

Mayor Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of August 18, 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 Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Attorney Will Herrington, Police Chief Vic Watson, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, City Mechanic Jimmy Dorhofer, Water/Sewer Superintendent Adrian Dice, and Economic Development Coordinator David Sims. Also present were Jessica Tingley, Marcia Cossette, and Jerry Higgs.

Police Chief Vic Watson gave the police report. In the past two weeks there were three vehicle crashes, two hit and runs, one car verses pedestrian, one investigate of suspicious, one malicious injury to property, two disturbing the peace, one domestic disturbance, one burglary, two DUIs, one felony warrant arrest, and 12 speeding tickets. He said things are going very well at the police department and the guys are working well together.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said there was a call for a vehicle fire caused by burning brakes from a vehicle coming down the north hill. There was an all call for firemen on Friday evening for the Parker Ridge fire. Pat sent four of our firemen and they were there about 15 hours. There was a call in town on Friday evening due to the wind blowing a tree into a power line. Pat said the electric crew and firemen responded and took care of it. The fire department will be reimbursed by the Department of Lands for a portion of the time the firemen were at the Parker Ridge fire. Porthill Loop and Highway 1 were evacuated last Friday evening. Pat spoke of the equipment that could have been sent to help fight the Parker Ridge fire but he said we would have kept equipment in town to protect the City. Pat said there is forest adjoining the City on all sides and if there is an incident we will be calling others. A bottom line is to keep equipment in the City to protect the City but there is also an obligation to help other departments when there is an all call situation put out by the Sheriff.

Mike Klaus gave the administrator report. He said we had to close access to the Moyie River Road near the dam. He said there is Forest Service property beyond the city property but there were people camping on the Forest Service ground and they were building fires. The Forest Service went up and had the people leave so we locked our gate until the fire danger is gone.

David Sims gave the ridership figures for the Spot Bus for the past three months. David will be following up with Ting on the fiber project as the requested information was submitted to them. There is a community meeting with the Ken Edmunds from Department of Labor on September 9, 2015. There is a Microsoft IT Academy that will be coming to the Library and will include all Microsoft Office product training and certifications for those that take the courses. Training will also be available for computer science oriented topics such as networking, data base management, web design, etc. There will not be a charge for those taking the courses but there may be a charge for the certifications according to David. This should be available in October or November.

Connie Wells moved to add the late agenda items. They included authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement with American Tower Corporation consenting to proposed sublease between American Tower and T-Mobile; Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (c); and discuss

property purchase. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the consent agenda. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; approval of the Treasurer’s Report; and approval of August 4, 2015 council meeting minutes.

The dump truck for the water/sewer department was discussed. Jimmy Dorhofer, City Mechanic, told council that the frame rebuilding was just an estimate at \$4,000 per side. The parts are not available so the parts alone would be \$16,000 and it would be about 100 hours to repair. He said it would be about \$30,000 to repair the truck. Jimmy submitted a quote to council for their review. Adrian said it seems that people don’t like working on International trucks. Jimmy said International trucks are built and sold cheap but parts are not easy to obtain. Rick asked what make of truck Jimmy prefers. Jimmy prefers Peterbuilt or Kenworth. He said the vehicles he has found in the \$25,000 price range look okay. He said if we go to the surplus auction we will probably get a Mack and they are not easy to work on. Jimmy has contacts to obtain parts for Mack trucks. Jimmy checked at the junk yard for frame rails and was quoted \$1,200 if they should come in. He said a single frame that is kept clean will last longer than the double frame we have. Jimmy has been searching Craig’s List for single frame dump trucks. Adrian’s concern is keeping the employees busy and without a truck that is difficult. He would like to go look at some other trucks. Adrian asked if we could get something fabricated for the frame. Jimmy said we could, but there would be a lot of hours to retrofit to a single frame. Mike asked what our chances are of getting another truck in our price range. Jimmy thinks we have a good chance of finding something because we are not going to put many miles on the truck. Adam asked what the location of the trucks being looked at was. Jimmy said there was one in Boise and another in Pendleton. Will Herrington said a request for proposals might be a better route so we have the flexibility to go over \$25,000. Jimmy said the ads on Craig’s List were mostly individuals but there were a couple dealers. Will said we should put the characteristics of what we are looking for in the truck with the notation that the City staff would inspect the vehicle. Mayor Anderson said we are setting up minimums and sending this to who may have a vehicle. He said if we authorized up to \$35,000 for the truck vehicle that will help. Rick Alonzo moved to allow the water/sewer/electric to do a request for proposal for the truck they are looking for with a \$35,000 maximum. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the parade permit for the Boundary County Fair Board for August 22, 2015. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the special event permit for the Mountain Springs Church for a concert on August 28, 2015 at 6789 Main Street. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Fire protection for the Demolition Derby and the special event permit were discussed. Mayor Anderson said in the past the Lions Club put on the Derby but now that it is a for-profit business, we may need to charge for the fire protection service. Pat Warkentin said many municipalities require as part of the permitting process where there is a large gathering of people that a uniformed officer, fire, and EMT's be present. Pat said last year was the first year that the Demolition Derby was not sponsored by a non-profit. He said they contacted the fire department last year for services and said they would contribute for these services but they did not. Rick Alonzo said the Lions used to compensate the police department for officer services in the past. Adam said they also used to compensate the fire department. Pat said maybe the Derby folks have contacted another fire department but he would not take our fire department into another fire district. He gave the example of another fire district that brought their equipment into the City and used our hydrant to clean a church's parking lot earlier this year. Adrian said they did not contact the water department for use of the hydrant either. Rick said formerly the Lions Club would hire a reserve officer and pay him directly for his services. Pat said the Lions used to send the fire department \$150. Will Herrington asked what amount would be a fair compensation and said we could make this a requirement of approval of the permit. Mayor Anderson asked if Pat had an amount in mind. Pat said one officer in uniform and basic fire department presence on the scene. Rick said if we do not have a reserve officer then it costs overtime to bring in another officer. Pat said if there is a fire in the City during the event the fire department will leave the Derby and go fight the fire. Ron asked about the ambulance. Pat said they did not receive any funding either last year. Will said the special event permit could be approved pending receipt of \$250 or \$300 for fire and police. Vic suggested that he and Pat go talk to Kyle. Vic said last year the Derby requested one officer to be there the entire time. He said it would cost \$160 for an officer for the event. Ron does not want to prevent events from being held but does not think \$300 is too high. Mayor Anderson said as a matter of course on the alleys on Highway 95 ITD wants to meet on Friday at 2:30 p.m. and that will be a special council meeting so Kyle could come speak to council before the event. Ron Smith moved to notify Kyle that there will be a \$300 fee to have fire and police present at the Demolition Derby and approve the special event permit. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adrian Dice spoke to council regarding certifications for water/sewer department employees. He said people are paid for certifications for operating the plants. He handed out a sheet with the certifications listed that are available, certifications that are paid, and certifications that they would like to be paid for. Adrian said there are two employees that have pool certifications and they are not currently paid for those. Connie said our plant is only a class three so she does not think we should have to pay for a class four certification because we don't need a class four operator. She said, as far as she is concerned, the pool should be part of the water as the pool is only open for three months of the year that they need certification and the extra raise would be paid the entire year. Rick asked what a wastewater lab certification is. Adrian explained that there are samples that are taken daily and sent out to a lab and there are some samples that are taken and tested in house. He said a benefit of having a lab in house is that we can do a test prior to the official test to see if we pass or fail. Connie said it seems like we should not take a test to see if we can pass a test. Adrian said it allows us to know if we are getting out of compliance so

we can adjust before we are in violation. Rick asked what a certified lab person can do that an uncertified lab person cannot do. Adrian said as far as the lab results go we can defend if there is a certified professional doing the testing. Rick asked how many lab people we need. Adrian said one right now, but he would like to see as many people go as far as they can. He said some of the employees are not willing to take more tests unless they are paid for them and he would like growth in his department. Adam said different certifications are a condition of his employment and he is not paid extra for these. Vic spoke about the certifications in his department and said they do not get paid extra for them. Adam asked what other departments are paid for certifications. The street department is also paid for certifications.

Mayor Anderson said when he first came to the City our Class three operator was offered a job at Ponderay with a 35 percent pay increase. He said we need to pay our operators in order to keep them. He said we have implemented the certification program to give our employees incentive to improve. Mayor Anderson said it looks like Adrian's proposal is to give the employees incentive and if we don't pay them well they may look elsewhere.

Mike Klaus said there are many class two and class three operators that are nearing retirement in Idaho. He said class two operators are easy to replace in comparison to class three operators. As the workforce declines in that area the need rises. He said we want to keep good operators but don't want to overspend at the City. Mayor Anderson said it is hard to pay a person for a pool certification when we only operate a pool for three months. Connie said it should be part of their water duties and the City should not have to compensate them year round for duties only required a few months. Mayor Anderson said if we cannot employ our operators that it is expensive to call in consultants. Mike said wastewater lab work is important to monitor and see trends in the lagoon system that are good to monitor and to defend the lab results. He said the steps to go to where we are required as a class three in treatment is very important so an incentive to be a class three operator is good. Mayor Anderson said he is in favor of giving the 50 cents for class three but not the pool certification. Adrian said the pool is overseen by Panhandle Health and if there is not a certified pool operator then the pool cannot operate. Adrian said the pool is under Panhandle Health and the water is under DEQ. The pool is a different agency requiring a different thing. Connie said it is a small certification required by a different entity and questioned if the employee thought the pool operator was part of their job. He is bringing this up as they absolutely do not.

Ron questioned the certifications available for compensation on the chart adopted last year and asked if employees are being compensated for these. Adrian said they are but he would like to add more certifications to the list. Adrian said Sandpoint and Ponderay offers more per hour for additional certifications on an increasing scale but he is not asking for this. Adrian said he is not asking for anything different on the water treatment but is asking for an additional water distribution, one less sewer treatment but one additional sewer distribution, two wastewater lab certifications, and a pool certification. Rick said we need to set a cap for the number of people we pay for certifications such as pool operators as we don't need six but we might need two. He said everybody does not need to be certified in all the fields. Adrian said we are not paying anyone for pool certifications at this time. Ron asked how many we have as backflow assembly

testers. Adrian said we have none. The group discussed budget. Adam asked how difficult the tests are. Adrian explained the testing process. Mayor Anderson asked about the time requirements for the different tests. He asked Adrian to write a one page brief for each certification spelling out the need. He would like to expand some of these but wants to make sure the certifications garnered are worthwhile for the City and not just a method for getting a raise. Rick said he would like to know the criteria for advancing from classification to classification. Ron understands that everyone wants to make more money but he is hoping that the employees want to serve Bonners Ferry better and the City needs to benefit from this. Adrian said there is a long standing process where certifications were paid but there was an over achiever statement on a former certification scale that caused heartburn. Mayor Anderson said to get documentation on the certifications and what other entities are paying.

Mike Klaus spoke to council regarding the rebuild of unit 2. He said this is the final unit to get rebuilt at the Moyie Power Plant. Mike thinks we have a couple candidates that are interested in this project. Connie Wells moved to authorize advertisement to bid for rebuild of unit 2. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Pat spoke about a fire outside city limits on Riverside that was responded to by North Bench Fire Association. He said there was a couple hundred feet of area that burned. Pat has been told that in the past if there is City infrastructure involved that the City fire department responded. He has spoken to the electric crew about infrastructure in the North Bench area that would be costly if it were destroyed. Pat has spoken to the North Bench Fire Chief about this and does not see it as being an issue with North Bench but the fire department needs to have authorization from council to respond. He said it may be difficult to determine where City property lies but the electric crew or ambulance may know. Pat said the City response time is much better than North Bench. Will Herrington said we have a dispatch agreement later on the agenda and questioned if this could be part of the dispatch agreement that the Sheriff’s Office will dispatch the City fire department if City property or infrastructure is involved. Pat said this is difficult for the dispatcher to know. Will thinks we should have an agreement with the associations that they don’t have a problem with City responding to fires in their areas. Connie asked what the City would do that other fire associations would not do. Adam explained that the City fire department would protect our infrastructure not the entire fire area. Pat said the association is short-handed and short on equipment. He said we can depend on our guys to do the job. Connie asked how we will know that our property is involved. Pat said our electric department will know or Ken Baker will also know. Adam said currently we are not allowed to go out to North Bench area without council approval. Rick said dispatch needs to know when City electric is called that the fire department must also be notified. Connie understands if the Sheriff calls our electric that our fire department be notified. Mayor Anderson said we only need to get squared away with North Bench as we can mutual aid with the other taxing districts. He said we will run it by legal and ICRMP and bring it back to council.

The dispatch agreement for fiscal year 2016 was discussed. Vic said he thinks the agreement looks okay and said the Sheriff’s Office does a good job for us. He does not know about the fee

being charged. Ron Smith said the City is entitled to the new 911 system and the police department should not be paying. He thinks the City should be paying the dispatching for the City utilities but we are entitled to the other just like everybody else is entitled to it. He said the 911 system takes care of paying for police and we should only be paying for the extras. Vic said he thought the 911 surcharge was dedicated to infrastructure, not necessarily wages. Ron was not sure but thought the County paid a portion of Crystal's salary and Gary's salary from the 911 funding. He said City residents also pay taxes for the justice fund. Pat said no other fire department pays for dispatch services other than the City. Vic said the cities are held hostage to the Sheriff's Office for dispatch services. Mayor Anderson said the City did dispatch at one time and when the original dispatch agreement was arrived at the City paid for one dispatcher. Vic said he did not have any objection because the services the police receive are entirely adequate and professional. Vic said there is not an automatic increase built in the contract. Rick said the County is losing out by not taxing other fire departments. Mayor Anderson said he would like to see the County charge at least one other entity. Vic does not want to see the commitment increase any more than it is. Will Herrington suggested that we add the provision that City fire be notified when City infrastructure is involved. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the dispatch agreement for fiscal year 2016 with the provision added that the City fire department be notified when City infrastructure is involved. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. Ron Smith intends to ask about the dispatch agreement when we have the next city/county meeting as he is concerned about the new enhanced 911 system. Will suggested that we figure out the percentage of city taxes paying the dispatch compared to the county taxes. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “no”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Vic Watson spoke about Yan Rosengrant becoming a reserve officer for the City of Bonners Ferry. He grew up here and would like to be a reserve. Vic said it is not a paid position. Rick Alonzo moved to approve Yan Rosengrant as a reserve as he thinks he would be a good addition. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Anderson spoke regarding excess funds previously donated to the EDC program that have dwindled. He said the County has come forth with \$10,000 and we have doubled our share to \$8,000 for fiscal year 2016. Mayor Anderson is in favor of supporting the EDC as long as David is involved. David has requested that we match the County's contribution. Rick Alonzo thinks it is an important aspect to our community. Mayor Anderson thinks this is money well spent. Connie said David does a good job but we did double our contribution. Adam does not think it matters if it does not affect our budget. Kris told council that the budget cannot be increased as it is in publication so any increase would come out of contingency. Ron Smith moved to increase the EDC contribution to \$10,000. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “no”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Rick asked if the Tribe will increase their share. David said the City and County receive tax revenue but the Tribe does not and the Tribe carries the load for the KVRI. Mayor Anderson said the City does not have funding to put in for KVRI but the County does.

Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with American Tower Corporation consenting to the sublease of T-Mobile at the communication tower. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The group discussed a possible property purchase near the old high school. Mike has spoken to the property owner about us compensating him \$3,000 for testing to see if the property could be used for a well. Will Herrington said \$3,000 would basically be earnest money and this would be spelled out in an agreement. Mike said the well and testing could cost \$10,000 to \$12,000. Will said we would lose our earnest money if we decided not to purchase the property but the earnest money agreement would allow us to have a certain amount of time to make a decision. Will said we can delay the purchase agreement by a year if we choose to.

Connie Wells moved at 9:06 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (c). Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. At 9:41 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

---

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

---

Kris Larson, City Clerk