

November 18, 2024

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEWISTON, IDAHO, met in a Special Meeting in the Bell Building Second Floor Conference Room at 215 D Street. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

I. CALL TO ORDER

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Mayor Johnson; Council President Kleeburg; Councilor Forsmann; Councilor Klein; Councilor Liedkie (Zoom); Councilor Schroeder; Councilor Spickelmire.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. CONSIDERATION OF MATCHING FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION AT THE

AIRPORT: Discussion and consideration of the request from Nez Perce County Commissioners to match its recent commitment of \$500,000 towards transportation at the Lewiston-Nez Perce County Airport - Action Item

Mayor Johnson opened the discussion and noted that Airport Authority Board members and Nez Perce County Commissioners were in attendance. Airport Director Isaacs reported the Fiscal Year 2024 Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) increased passenger numbers following the addition of Seattle service, but noted it would take time for the market to stabilize. Council members expressed concerns about the sustainability of funding, lack of external business support, and the use of general reserves. They also raised questions about United's profitability, ticket pricing, and the transparency of funding outcomes.

Airport Authority Board Chair Peters emphasized the urgency of funding to prevent United from canceling service, which would mirror the community's previous loss of Alaska Airlines. Mr. Peters highlighted ongoing efforts to engage stakeholders at federal, state, and local levels, but partnerships with nearby jurisdictions or businesses have yet to materialize.

Councilor Liedkie expressed concern about the confusion surrounding the MRG discussion, noting the lack of written information made it difficult for the Council to provide direction. She emphasized the importance of keeping the airport viable without burdening taxpayers and highlighted the need to identify funding partners. Prior to leaving the meeting, she reiterated her support for

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the airport and excused herself at 4:52 p.m.

After further discussion, Mayor Johnson shared a note from Finance Director Gordon, stating that funding an additional MRG would require using general reserves. Finance Director Gordon also highlighted that, while the budget was built efficiently with an estimated 90-day reserve, using these funds could jeopardize the city's financial stability.

No motion was made.

IV. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. CITY COUNCILOR COMMENTS:** Comments shall not be related to an item currently before the City Council or an item that may come before the City Council in the foreseeable future, and shall be limited to comments, not discussion.

None.

B. MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Johnson thanked attendees and highlighted recent accomplishments, including Lewis Clark State College being ranked #1 for best value and nursing programs.

Mayor Johnson also included information on the Senior Nutrition Program and a reminder about the 2025 Capital Improvement Plan participation deadline on November 30, 2024, emphasizing the need for public input.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(f): To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement; and Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(j): To consider labor contract matters authorized under section 74-206(1)(a) and (b), Idaho Code - Action Item

At 5:08 p.m., Councilors Forsmann and Schroeder moved and seconded, respectively, to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated and Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(j) to consider labor contract matters authorized under section 74-206(1)(a) and (b), Idaho Code. **ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING AYE: Kleeburg; Forsmann; Spickelmire;**

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Schroeder; Klein. VOTING NAY: None. EXCUSED: Liedkie.

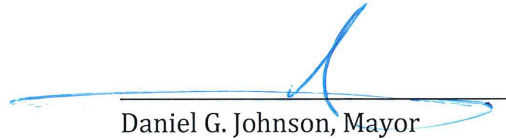
Councilors exited the executive session at 6:29 p.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT - Action Item

There being no further business to come before the Lewiston City Council, Council President Kleeburg and Councilor Forsmann moved and seconded, respectively, to adjourn the November 18, 2024 Special Meeting. The motion carried 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.



Tanya M. Brocke, City Clerk


Daniel G. Johnson, Mayor



APPROVED

12/9/2024
City Council