA  
Parks & Recreation Snowmobile Reporting 2021-2022  
W-2's  
1099

Mayor Botti adjourns the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

  
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Steve Botti, Mayor

ATTEST:   
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Cari Tassano, City Clerk

