

**Troy City Council  
Work Meeting  
Council Chambers  
March 12, 2008**

The meeting came to order at 7:00 pm. Attending – Mayor James Hammons, Council: Larry Coryell, Don Banning, Larry Baker and City Clerk Sandra Johnson. Laura Schrader - excused absence.

**GUESTS:** Katie Randall, Mitch Walters, Susi Lasater, John Clogston, and Jerry Wandler.

**SNOWMOBILE STREET USAGE:** **Jerry Wandler-** Jim Hammons asked Wandler if he had talked to the County and State to see if snowmobiles are allowed on roads. Wandler said no, because it depends on the City road access to get to those roads. Following is a list presented by Wandler for snowmobile access:

**SNOWMOBILE ACCESS IN TROY**

1. Other cities in Montana allow it (Seeley Lake, Lincoln West Yellowstone)
2. Only to allow access across Highway 2 and routes that generally skirt the homeowners.
3. Maybe a time constraint, say 7:00am to 7:00pm, or 8:00 am to 8:00 pm (this should eliminate much of the noise concerns).
4. Follow all rules of the road.
5. Economic benefit to community when conditions are right.
6. Purpose of route is to access services: food, fuel, lodging, and trails (Callahan, & Rabbit O'Brien).
7. Signage: There are a lot of options.

The map route: St. Regis from Highway 2, to Yaak Avenue, to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, to Grant Avenue, to Callahan Creek Road, to Highway 2, to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, to Mill Road, to Park Road and across the Roosevelt Bridge. Mayor Hammons doesn't like the idea of snowmobiles in residential areas, so Grant Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street may have to be omitted from the desired route. Discussion followed.

Don Banning stated that he doesn't want snowmobile traffic at night, as it is difficult to see them. He also asked Wandler if they have permission to cross Highway 2. Wandler still needs to talk to the State.

Police Chief Mitch Walters said that snowmobiles can cross highways. Walters advised it is not the City's jurisdiction to give. From a law enforcement standpoint, there is no problem with this use.

Banning stated that it is still up for discussion. He doesn't want children going to and from school on snowmobiles. Wandler stated that local citizens would still have to follow the routes. Hammons said it will be up to the Police Department to educate the local citizens. Walters stated that it comes down to behavior. Discussion followed. All road rules need to be followed.

Hammons asked Coryell his opinion on alleys. Are they okay to get to service stations for fuel? Coryell said yes. He also suggested strict regulations.

All council members agreed that 6:00 am to 6:00 pm would be a good time, also a strictly enforced 20 mph speed limit. Council will review, research, and come up with an ordinance for Troy.

Wandler requested that the September newsletter state the route, and remind parents about their children's use. Walters stated that drivers will have to be licensed drivers. More discussion followed on access to restaurants and motels on the east side of Callahan Creek Bridge. The State will have to be petitioned for approval for highway bridge use.

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING:** Larry Baker and Larry Coryell will be out of town on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The Council meeting will be moved to Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 due to no quorum being present.

**HOUSING- Low to Moderate Income:** While in Missoula at the WASACT meeting, Hammons was able to talk to various funding agencies. He informed council that Montana has funds available for low to moderate income housing, and not too many towns are applying for them. From 1970 to 2000 the counties were growing more than municipalities. Missoula used the funding to provide utility extensions and housing projects. Now they have increased their population so much that they don't even have to apply for the funding. They automatically receive \$500,000 per year. Missoula, Great Falls, and Billings are now entitlement towns based on their population. Hammons advised that the funding is out there. It is up to us how progressive we want to be. There are agencies that will come in and do a study to advise us on things like urban renewal.

**Phase II Water Project-** the Low to Moderate Income (LMI) was based on all of Lincoln County. They had our target area for sewer and water at over \$70. We asked that they use only Troy statistics in figuring the target rate, not the entire county. We just got it in showing Troy's target rate is actually \$37.63 for both sewer and water. So, we are actually 183% above our target rate. Troy's Median Income figure is 19,635. With these figure we can apply for a higher grant amount of \$750,000, and no matching funds. There will be a public meeting on March 31, 2008 for Phase II of the water project.

Appropriation requests in the amount of \$400,000 were sent to Senator Baucus and Senator Tester Phase II of the water project. Application for a STAG grant was also sent out in the amount of \$400,000. The total cost of Phase II will be around 1.5 million dollars. If not all the funding comes in, we would have to re-do the plan to fit the funding that was approved.

**COUNTY WALKING PATH:** Hammons has been in touch with Burlington Northern. They are in favor of helping to decrease safety issues. They will be here in April to review everything. Depending on when the county gets their CTEP funds determines when we can start on the walking path. Banning asked if BNSF will be moving their storage. Hammons answered, it will be moved. Also, there will be a letter to Kootenai Pets for Life addressing the move of the animal control building to accommodate the plans for the walking path. Mitch Walters brought up the issue that green boxes will not always be available due to regulations on dumping.

Larry Coryell commented on the Boy Scout Hut for urban renewal. He would like to see it gone. There are no restrooms and now the roof is not safe. Discussion followed. The building is still the City's. Hammons wants to discuss this at the next work meeting.

Hammons advised that he put in an appropriation to Representative Rehburg for storm drainage, curbs and gutters. Engineers did an estimate of the cost to clean up the area down by the railroad crossing and Yaak Avenue. It would include trees, lighting, etc. The cost would be \$259,000 at this time.

**PARK COMMITTEE:** Hammons brought up the issues of charging for the park. He encouraged ideas for a work meeting.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** **Jim Hammons** – none. **Don Banning** - Public works will pick up the trash cans by the school concession stand and take them to Roosevelt Park. Banning also asked the school to move the location of the storage shed they were building. He advised the softball coach to contact him before putting up permanent structures. **Larry Coryell** – would like

to see a charge for the use of the boat ramp. Discussion followed. **Larry Baker** – brought up the water meter reading problem. He was advised that it has to be solved this year. Discussion followed.

Public Comments: None

Don Banning, and Larry Coryell will be in Friday, March 15, 2008 to review the claims for payment.

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James C. Hammons, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sandra Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer