

COUNCIL POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Legislative

Adopt local laws (ordinances) to protect the public health, safety, morals and welfare.

Ordinances may provide for infraction penalties with a civil fine of up to \$100 and misdemeanor criminal penalties with up to 6 months imprisonment and a fine of up to \$1,000.

Annex territory into the city by ordinance.

Adopt a comprehensive plan by resolution, which serves as the city's plan for future growth and development.

Adopt a zoning ordinance to regulate land uses within the city, including permitted, conditionally permitted and prohibited land uses within each zone. The zoning ordinance also outlines application procedures, fees and standards of approval for rezones, conditional use permits, and variances.

Adopt a subdivision ordinance setting forth the process for subdivision applications, fees and approval; standards for streets, curb and gutter, water, sewer and other infrastructure; and offsite improvements and other requirements.

Negotiate with the county commissioners an area of city impact for future urbanization and annexation into the city and the land use regulations which will apply within the area.

Creation of an urban renewal agency to plan and undertake economic development projects within specific areas of the city, approval of urban renewal plans and authorization of revenue allocation financing for urban renewal projects by ordinance.

A majority of the full council may override mayoral veto of an ordinance.

Establish the place and time of regular council meetings by ordinance.

A majority of the full council may call special council meetings.

Authorizing and holding executive sessions, which are meetings of the council closed to the public, to consider any of the following: hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent; evaluation, dismissal, discipline or hearing complaints or charges against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent; deliberations concerning labor negotiations; acquiring an interest in real property not owned by a public agency; considering

records exempt from public disclosure; preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce; communicating with legal counsel concerning pending litigation or controversies imminently likely to be litigated; communicating with the city's risk manager or insurance provider to discuss the adjustment of a pending claim or prevention of a claim imminently likely to be filed; and labor negotiations if either side requests closed meetings.

Determine which services should be provided by the city, the fees for such services, and whether a service is more appropriately provided by the city with its own employees or by contract with a private entity.

Adopt ordinances and regulations to protect public health and prevent contagious diseases, and adoption of quarantine laws.

Adopt franchise ordinances granting use of public rights-of-way for power, natural gas, water and cable providers and setting franchise fees at a percentage of the utility's gross revenues.

Adopt personnel, financial, investment, purchasing, and other policies governing city operations by resolution.

Licensing and regulation of businesses and occupations within the city and setting license fees.

May adopt building, residential, energy conservation, mechanical and fuel gas codes.

Regulate, establish license fees up to the maximum allowed by state law and approve licenses for retail sale of liquor by the drink, beer and wine.

Vacating streets and public rights-of-way.

Fiscal

Prepare a budget outlining the city's projected revenues and expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year.

Approve an appropriations ordinance establishing spending authority for specific funds or departments for the upcoming fiscal year.

Approve the city's property tax levy for the upcoming fiscal year.

Receive a monthly report on city finances from the city treasurer.

Examine, at least quarterly, the accounts of officers responsible for managing the monies,

property or business of the city.

Provide for audits of the city's financial statements in accordance with Idaho Code 67-450B.

Establish, by ordinance, the place(s) of deposit for city funds.

Approve, by resolution, investment of city funds.

Quasi-Judicial

Decisions on rezones, conditional use permits, variances, and subdivision preliminary plats.

Denial of licenses for retail sale of beer, wine and liquor by the drink.

Appointment & Removal

Confirmation of mayoral appointments to, and removal from, permanent city boards, commissions and committees.

Confirmation of the mayor's nomination or removal of appointed officers by a majority of the full council.

Removal of appointed officers by the council, without the mayor's approval, by unanimous vote of the council.

Fill a mayoral vacancy from within or without the council as deemed in the best interests of the city.

May establish appointed offices in addition to the city clerk, treasurer and attorney.

Miscellaneous

Select a councilmember to serve as president of the council (see "Role of the Council President" below for more information).

May provide, by ordinance, for the election of councilmembers by seat or district.

May establish runoff elections for mayor and/or designated council seats.

May, by ordinance, establish permanent city boards, commissions and committees and define their membership, responsibilities, duties and authority.

Set compensation for mayor and councilmembers by ordinance.

Designate by ordinance an official city newspaper for publishing legal notices.

Request by resolution a "census or enumeration" of the inhabitants of the city.

Sustaining a local disaster emergency declaration beyond the initial seven-day period following the mayor's declaration.

Approving disposal of surplus real property and leases of city owned real property.

Approving mining leases of city property by ordinance.

Adopt by resolution a record retention schedule listing the minimum retention period for the various types of city records.

Approve by resolution the transfer of permanent records to the State Archives for permanent storage.

Approve a copy fee schedule for public records.