

Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of November 7, 2017 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Ken Toline, and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Planner Lisa Ailport, Police Chief Vic Watson, Fire Chief Dave Winey, and Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed. Also present were Jessica Tingley, Marty Martinez, Valerie Thompson, Marcia Cossette, Denise Crichton, Allen Funkhouser, and Mary Lockwood.

Mary Lockwood said she got a door hanger so she came in and made an agreement to pay \$75 every two weeks until caught up. She got behind on her payment arrangements and then got a door hanger notice costing \$25. She spoke about the billing policy. She did the best to get caught up but did not get another letter. She would like to not have to pay the \$25 door hanger fee. Mayor Sims said it appears that we did follow the policy, and he will pay the \$25 for her to get it off the books. Mary thanked him.

Mary and Allen left the meeting.

Police Chief Vic Watson gave the police report for the past two weeks. He said there was a misdemeanor warrant arrest, one felony warrant arrest, one prescription drug theft, one malicious injury to property, one agency assist, one mental hold, and one family disturbance. Vic said Christian Frye got his PRIMA Risk Manager certificate last week. Vic said they are fully functional at this time and the schedules are being met. He said the Ford Interceptor has been recalled due to the exhaust leak problem.

Fire Chief Dave Winey said there have been three calls since the last meeting. There was a wildland fire off El Paso Street, one EMS Assist, and assisted Paradise Valley Fire on an accident near the golf course. Ken Toline asked if there are fire prevention programs for people that have chimneys. Dave said we have education in the schools, but there are not many residents that burn wood now.

Dennis Weed said he continues to have dialog with both Albertson's and the party interested in the building (formerly Akins Harvest Foods). He is hoping to keep this moving forward. Dennis continues to work on the fiber issue and has been speaking to Fatbeam. He said there are a lot of steps involved, and it will take time to get this done. He will keep council informed. Dennis will advertise the businesses in Boundary County in a north Idaho business magazine from Coeur d'Alene. This is free advertising giving our businesses needed exposure. The unemployment rate in Boundary County is below four percent, and that is a historical low. The nominal wage rate is above Bonner County at this time. There was a Spot meeting and the bus is filled for the route from Bonners Ferry to Sandpoint. The bus service is doing well. There is an 18 passenger bus that has been requested in the new grant that was applied for. Ron Smith spoke about the ridership numbers that were reported at the last Spot meeting. There was an error as it said 597 riders but it was only 167. Ron said the operator of Spot will submit an invoice to Boundary County for the in-kind portion of the bus operations.

Ron Smith moved to approve the consent agenda. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of October 17, 2017 council meeting minutes.

Rick Alonzo moved to have the third reading by title only of the ordinance repealing and replacing City Code Title 3, Chapter 4, pertaining to door to door solicitation and sales in the City of Bonners Ferry. The motion was seconded by Ken Toline. Motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the ordinance by title only.

Adam Arthur moved to adopt Ordinance 571 Repealing and Replacing City Code Title 3, Chapter 4, Pertaining to Door to Door Solicitation and Sales in City of Bonners Ferry. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Planner Lisa Ailport said the City received the second phase of the National Realtors Grant so we now have \$10,000. She said there is a workshop on November 13 with Mark Fenton at the Kootenai River Inn.

Planner Lisa Ailport spoke about the amendment to City Code Title 11, Chapter 2, Dimensional Standards. She said this has gone through Planning and Zoning for their review and comment and a hearing was held. There is a setback requirement of 20 feet from the front yard and side yard and also an additional minimum setback of 50 feet from the center line of the road. Most buildings are being built with the 20 foot setback. Lisa said the average platted streets are 50 feet including the right of way but the physical roads range on average from 18 to 36 feet in width. She said we go by physical location not the right of way. Lisa said the 50 foot rule really can change where a building can be built. The 20 foot setback is from the property line. Lisa showed the group several different properties on the overhead screen. After review of Planning and Zoning it was decided that a 20 foot setback would be from the property line or from the street ingress/egress easement, whichever is greater. Planning and Zoning held a public hearing so we have complied with Idaho Code 67-6511 and recommended to city council to approve the change. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the file AM09-17 to enact changes to Title 11, Chapter 2 city of Bonners Ferry code, to amend sub not “a” from the Residential and Medical Districts front and corner lot setback requirements. The amendment is supported by the City of Bonners Ferry Comprehensive Plan. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Lisa said an ordinance will be brought forward.

Lisa Ailport spoke regarding the variance for Mike Youngwirth. It went through Planning and Zoning. Birch Court subdivision was initially platted in 1990 for mobile home/manufactured home placement. The existing lot averages about 46 feet wide. Mr. Youngwirth requested that the side yard setbacks have a variance reduction from 24 feet to five feet. Idaho Code 67-8003 protects private property rights from government’s over regulating actions to assure that such actions not be unconstitutional. Idaho Code 67-6516 states, in part, that a variance may be granted to an applicant only upon a showing of undue hardship because of characteristics of the site and that the variance is not in conflict with the public interest. Lisa read from Bonners Ferry

City Code 11-7-1. Line of sight on the corner lot and restricting access were comments made by city staff regarding the variance. Planning and Zoning unanimously recommended approval by City Council. Adam asked why there is only a 10 foot setback on Riverside rather than 20 feet. Lisa said a rear yard setback is 10 feet and we don't have a dual frontage requirement. She said if there are questions of the applicant we must have a public hearing. Adam is concerned about the corner and having a home so close to an intersection. Mayor Sims said it may make sense to have a hearing so we can ask the property owner questions. Ron Smith moved to notice this issue as a public hearing and have the person applying for the variance be present. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to give the employees the day after Thanksgiving and the Friday off before Christmas so they have a four day weekend. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Mayor Sims said we could give the option to have the Friday before or Tuesday after Christmas off but keep the offices open. Council agreed that this could be an option left up to the department heads to schedule. Rick just wants to see the employees have a four day weekend over the Christmas holiday.

Ken Toline moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Task Order #1 with Panhandle Area Council for the sewer bridge upgrade project. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Task Order #2 with Panhandle Area Council for the swimming pool repairs project. Adam Arthur seconded the motion, and it passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency for animal shelter services. Ken Toline seconded motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”.

There are still some items to get worked out on the Idaho Transportation Department maintenance agreement so this was tabled.

Mike Klaus said the City has been working with JUB Engineers on the transportation plan and some of the tasks originally in the JUB scope of work can be done in-house so this lowered the fees charged by JUB. Ken Toline moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with JUB Engineers for the transportation plan and approve the scope of work in amount of \$50,000. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Mayor Sims said all this will be paid out of grant funding.

Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Kendall Deaton for tree trimming. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike worked with Alan Winkelseth today to get the street repair costs worked out for Golden Street. The amount came out to be \$28,555. Mike drew a picture for council to explain the

repairs planned for Golden Street. He said the rock quote may be off some but it is close, as the amount of rock has been estimated. Mike said it looks like a 90 percent reimbursement from FEMA once the project is complete. Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Wink, Inc. for Golden Street repair in the amount of \$28,555. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike said the rotor and stator were pulled from Unit 4 to have them cleaned and coated. It was found that the voltage was lower than what it should be on some of the windings. Mike spoke with Craig Ripplinger and thought that it would be prudent for Craig to fly down to the shop where the work is being completed and inspect the rotor windings for the City. There are a couple diodes that should be replaced also. The estimated cost for re-windings and the diodes is \$49,800. Mike said it is a good thing that we had the rotor and stator taken down to the shop for cleaning so this was found now. Mike thinks Riverside will do a good job for us. Adam asked if the completion date of March 2 is the installation date. Mike said the repairman thinks it may be as early as the end of January. Unit 4 is our biggest unit, and Mike hopes it will be in place by the time we have water runoff. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Riverside, Inc. for \$49,800 pending legal review. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Police Chief Vic Watson said when people are taken into protective custody for psychological issues they must be housed in a medical facility. He is required to keep a law enforcement officer on duty to watch the person in custody at the hospital. Northern States Security and Investigations, Inc. has certified officers that can step in and do this for us. He would like to utilize them rather than using our officers for this security duty. The hospital is okay with using the security company. Mayor Sims said it saves money and does not cause scheduling problems for the police. Vic said the company is in Hayden so they are close by. The fee is \$18 per hour for this service. Rick Alonzo moved to approve contracting with Northern States Security and Investigations, Inc. pending legal review of the contract when it is written. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike said Allen Jeppesen did a great job for the City over the summer and we have the need for winter time work for plowing. Ron Smith moved to hire Allen Jeppesen for part-time seasonal work. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”.

Mayor Sims said the Employee of the Year is called the Mayors Exceptional Worker but it is selected by the employees. Ken Toline said there is something special about being selected by your peers. Ron Smith said he does not have a problem with it. Mayor Sims said it is tough for people to win in some departments. Andrakay said there are part-time employees that cannot take part and some of them have been offended by this. She said this is something to think about. She said the Mayor’s point about different departments should be considered. She thinks this is skewed. Rick thinks part time employees that are year around should be included. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Council accepted Kris Larson's resignation as of March 2, 2018.

Application fees were discussed. Mike said sometimes a person will request the costs for an electrical service before they even purchase property. Northern Lights charges \$750 for this service. We spoke about this at the last department head meeting to charge an application fee but keep it less for residential services than commercial services. Our department heads are spending quite a bit of time figuring out the cost estimates. This is something we want council to think about. A fee increase hearing will have to be held.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk