

JULY 30, 1965

The City Council of the City of Idaho Falls met in an informal meeting, Friday, July 30th, 1965 at 3:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Idaho Falls, Idaho. There were present at said meeting: Mayor S. Eddie Pedersen; Councilmen Nelson, Parish, Keller. Absent: Councilmen Leahy, Page, Freeman. Also present: Roy C. Barnes, City Clerk; Don Lloyd, Public Works Director; Luther Jenkins, Controller; John Doxey, Planning Director. Also the following men and the organization they represented: Paul Hovey, School District No. 91; Al Owens, Bonneville County Commissioners; Phil Marsh, State Highway Engineers; Bob Steiling, Chamber of Commerce; Arthur Earl, Downtown Improvement Association; Ken Cunningham, Chamber of Commerce; Charles Just, Greater Idaho Falls Committees; Luther Squires, Planning Commission; Reed Molen, Mayor of the City of Ammon.

The Mayor announced that the purpose of this meeting was to consider City participation in an Urban Planning Assistance Program to aid the City of Idaho Falls in comprehensive planning for growth and development. He said he had been advised by the Idaho Department of Commerce and Development that this City had been approved for a Federal Grant in the amount of \$33,780 toward this end and that the City's cost for the first twelve months would be \$16,890 in cash or services.

The Mayor then introduced Mr. Val Rupeiks of the planning consultant firm of Clark, Coleman and Rupeiks who, tentatively and verbally, have an agreement with the City of Idaho Falls to administer such a planning program as described.

Mr. Rupeiks explained that this program, as outlined by his firm, would be in two phases and would involve a working staff up to 100 people. The first phase, he explained further, would concentrate on a standard of development to determine that which this City needs in the way of facilities. He said his firm has previously analyzed all structures in the planning area but it is intended that an evaluation be placed upon said analysis to determine which structure is used or unused, needed or unneeded, or that might require additional attention or concentration to obtain maximum advantage to the community. These structures include all public facilities. There would be 100% coverage in the interests of all retail institutions. All commercially used floor area would be studied. He said a parking and pedestrian study would be made in October and a thoroughfare study from origin to destination would be made in the early spring.

Mr. Rupeiks continued by saying that the second phase would require less manual labor and more thinking and would explore the local economy with the objective of determining the weak and the strong points. Both phases, it was learned, would be completed in eighteen months. He said that, during that period, his firm would be working closely with the City, the County, the Planning Commission, the School Districts, the Chamber of Commerce, all downtown merchants, Civic organizations and all other interested agencies. Examples of anticipated accomplishments were listed as the selection of a site for a civic center, proper user of the river front, adequate and appropriate parking sites.

Mr. Hovey commented to the effect that improper or inadequate planning probably was a factor in the recent controversy of the high school site. He expressed hope that the planning data would be available soon enough to be beneficial in the selection of another junior high school site. Mr. Rupeiks replied by saying that his firm would certainly be working very closely with the school board, studying needs and types of schools and that suggested site plans and facilities would be forthcoming. Mr. Hovey then asked to what extent the program would include a study of the airport and was answered to the effect that recommendation would be made relative to expansion of approach zones and density of development.

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Mr. Steiling asked if the information would be made available on a continuing basis and was answered in the affirmative, subject to the completion of any given phase before release and also that it first be presented to the City Council and the Planning Commission.

Mr. Owens and Mr. Marsh spoke briefly, stressing the need for a planning program as described.

Mayor Reed Molen inquired as to whether or not the City of Ammon was included in this planning process and was answered in the affirmative by Mr. Rupeiks. Mayor Molen then asked what was expected of the City of Ammon toward participation in the cost of the program. Mayor Pedersen explained that this would be worked out by negotiation, not only with the City of Ammon, but other affected governmental subdivisions such as the school districts and Bonneville County.

The Mayor informally polled all Councilmen present and found them to be in complete agreement with the program as outlined. The Mayor then proceeded to authorize the firm of Clark, Coleman and Rupeiks to proceed, effectively Monday, August 2nd, 1965. It was explained by the Mayor that this action would be officially ratified at the next Regular Council Meeting.

The Mayor then thanked all present for their interest and cooperation and declared the Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: s/ Roy C. Barnes
CITY CLERK

s/ S. Eddie Pedersen
MAYOR
