

## **JANUARY 11, 1996**

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The City Council of the City of Idaho Falls met in Regular Council Meeting, Thursday, January 11, 1996, in the Council Chambers at 140 South Capital Avenue in Idaho Falls, Idaho. There were present: Mayor Linda Milam; Councilmembers Beverly Branson, Ida Hardcastle, Gary Mills, Brad Eldredge, Larry Carlson, and Melvin Erickson. Also present were: Rosemarie Anderson, City Clerk; Robert Follett, Assistant City Attorney; and all available Division Directors.

Mayor Milam requested Boy Scout David Eldredge come forward and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Milam presented her "State of the City Address - 1996", as follows:

### **STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS - 1996**

I am privileged to appear before you again with a summary of previous year accomplishments and current year plans, as well as some thoughts on the economic condition of our community and on the City's continuing efforts to inform, and more importantly, to involve the citizens of Idaho Falls in their local government.

During this past year, public safety was a major concern of this Council. A new fire station, the Department's fifth, was opened in the southwest part of the City, improving fire and ambulance response times for area residents and businesses. The Idaho Falls Police Department commitment to District 91 schools expanded yet again. Currently, seven officers are assigned to the schools, two in the elementary DARE program, two School Resource Officers in the High Schools, and, beginning this year, three School Resource Officers in the Junior High Schools. In addition, the Department is greatly increasing its efforts to deal with domestic violence, to emphasize prevention and prosecution, and to coordinate with Domestic Violence agencies.

Street resurfacing and curb-and-gutter replacement programs continued. In addition, the City began a program to build or replace pedestrian sidewalks and paths on City-owned property, and in alternate years, to begin paving City-owned cemetery roads. Extensive work was done to increase accessibility by replacing curbs at street corners. In cooperation with the State of Idaho, West Broadway was further widened and improved; this year, the first phase of Pancheri Drive improvements will begin with construction of roadway and new bridges over the Snake River and the Porter Canal. In preparation, the Snake River Greenbelt was extended along South Capital Avenue during 1995. A dechlorination facility was completed at the City Wastewater Treatment Plant. This federally mandated enhancement was paid for with City funds accrued in the Sewer Fund.

Major studies on electrical connection fees, power usage contracts, and alternate power supplies were completed. We have made a major commitment to understand and to influence the future of public power in the Northwest. Thanks to the citizens who voted for bonds to build the bulb turbine and Gem State projects, we are ideally positioned to take advantage, this year, of the changes occurring in the northwest public power picture. The picture is complex and rapidly changing, and we will need a thorough understanding of the complexities - I believe we can do that well.

Additional automation features were installed at the Idaho Falls Public Library. Sunday afternoon hours and an Internet homepage were added to better serve the public.

A 5-hole junior course was opened at Sand Creek Municipal Golf Course, funded almost entirely by private donations and volunteer labor. A new, landscaped entrance plaza and gift

shop opened at the Tautphaus Park Zoo. Several new attractions were added and improvements were made at other exhibits. And, a wading pool, with fountains, bubblers,

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and a large landscaped play area for small children was opened at the Aquatic Center. This summer, the soccer complex, including 8 soccer fields, restrooms, and parking, and the Tautphaus Park Zoo Penguin Cove exhibit will be opened during the summer. Grants, donations, and in-kind services were critical to each of these projects.

A team from Public Works, Planning, and Parks and Recreation, and a private engineering firm completed a proposal for designing residential storm water retention ponds as neighborhood parks. The proposal was presented to the City Council, and adopted in principal by the Parks and Recreation Council Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The last phase of the Airport Master Plan, apron reconstruction, will be completed this year. We may be the only City in the northwest that has prepared, and completed, its Master Plan. Despite early concerns about airline traffic out of the airport, we are down only 1.9% while the national decrease in airline travel exceeds 5%.

Shortly, the Idaho Falls Post Register will distribute the City's Second Annual Report. And, for the sixth consecutive year, the City of Idaho Falls received the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The Municipal Services Division plans two major maintenance projects this year at the Civic Auditorium and the old Library, which now houses the Bonneville Museum. Both will be reroofed, thus preserving two significant facilities for citizen use.

Preparation of the City's first Capital Improvement Plan will begin shortly. Incorporating elements of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and business elements of the City, the Capital Improvement Plan will assist the City Council in prioritizing scarce resources for improvements, expansions, and maintenance of City facilities.

Certainly the past two years have graphically illustrated the dependence of our economy on the fortunes of the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, 68% of whose employees live in this City. A few numbers will prove the point: During the 1980's, a period of stability at the INEL, our new residential, commercial, and industrial construction began to grow. During the early 90's, when several thousand people were added to the INEL payroll, the City reflected that growth with construction permits at \$52 Million, \$40 Million, \$56 Million, and \$52 Million. Then came the downturn in site employment. Today, there are 3,000 fewer jobs than three years ago. During 1994, our new construction building permits totaled \$29.1 Million, and in 1995, \$29.6 Million.

Those numbers carry significance in two ways: Reduced construction means the tax base grows more slowly, which in turn impacts the ability of the City to maintain and improve Police, Fire, Library, Parks, and other services. In deliberate response, the past two years have also seen reduced City budgets, with each year's budget smaller than the year before. The danger, always, is to avoid the temptation to be penny wise and pound foolish. Some budget line items can be reduced with little long-term impact. In the case of needed construction or major equipment items, however, short term savings can result in greater costs a few years down the road. This Council and I have tried to draw that line carefully for the citizens of this City.

The other significance of these numbers is to illustrate how important are continued efforts to diversify the local economy. The very fact that organized efforts are underway has, I think, served to lift the spirits of the region. A recent business needs survey indicates that

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the business community is optimistic about the future and investing in it. The tremendous response of downtown business owners to revitalizing the core business district is just one example of that optimism and commitment. Recent successes in attracting businesses that will hire local people are encouraging, and they are the beginning of a vibrant economic base that will not live or die based on DOE funding. Unlike some communities, we have refused to buy a ticket for a roller coaster ride, and we will no longer be sitting on a wobbly, two-legged economic stool.

Finally, my commitment to citizen information and involvement continues. In addition to an informal Budget Open House in early summer, the Parks and Recreation Division Master Plan neared completion following unprecedented efforts to involve the general public and user groups. Advertising seeking interested citizens to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Golf Advisory Council have resulted in tremendous response. In February, the Police Department will initiate the Citizen's Police Academy, an intensive short course in Police Department philosophy and policies for members of the public. These efforts will continue.

This is a wonderful City. We have incredible human and natural resources. The Councilmembers and I consider it a great privilege to serve the citizens of Idaho Falls.

Mayor Milam and Councilmembers honored the following employees with Years of Service Pins:

### 30 Years of Service:

Beverly Branson, Councilmember and Employee	March 12, 1965
Roland Clark, Fire Department	September 13, 1965
Farrell Tracy, Water Department	October 18, 1965
Tom Baird, Electric Division	June 1, 1965
Melvin Erickson, Councilmember	January 6, 1966

### 25 Years of Service:

Gae Bates, Utilities	June 1, 1970
Gary Hagen, Police Department	May 3, 1970
Dennis Tremayne, Police Department	July 26, 1970
Clark Inglet, Police Department	October 4, 1970
Ray Judy, Water Department	June 1, 1970
Jack Edwards, Electric Division	December 7, 1970

### 20 Years of Service:

Geri Ransom, Treasurer's Office	November 10, 1975
Pat Brown, Utility Collections	June 1, 1975
Dean Dallimore, Garage	December 7, 1975
Dennis Monday, Garage	May 27, 1975
Cheryl Coddling, Police Department	December 8, 1975
Earl Harryman, Police Department	September 2, 1975
Steve Anderson, Engineering Department	December 1, 1975
Doyle Allen, Street Department	June 4, 1975

Mike Schmid, Street Department  
Thomas Wirth, Electric Division

June 27, 1975  
August 26, 1975

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George Sandoval, Water Department  
Pat Blake, Sanitation Department  
Gerald Cleverly, Sanitation Department  
Janet Clark, Library

May 27, 1975  
March 19, 1975  
November 3, 1975  
November 12, 1975

At this time, Mayor Milam conducted the Swearing-In Ceremonies for the newly re-elected Councilmembers. Mayor Milam administered the Official Oath of Office to Council Seat No. 1 - Councilmember Brad Eldredge, Council Seat No. 3 - Councilmember Gary Mills, and Council Seat No. 5 - Councilmember Larry Carlson. After each Councilmember signed the Official Oath of Office, they were presented with Certificates of Election.

Mayor Milam called for nominations for President of the Council. Councilmember Hardcastle nominated Councilmember Melvin Erickson to act as President of the Council for the coming year. There being no further nominations, it was moved by Councilmember Hardcastle, seconded by Councilmember Eldredge, that Councilmember Erickson act as President for the Council. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmembers Erickson, Mills, Branson, Hardcastle, Eldredge, and Carlson; No, none; Motion Carried.

Mayor Milam announced the Council Committee Assignments for 1996, those being:

### COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 1996

#### Airport Division

1. Larry Carlson
2. Beverly Branson

#### Electrical Division

1. Brad Eldredge
2. Ida Hardcastle

#### Library

1. Ida Hardcastle

#### Municipal Services

1. Brad Eldredge
2. Gary Mills

#### Parks and Recreation

1. Gary Mills
2. Melvin Erickson

#### Public Works

1. Melvin Erickson
2. Gary Mills

#### Planning and Building

1. Beverly Branson
2. Larry Carlson

#### Public Safety

1. Idaho Hardcastle
2. Beverly Branson



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Mayor Milam requested Council's affirmation of the re-appointment of the City's Division Directors (Airport Division - James H. Thorsen; Electric Division - Mark Gendron; Fire Department - Richard Hahn; Municipal Services Division - S. Craig Lords; Parks and Recreation Division - Dave Christiansen; Planning and Building Division - Rod Gilchrist; Police Department - J. Kent Livsey; Public Works Division - Chad Stanger), City Treasurer Craig Rockwood, City Attorney Dale Storer, and City Clerk Rosemarie Anderson. It was moved by Councilmember Hardcastle, seconded by Councilmember Branson, that these re-appointments be approved. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmembers Mills, Erickson, Carlson, Branson, Hardcastle, and Eldredge; No, none; Motion Carried.

After a brief recess, the City Clerk read a summary of the minutes for the December 28, 1995 Regular Meeting. It was moved by Councilmember Hardcastle, seconded by Councilmember Branson, that the minutes be approved as read. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmembers Carlson, Erickson, Hardcastle, Eldredge, Mills, and Branson; No, none; Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The City Clerk presented monthly reports from various Division and Department Heads and requested that they be accepted and placed on file in the City Clerk's Office.

The City Clerk presented several license applications, including LIQUOR CATERING PERMIT to Eagle's Lodge No. 576; BEER LICENSES to Blue Room, Chic's, Das Kinderhaus II (Airport), Fastway, Filling Station (John Adams Parkway), J. B.'s Restaurant, Jake's of Idaho Falls, Inc., LeBaron's, Maverick Country Store (Broadway), Plaza Lanes, and Smokehouse Cafe; and BARTENDER PERMITS to Teresa L. Brown, Laina Eames, Jennifer M. Emmons, Bobbe D. Flint, Roy L. Garza, Christopher W. Gee, Bruce W. Kanirie, Amber L. Keyes, Corey J. Meyrick, C. Steven Montague, Bonnie A. Newman, Shelley L. Reinier, Sandra Rogerman, Terry L. Rogers, and Joe K. Standley, all carrying the required approvals, and requested approval to issue these licenses.

It was moved by Councilmember Hardcastle, seconded by Councilmember Branson, that the Consent Agenda be approved in accordance with the recommendations presented. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmembers Hardcastle, Branson, Eldredge, Carlson, Erickson, and Mills; No, none; Motion Carried.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

The City Clerk presented the following Expenditure Summary dated December 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995, after having been audited by the Fiscal Committee and paid by the Controller:

	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>STREET</u>	<u>AIRPORT</u>	<u>WATER &amp; SEWER</u>
SERV/MAT	\$ 394,256.68	\$ 35,114.08	\$ 184,035.33	\$ 203,139.11
SALARY	<u>1,322,379.22</u>	<u>73,214.05</u>	<u>41,698.40</u>	<u>169,441.26</u>
TOTAL	\$1,716,635.90	\$ 108,328.13	\$ 225,733.73	\$ 372,580.37
	<u>ELECTRIC</u>	<u>SANITATION</u>	<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>LIBRARY</u>
SERV/MAT	\$2,527,556.17	\$ 31,785.46	\$ 7,294.37	\$ 21,436.45
SALARY	<u>294,136.93</u>	<u>58,405.50</u>	<u>41,132.89</u>	<u>63,044.19</u>
TOTAL	\$2,821,693.10	\$ 90,190.96	\$ 48,427.26	\$ 84,480.64



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	<u>BRIDGE &amp; ART ST</u>	<u>WATER CAP IMP</u>	<u>AMBULANCE</u>	<u>MUN EQUIP REPL</u>
SERV/MAT	\$ 145,476.88	\$ 26,477.91	\$ 18,738.70	\$ 184,839.44
SALARY	<u>.00</u>	<u>.00</u>	<u>75,089.64</u>	<u>.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 145,476.88	\$ 26,477.91	\$ 93,828.34	\$ 184,839.44
	<u>SURFACE DRAIN</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>		
SERV/MAT	\$ 23,510.14	\$3,803,660.72		
SALARY	<u>.00</u>	<u>2,138,542.08</u>		
TOTAL	\$ 23,510.14	\$5,942,202.80		

It was moved by Councilmember Hardcastle, seconded by Councilmember Branson, to ratify the payment of the December, 1995 expenditures as presented. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmembers Erickson, Mills, Branson, Hardcastle, Eldredge, and Carlson; No, none; Motion Carried.

Dr. Higgs, 1009 Mojave, appeared concerning an article in the Post Register newspaper regarding Liquor Licensing. He wished to explain to Council that the four most dangerous hours for drunk drivers are between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. on Saturday nights. He wished to request the Council, when these laws are visited again, to give serious thought to these issues. Dr. Higgs stated that he is against the change to the Beer, Wine, and Liquor Licensing Ordinance. Mayor Milam stated that all of the Councilmembers took this issue very seriously.

Tom Snauffer, Jr., 392 Sykes Drive, appeared regarding the lack of assistance in repairing the roofs of the elderly and poor citizens. He handed the Council the following letter from Eastern Idaho Special Services Agency:

Eastern Idaho Special  
Services Agency  
December 15, 1995

Thomas Snauffer, Jr.  
392 Sykes Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

Dear Mr. Snauffer:

Thank you for taking the time to stop by and discuss our programs this morning. As I said at that time, there seems to be some misunderstanding regarding the Weatherization Program and the type of work that is done under that contract.

The Weatherization Program is an energy conservation program funded primarily by the Department of Energy. As a conservation program, all work is tied to energy savings. When a home is determined to be eligible for the program, a comprehensive energy audit is performed. The audit is used to determine the most cost effective measures to be installed on the home. Only those measures that generate a savings to investment ratio of one or greater is eligible to be completed under this program.

A second limiting factor is determining what measures should be installed on a home is cost. The average cost per dwelling for materials, support and labor cannot exceed \$1,800.00. During the weatherization process we can make

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incidental repairs (those repairs necessary for the effective performance or preservation of weatherization materials installed) but those incidental repairs cannot exceed 10% of the total cost.

A roof replacement does not generate sufficient energy savings to produce a savings to investment ratio of one or greater, so would not be an eligible measure under the current weatherization program standards. Under the incidental repair policy, a roof could be patched if the patch job did not exceed the 10% of the total cost or approximately \$180.00.

I agree with the statement made by Fern Crumb of my staff. There is no program we are aware of, that would help a senior citizen or any other citizen living within the City limits, replace a leaking roof. Certainly the Weatherization Program does not and cannot under existing regulations.

I have enclosed some of the pertinent pages from the Idaho Weatherization Program State Plan and the Operations Manual. I hope they provide some additional information. If I can answer any questions or be of further help, please feel free to call on me.

Sincerely,

s/ Jim  
James L. Hall  
Executive Director

Mr. Snauffer felt it appalling that there were no programs to assist the elderly and poor citizens of Idaho Falls with roof replacements. He felt that the City should be able to find some moneys to fund this type of assistance. Mr. Snauffer stated that there were many people who would volunteer labor, if money could be found to purchase materials. Mayor Milam stated that the only money that would be available would be through property taxes, and that would take a vote from the citizens of this City. Mr. Snauffer stated that this should be considered. Mayor Milam stated that property taxes may be spent on items for general usage, but cannot be spent on private property. Mayor Milam told Mr. Snauffer to write some type of program that would address roofing needs for elderly citizens. After a discussion regarding where the moneys should come from, the Assistant City Attorney commented that research would have to be conducted as to whether the City would be allowed to institute and operate this type of a program. Mayor Milam stated that she would find out whether this type of a program could be implemented using property taxes to fund it, and will call Mr. Snauffer by Thursday, January 18, 1996, with an answer.

Jo Woodruff, 1065 Suzanne, stated that she has some good news for the Mayor and Council. She stated that she remembered Mayor Milam commenting that if Ms. Woodruff found funding for lifesaving devices and also maintenance for same, they could be installed. Mayor Milam corrected her in that this was never discussed. Mayor Milam stated that wordage would be looked at to be placed on signs to be located along the Snake River. Ms. Woodruff stated that she has found a company that would provide the life preservers and also the maintenance for same. Mayor Milam stated that the company would have to appear before the Parks and Recreation Council Committee to determine whether this would be appropriate. Mayor Milam further stated that if these devices were placed along the river and became unavailable due to vandalism, a question of liability for the City would arise.

The Assistant City Attorney stated that wordage on signs can be placed regarding unsafe

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waters for swimming. Mr. Follett gave an explanation regarding how the City could be liable under this circumstance.

Gary Lattimore, 145 Stone Run Lane, appeared to address the issue of the roofing problem for the elderly in Idaho Falls. He wanted the Mayor to look into the possibility of a grant from the Federal Government. Mayor Milam explained that Federal Grants are drying up. Mr. Lattimore explained that he has a sister who deals with this issue. A state-wide grant is available and could provide some funds for roof replacements. The Assistant City Attorney stated that private individuals could contact Federal Agencies and Grant Organizations to see if such financing is available. Mayor Milam stated that if there is such a grant program, the City would look at it. Mayor Milam stated that Mr. Lattimore should give his sister's name and telephone number to Mr. Gilchrist, the Planning and Building Director, to inquire about the grants they are using.

Rosemary Rebo, 705 Crimson, appeared to express how impressed she is with the beauty of the State of Idaho. She stated that she is shocked and horrified at the lack of respect toward animals in the United States and, more particularly, in this community. Ms. Rebo gave several examples of what she was referring to. She stated that the dog pound is the same size as it was 30 years ago and Idaho Falls has not stayed the same population as it was 30 years ago. She also did not feel that it was fair to dispose of animals only 3 days after they have been picked up. That does not give people enough time to find their animals. The City should use a more humane method of expiring the animal. Ms. Rebo then discussed animal cruelty and what it takes to prosecute the perpetrator. She wanted the Council to look into this situation and the laws regarding animal cruelty.

The Planning and Building Director submitted the following memo:

City of Idaho Falls  
January 8, 1996

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: William Rod Gilchrist, Planning and Building Director  
SUBJECT: AMENDED PLAT: THE VILLAGE, DIVISION NO. 1

Attached is a copy of the Final Plat of the First Amended Plat of The Village, Division No. 1. This plat was originally recorded with one large lot on the westerly side of Clarence Drive and having frontage onto Clarence Drive and a cul-de-sac. It was intended to construct high density multi-family housing on this property.

The replat proposes to subdivide the large lot into single-family residential lots and slightly reconfigure the cul-de-sac to accommodate this change. The zoning is not being changed.

The Planning Commission recently considered this matter and recommended approval of the amended Plat. This matter is now being submitted to the Mayor and City Council for your consideration.

s/ William Rod Gilchrist

The Planning and Building Director located the subject area on a map and further explained the request. It was moved by Councilmember Erickson, seconded by Councilmember Carlson, to approve the Final Plat and, further, give authorization for the Mayor and City

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Clerk to sign said Plat. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmembers Branson, Hardcastle, Mills, Eldredge, Carlson, and Erickson; No, none; Motion Carried.

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilmember Hardcastle, seconded by Councilmember Erickson, that the meeting adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR

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