

Mayor David Anderson called the regular council meeting of April 7, 2015 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Police Chief Robert Boone, Economic Development Coordinator David Sims, and Planning and Zoning Consultant Lisa Ailport. Also present were Marcia Cossette, Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Jerry Higgs, Al Brown, Dave Gray, Lou Meigs from Welch Engineering, and Ray and Linda Delay.

Mayor Anderson announced the planning and zoning hearing for Co-op and said he has a conflict of interest so he turned the hearing over to Council President Rick Alonzo. Rick opened the public hearing for Co-op special use permit. There was no public comment. Lisa Ailport read the staff report. The Co-op is here tonight with the plan to install a 30,000 gallon storage facility for liquefied petroleum. She said planning and zoning heard this issue and unanimously recommended that the special use permit be approved. Lisa said the Fire Chief made comments regarding the special use permit. Lou Meigs from Welch Engineering, representing Co-op said the 30,000 tank will be for storing liquefied petroleum for delivery to the outlying areas. There will be big delivery trucks coming in each week and then trucks will fill their tanks and go out to the areas that need gas. He said there will not be truck storage on the site. He said the highway has a turning lane that will access the site off Kennedy Street. There were no questions for the applicant. There were no people present that wished to speak regarding the special use permit. Rick closed the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Jerry Higgs spoke regarding agenda items 15 through 18 concerning reading of ordinance amendments for City Code addressing offense grading and penalties and the amendment pertaining to the use of deadly weapons and firearms within the city limits. He expressed concern about the reading and passing of the ordinance amendments in the same meeting without the public having opportunity to speak and consider these amendments. Jerry does not think we have the level of legal representation in this city to codify such matters. He spoke regarding the animal ordinance that referred to State Code and how that was good. He said there was not a statement from the citizens that these amendments being considered tonight were needed. He said if there was a problem then the citizens should be aware. He asked for consideration of this.

Dave Gray said there are probably many weapons in the city limits and in vehicles being brought into the city limits. He said he will protect his family and does not see how this would be enforced. Ron Smith said he cannot imagine that anything in the ordinance amendment would prohibit a citizen from protecting himself or his family. People have the right to protect themselves. Dave Gray said we need to be careful in this day and age when ordinances are made dealing with weapons and people just trying to protect themselves. Ron Smith said people's rights are not being taken away. He also said there are items that could be used as a deadly weapon that are not intended to be deadly weapons so everything cannot be listed. Dave Gray questioned whether BB guns or pellet guns could kill a person.

Police Chief Robert Boone gave the police report. He said since the last meeting Bonners Ferry Officers have investigated six petit thefts, trespassed two people, investigated one burglary, made one warrant arrest, one assault arrest, three arrests for administration of narcotics, one

resist or obstruction of a police officer, one domestic violence investigation, one child abuse investigation, two people were cited for driving without privileges, officers investigated three vehicle accidents, and wrote 13 speeding tickets. There was a laptop that was stolen at Radio Shack and a suspect has been identified.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. Since the last meeting there was an unintentional false alarm at Valley View Elementary School, a gas odor at Kaniksu Health Clinic, and a gas alarm on Hillside Alley in a home. There are six fire fighters going to North Idaho Fire Academy the 18th of April. Pat said the Sheriff would like everyone to sign up for Nixxel on the Sheriff website for notifications. He said the more people on it, the better notifications of emergencies. Pat said the federal government put out a warning on Bakken Crude and they predict ten trains to derail annually over the next two decades. He said we still need to keep an eye on this issue. Burlington Northern is putting up a building to house emergency remediation equipment. Pat would like to put a trainee fireman on as a full time volunteer as he has completed his probationary period. (Clerk's note: his name is Eric Washesha). This person will not be on the city health insurance as he has it from another source. Pat also has a new, young trainee that is on probation for the fire department. Jerry Higgs suggested that the city speak to Burlington Northern about staging their equipment at their property on the north hill.

City Administrator Stephen Boorman gave the administrator report. This week is cleanup week and the street crews are out daily picking up lawn waste. Stephen said emergency management is concerned about notification to the public in case of an emergency. Rick Alonzo said there was a suggestion to use the noon whistle for emergency notification alerts. He said in Priest River there was a siren used to alert the fire department that there was a fire and they used different alarm codes to notify the fireman of where the fire was located. Rick said there might be a different number rather than 911 for those concerned about the sirens in an emergency situation. Stephen reminded the group of the upcoming AIC meetings. He said the sewer lagoons are being dredged, and we are still looking for a solution to the algae problem.

David Sims gave the EDC report. He said the SPOT bus has been delivered, and it was scheduled to start tomorrow but it may be delayed until Thursday due to the MOU not yet being signed. He said the State/Local agreements for the Augusta Street Project will be ready by June so the engineering can be done this year. David attended the FAB Lab conference in Wisconsin with Sandy Ashworth and Craig Anderson. It was helpful to see how other communities are using the Fab Labs. There will be a hearing on the Highway 95 project in June. He said there is TIGER grant funding that we could apply for and if we were successful it could fund the highway project from the bypass to LaBrosse Hill Road. David said the application must be submitted by June and ITD does not think they have the resources to get that done. ITD would have to hire JUB Engineering to work on the grant application. David is researching to see if the urban renewal district could fund the payment to JUB to get the grant application done. David said Stacy Brown and her husband, Tad, are interested in stepping up to organize the volunteers for the visitor center. David thinks they will be a good fit.

Mayor Anderson read a letter from Boundary Community Hospital regarding a \$2,500 donation to the City for the SPOT bus. Tom Mayo requested that a thank you letter be sent to the Hospital.

Rick Alonzo moved to add late agenda items: (1) to have an executive session to discuss hiring of a new police chief; (2) consider hiring a new police chief; and (3) approve Resolution 2015-04-01 authorizing destruction of records. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Ron Smith clarified that only one executive session was added. Mayor Anderson agreed. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of March 2, 2015 council meeting minutes.

Mayor Anderson spoke regarding the property purchase from Milt and Catherine Schauble. Stephen said the lots are in Block 22 and are adjacent to the city’s property. Stephen researched the county’s records regarding which lots were owned by Schauble’s and they are Lots 1 through 12 in Block 22. Mayor Anderson said they adjoin city property, they could be a danger if they were logged, and Milt was a longtime community solid citizen in Bonners Ferry. Milt is offering his property for what he paid in taxes in the past 30 years. Rick Alonzo agrees that this would be good as it provides a buffer and could prevent a problem in the future. Connie Wells moved to purchase Lots 1 through 12 in Block 22 from Milt Schauble for \$2,700. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Lighted downtown signs were discussed. Mayor Anderson spoke of the article in the Herald regarding a lighted sign downtown. He said the city would have some control over signs. Stephen said they are allowed but the city would have checks and balances to make sure they are structurally sound and LED signs have the requirement that the light output is reduced at dark. Tom asked about part of the ordinance that says they cannot be a distraction or traffic issue. Stephen said if there is an issue it might be good to have planning and zoning review it. Stephen said the question was whether the sign would be legal and currently it would be. David Sims said the intention of the sign would be to have LED lights outlining the letters on the sign, not a neon sign. David questioned if the sign height requirement was from the ground. Lisa Ailport read the City Code regarding signs. Ron Smith questioned if an application for a sign would come to the City for planning and zoning to review. Stephen said if the sign meets the requirements of the City Code that it would be approved. Tom thinks a large sign could affect the ambiance of downtown. Lisa said the total sign area can only be 300 square feet. Tom thinks a sign like the Casino has would be distracting to downtown if it were erected. Mayor Anderson asked if the sign code is sufficient or if it needs to be rewritten. Lisa asked if there needs to be different specifications for downtown signs than signs on the south hill. She said this would be a component of the comp plan that is being reviewed. Rick thinks downtown should be treated more historical in nature. The group continued to speak about signs. Lisa thinks this

is part of the community design component of the comp plan. Mayor Anderson said planning and zoning can review this.

Ron Smith moved to approve the special use permit (SUP-002-14) for Co-op Gas and Supply to place a 30,000 gallon liquefied petroleum gas tank for the distribution of propane by local delivery trucks, finding that it is in accordance with the general and specific goals and standards of City of Bonners Ferry Comprehensive plan and City of Bonners Ferry zoning code pertaining to special uses as enumerated in the findings of fact and conclusions of law as amended including condition #13. He directed staff to find in the affirmative all the conclusions. He said this action does not involve the taking of private property. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Connie asked about the trucks traveling on city streets during breakup. Tom Mayo asked if Kennedy Street would be used by empty trucks. Lisa said John Youngwirth thought his communication with the landowner was sufficient. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Ray and Linda Delay and Lou Meigs left the meeting.

Lisa Ailport said planning and zoning met regarding the special use permit application for Joseph and Robina Scarlett for a professional office in a residential A zone at 6945 Main Street. Planning and zoning recommended that the special use permit be approved. Rick Alonzo thinks this will beautify the area and make it much nicer than it has been in the past. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the special use permit (SUP-001-14) to move an existing business known as Aspen Personal Care Services, LLC to 6945 Main Street to operate a professional office in a Residential A District, finding that it is in accordance with the general and specific goals and standards of City of Bonners Ferry Comprehensive Plan and City of Bonners Ferry zoning code pertaining to special uses as enumerated in the following findings of fact and conclusions of law. He further moved to adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law including the conditions of approval as submitted in the staff report. This action does not result in the taking of private property. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the parade permit for the American Legion for the Memorial Day Parade on May 25, 2015. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to set the fiscal year 2016 budget hearing for September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen spoke regarding hiring Bruce Dally. He said we do not have a clause in our hiring policy regarding seasonal hiring. Rick Alonzo said we should add something to our hiring policy regarding seasonal hiring because if the employee is hired and we want them to come back the next year then we should not have to advertise and interview. Rick Alonzo moved to hire Bruce Dally as a seasonal employee. Ron Smith seconded the motion. Ron Smith clarified that the seasonal employee hiring will be added to the hiring policy. Stephen said it would be.

The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen spoke regarding the authorization to advertise for hiring an electric department general maintenance operations technician. Rick said we need to follow our hiring policy about advertising internally before going to the Job Service. Rick Alonzo moved to advertise for hiring a general maintenance operations technician. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The Moyie Substation rebuild was discussed. Rick Alonzo said the \$870,000 for the substation rebuild does not include the moving of the transmission line. Stephen agreed and said that the line move would be an additional \$200,000 approximately. Stephen said there is a lot of load growth in the Moyie area. Tom Mayo moved to advertise for bids for the Moyie Substation rebuild. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The head lifeguard hire was tabled.

Andrakay spoke to council regarding the ordinance amendment for Title 1, Chapter 4 City Code addressing offense grading and penalties. She said this amendment would bring our City Code up to standards as recommended by Association of Idaho Cities removing the automatic misdemeanor provision in our Code. Ron Smith moved to read the ordinance amendment addressing offense grading and penalties by title only. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the title of this ordinance amendment.

Tom Mayo moved to adopt the ordinance amending Title 1, Chapter 4 City Code. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. This will be Ordinance #548.

Rick Alonzo moved to table agenda item #17. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve Resolution 2015-04-01 authorizing the destruction of records. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved at 8:28 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a) to discuss hiring a new police chief. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Executive session ended at 8:50 p.m. No action was taken.

Mayor Anderson recommended hiring Lieutenant Vic Watson as the new police chief. Rick Alonzo moved to confirm the appointment of Vic Watson as police chief at an annual salary of \$52,904.02. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk