

DECEMBER 18, 1936

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Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Idaho Falls, Idaho, held December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1936.

There were present at said Meeting: Barzilla W. Clark, Mayor; Lee Walker, City Clerk; Councilmen Ewart, Crowley, Wright, Evans, Wilkie, Crabtree, Wing; Absent: Gourley; when the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

Minutes of the last Regular Meeting were read and approved.

The following applications for building permits were read:

No. 1520 signed by Harry J. Helmer

No. 1521 signed by B. F. Noe

It was moved by Wright, seconded by Ewart, that the permits be approved. Roll call voting Aye: Ewart, Crowley, Wright, Evans, Wilkie, Crabtree, Wing; Absent: Gourley; Motion carried.

The following petition was read:

“To the Mayor and City Council of Idaho Falls:

We, the undersigned residents of Idaho Falls, who reside near Lots 4 and 5, Block 40, of the original Townsite of Eagle Rock, hereby petition you to purchase said Lots 4 and 5, Block 40, of the original Townsite of Eagle Rock, for a public park, and urge as our reasons therefore, the following:

1. That said Lots are not suitable for residence purposes because entirely surrounded by streets and alley.
2. That said Lots can be purchased for a very reasonable price.
3. That there is no park of any kind in this section of the City of Idaho Falls.

<u>s/ Alvin Denman</u>	<u>s/ Wm. S. Holden</u>
<u>s/ G. H. Ballantine</u>	<u>s/ Gordon Boyle</u>
<u>s/ L. A. Hartert</u>	<u>s/ Wm. H. Lee</u>
<u>s/ Ray Nahra</u>	<u>s/ W. H. Elkington</u>
<u>s/ May J. Smith</u>	<u>s/ Rawling Decker</u>
<u>s/ Ray R. Moore</u>	<u>s/ Siebert Rudman”</u>

The Mayor referred the petition to the Park Committee.

The following letter was read:

“Idaho Falls, Idaho  
December 11, 1936

Honorable Mayor and City Council,  
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Gentlemen:

The condition of #4 turbine at the lower plant is such that I think it advisable to call the matter to your attention at this time.

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On the occasion of a recent inspection of the machine we found that the bracket in the wheel pit at the lower end of the gate shaft was broken so that the shaft was free to move during the opening and closing of the turbine gates. This was repaired and the machine put back in service and it was found that the gates would not open wide or close tight without great effort being put on the mechanism. Further inspection revealed that the hole in the gate ring where the arms which move the gates connects had worn and thrown a large amount of lost motion into the mechanism. This was repaired but the condition was not greatly improved for a number of reasons. In the first place, the entire assembly is so badly worn that failure may result at anytime. The fit between the ring and the collar upon which it moves has been worn so badly that the ring is free to shift laterally under the force necessary to close the gates. In order to get an adjustment of the gate mechanism the arms screw into eyes with right and left hand threads so that the arm may be lengthened and shortened to get proper action of the gates. These threads have rusted out until there is very little metal left holding the arms in place. This presents a very weak point and failure would leave the turbine with no means to control it, with the result that the machine might run away, and under those conditions it would be impossible to close the gates to the pit. Very serious damage to the plant might result from such failure.

There is still another condition that is bad. The turbine gates set on the base of the speed ring and the tips of the gates open into the turbine and clear the runner blades. When new this clearance was ample for safety, but due to the continual action of the gates under load changes, the base ring has worn down until the tip of the gates when open barely clears the runner. Should one of the runner blades strike the gate, the blade would be broken and the runner unbalanced so badly that shutdown would be necessary. It is also extremely likely that such an event would break a gate link thus leaving one gate open and no means to control it, in which event it would again be likely that we would have great difficulty in getting the out gates closed in order to get in to make repairs.

These are some of the things we may expect in the near future. Another high water period with the large amount of same carried will undoubtedly cause sufficient wear to cause the gates to drag on the runner, with all the attendant dangers.

We recently made some tests on the machines for water consumption, and found that the #4 is in the worst condition of any machine in the plant. It uses more than 1 second foot of water per kilowatt, which is an efficiency of approximately 50%.

The matter of time enters into the problem. If we do not take some action immediately, this unit will be out of service during the heavy load period next September and October. By starting now I believe that we can have the machine in good condition for the heavy load.

The proper procedure to follow should be decided soon. If we attempt to repair the old turbine we are going to find that we will nearly have to replace everything but the curb ring and the expense will be very heavy. If instead we plan to put a new turbine under the present generator we will be able to install a closed pit type of wheel and have something that will be

good for a long time to come. The excessive wear that the present units are subject to, due to the same and silt in the water will be very largely overcome with a new type wheel, and maintenance will be greatly facilitated.

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It is my recommendation that proper steps be taken to put and install a new turbine in place of the old one, so that work can begin soon after the first of the year.

Preliminary inquiries are out now for recommendations by the manufacturers, and answers should be received soon.

Respectfully submitted,  
s/ M. P. Goudy  
City Electrician"

No action was taken by the Council.

It was moved by Ewart, seconded by Crowley, that the Meeting adjourn. Roll call voting Aye: Evans, Wilkie, Crabtree, Wing, Ewart, Crowley, Wright; Absent: Gourley; Motion carried.

Passed and approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1937.

ATTEST: s/ Lee Walker  
CITY CLERK

s/ R. B. Ewart  
MAYOR PROTEM

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