



City Council

Special Meeting

~ Minutes ~

February 25, 2019

4:30 PM

Limelight Hotel, Ketchum

Present Ketchum City Council:

**Mayor Neil Bradshaw
Council President Michael David
Councilor Jim Slanetz
Councilor Courtney Hamilton
Councilor Amanda Breen**

Present Sun Valley City Council:

**Mayor Peter Hendricks
Council President Keith Saks
Council Member Brad DuFur – present by phone
Council Member Michelle Griffith
Council Member Jane Conard**

1. CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Peter Hendricks

Sun Valley Mayor Peter Hendricks called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM. He mentioned that the City of Sun Valley's Director of Public Safety Walt Femling will give a presentation and then public comments will be welcomed afterward.

Ketchum Mayor Neil Bradshaw welcomed everyone and advised that no decisions would be made this evening.

2. ROLL CALL

All present.

3. PRESENTATION

a. Presentation by Walt Femling, Director of Public Safety for the City of Sun Valley.

Femling explained the information that was included in the booklet that was handed out at the meeting. He also mentioned the committee reports that were included. He went over the study principles, in detail, and guidelines for the study, the proposed organizational charts for both the police and fire departments, sample schedules, the benefits to the citizens of the two cities, and the proposed organizational charts for both entities.

He then discussed the long-term efficiencies and improvements that could be realized. Those included shared replacement costs, shared construction and operation costs and shared personnel and equipment.

The cost of the combined emergency service expenditures was discussed next and then he introduced the budget committee, which included key staff members from both cities.

He then went on to discuss scheduling. The next steps are at the respective city council meetings where the elected officials will be voting on a contract for services that the cities' attorney, Matt Johnson, drafted.

Femling concluded his presentation and turned the meeting back to the Mayors.

Sun Valley City Council President Keith Saks mentioned that he would like this to happen and that it appears from the presentation that this would be a positive thing for both cities, but the devil is in the details.

Sun Valley Council Member Jane Conard asked some process questions and wondered who the parties to the contract would be. Also, she would request that the cities consider getting a legal ethics opinion since the attorney is the same for both parties.

Council Member Michelle Griffith asked a few questions regarding the costs to which Femling responded that the budget would be split 50/50.

Ketchum City Councilor Courtney Hamilton asked about what representation Ketchum would have to which Mayor Bradshaw mentioned that there would be an oversight committee that would involve both Mayors. She also asked how often this contract would be revisited to which Mayor Bradshaw mentioned that that is still a work in process.

Ketchum City Councilor Jim Slanetz mentioned that most of his questions have been answered and he thought it was a great presentation. He'd like to hear what the public has to say about it.

Ketchum City Council President Michael David asked about the operational challenges and working out of one facility to which Mayor Bradshaw said he believes there would be challenges, but also opportunities to make it cohesive. Femling stated that they have talked about that and is hard to build a team decentralized so they are in favor of having one building.

Jed Gray, Chairman of the Ketchum Rural Fire District Commission, spoke. He reiterated that they've had multiple meetings with the Mayors of both cities, the fire chiefs, etc. and they discussed the advantages for all three areas. The opportunity for an increased base of fire fighters is a big deal; to have people on call and to have people that are paid, full-time firefighters available to us will provide much better service to the public.

Tom McLean, member of the Ketchum Fire Department, commented that they appreciate the savings piece, but reminded the Councils that it's the employees that put the fires out and that make the tasks happen. He also asked about the benefits and how those would change.

Pam Morris, Idaho Mountain Express, asked a few questions and both Mayors reminded her that this was not a question and answer period.

Rachel Martin, 17-year volunteer for the Ketchum Fire Department, commented that she is concerned about Ketchum Fire's representation and believes there is nobody with long-term fire experience.

Greg Martin, Lieutenant on the Ketchum Fire Department, made a few comments. He is happy to hear this conversation taking place though he does not see the budget levels for the paid-on-call fire fighters.

Also, he'd like to make sure the staffing levels stay the same as presented today and that future administrations don't chip away at that.

Jim Bronson, Sun Valley resident, spoke. He has long felt that this makes a lot of sense; however, he is concerned that the public isn't informed. He encourages a more open dialogue.

Femling mentioned that the complete packet will be on the website tomorrow morning.

Sun Valley's City Council motioned to adjourn.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Keith Saks, Council President
SECONDER:	Jane Conard, Council Member
AYES:	Keith Saks, Brad DuFur, Michelle Griffith, Jane Conard

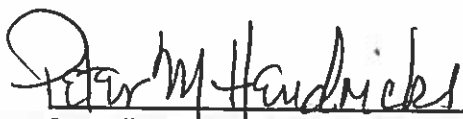
Ketchum City Council motioned to adjourn.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael David, Council President
SECONDER:	Courtney Hamilton, Councilor
AYES:	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

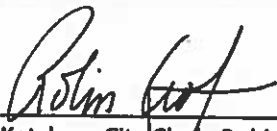
The meeting adjourned at 5:12 PM.



Ketchum Mayor, Neil Bradshaw



Sun Valley Mayor, Peter M. Hendricks



Ketchum City Clerk, Robin Crotty



Sun Valley City Clerk, Nancy Flannigan