

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of December 16, 2014 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, Water/Sewer Superintendent Adrian Dice, and Economic Development Coordinator David Sims. Also present were Peach Baker, Marie Lozier, Jerry Higgs, Dave Gray, Carolyn Testa, George Eksridge, Loretta Hunsaker, Ralph and Julie Lotspeich, Doug Ladely, Sr., Ruth Sutton, Dale Simpson, Jessica Tingley, and Adam Arthur.

Dave Gray, representing the Museum, invited all present to the 150th birthday of the Ferry. It is December 20, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Museum. He also submitted an application to become a member of the Museum. Dave displayed a museum calendar that is being sold at the Museum as a fund raiser.

George Eksridge, former State Representative, spoke to the group regarding public transportation for Bonners Ferry. He said SPOT is the public transportation system in Bonner County. Cities involved are Dover, Ponderay, Sandpoint, and Kootenai. He said Boundary County is being looked at due to the elderly population. A grant for \$60,000 has been garnered but there is a match of \$30,000 that is needed. The Boundary County Senior Center had a bus that was titled by Boundary County but since the bus has not been being used, Idaho Transportation Department requested that the bus be returned unless it is put into service. George said the Area on Aging committed \$10,000, Boundary County committed to \$10,000 in in-kind and cash, providing insurance, maintenance and fuel for the bus. Two days per week will be demand service for transportation and then another day will be for transportation to Sandpoint for medical appointments. SPOT will manage the bus service and the bus driver lives in Naples who will be assigned to the Bonners Ferry area. David Sims said the intention of SPOT is to set up a local advisory board and there will not be any comingling of the funds between Boundary County and Bonner County. David said there are other funding sources being looked at such as the Veterans Administration. He said this would help reduce the county and city portions of the match. David said Boundary County is the only one of the five northern counties without public transportation. Mayor Anderson said this subject has been looked at for the past year and a half. He said SPOT is already in the business of managing and scheduling/dispatching transportation. The bus is relatively new and the driver is living in Boundary County. He does not think the entire \$90,000 will be spent in a year. Mayor Anderson thinks the SPOT bus is a very good thing. David Sims added that the bus was originally going to the Restorium when the Senior Center lost it, but it will still be used by the Restorium. George said during the three days of demand service, the Restorium would not be using the bus, but on the other days the bus will be available for Restorium use. George said the SPOT bus must be used for public transportation to meet the guidelines of the grant as it is to be used for elderly and disabled. Peach Baker said the Restorium uses the bus about one day per week. She does not think the Restorium should have the responsibility of maintaining the bus when it is not being used by the public. David Sims said this detail can be worked out. George said the County Commissioners have agreed to take on the responsibility.

George Eksridge left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Ralph Lotspeich said the rough mower went out at the beginning of last year. He thanked council for the side winder mower that was purchased at the beginning of the year. The side winder was used to mow the roughs but it is not made to mow roughs. He said he has looked all over for a used mower and there are a couple Toro 4500D's that came up as lease returns. The cost is \$18,000. There is a 55 horse power motor in the Toro 4500D and it would do a good job. It would help the golf course and he is asking if we can purchase it. The cost of a new rough mower would be about \$55,000 according to Ralph. Tom asked about the old mower that is at the golf course. Ralph said it is a reel mower and the rough is kept at about 1.5 inches by being mowed once per week. Ralph said the used mower is a rotary mower has about 2800 hours on it and is a 2010 model. He said a rough mower is used about 165 hours per year on our course. Because we used the new sidewinder this year it got 368 hours on it rather than just 220 as it should have. The old rough mower was purchased in 2004 or 2005 and it had the driveline and clutch that went out and there may be someone interested in purchasing the mower for the motor. The rough mower that Ralph is looking at will do the job and save the sidewinder mower. Ralph said the golf course did very well this year and the Friends of Mirror Lake formed and raised funding for needed projects at the course.

Police Chief Robert Boone gave the police report. He said during the past two weeks there were two warrant arrests, a probation violation, one malicious injury to property, one petit theft, one mental hold, one unattended death, one telephone fraud, four vehicle accidents, and wrote officers wrote five speeding tickets. Ron Smith asked where mental holds are being held now. Chief Boone said they are taken to Coeur d'Alene and if there are no beds available they have to go to Orofino and then to Boise.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the fire department has responded to two call outs. One was a gas leak on Fourth Street at a daycare center and the other call was an electrical odor investigation at the high school. Pat said the latest version of the Boundary County Sheriff's Arson Investigation Task Force is in front of the council this evening and it includes the Deputy State Fire Marshall Bill Steele. Pat said the reasoning behind the task force is State Statute and it says the fire chief or fire Marshall are charged with the investigation of the fire to determine the origin and cause of the fire. If arson is suspected there should be an investigation and a case and charges should be filed with the prosecutor. Pat listed the individuals on the task force (Boundary County Sheriff's Office Detective Dave McClelland, Bonners Ferry Fire Department Lieutenant Dave Winey, Bonners Ferry Fire Department Chief Pat Warkentin, Robert Rekstad from Boundary County Sheriff's Office, and Deputy State Fire Marshall Bill Steele). Pat said the task force presentation was given to Boundary County Commissioners and they don't have a problem with it. Pat said the task force will be trained to use the two extrication units in Boundary County, one owned by City of Bonners Ferry and the other belonging to Boundary Volunteer Ambulance.

Stephen Boorman gave the city administrator report. He said about a year ago we applied for federal collector status of Chinook and Kaniksu Streets, and this was approved by the Federal Highway Administration. He said this will make us eligible for grant funding. Stephen said with the current proposal from Bonneville Power Administration the projected rate increase next

October will be five percent. He said with the new boiler at the swimming pool our usage went down from 3200 therms to 1600 therms, saving about \$1,400. He said the new front door at city hall has been replaced and we should see energy savings with it. Stephen spoke of the Forest Management Plan in front of council this evening and said it is well done.

Tom Mayo moved to approve the consent agenda. Connie Wells 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; approval of December 2, 2014 council meeting minutes and December 10, 2014 special council meeting minutes.

The used golf mower was discussed. Ron Smith asked if we purchase the used golf mower if the maintenance would be done by the city. Stephen said Ralph does the general maintenance and if there is anything major the city mechanic takes care of it. The group discussed capital funding in the budget for 2015 in the amount of \$5,000 and the fund balance carry over for the general fund to be about \$28,000 more at the end of 2014 than what was anticipated. Mayor Anderson said much of what the golf course is facing is lack of improvements made in the past. He said the city is obligated to keep the golf course going as we have an agreement with Land and Conservation since their funding was used to help build the course. Ralph said there will be some maintenance needed for the purchase of the used mower but machines made after 2008 are easier to work on. He spoke of the cost of maintenance that we were spending in the past and in 2014 basically the only maintenance cost was for lubrication for the new mowers. Tom asked if the used mower had new blades on it. Ralph said it has new blades and he can sharpen the blades. Tom asked what the old rough mower is worth. Ralph said ranchers purchase used rough mowers to keep the grass down around their property. He thinks we may be able to get \$1,000 out of the old mower. Rick thinks we need to do something so we don’t damage the new mower. Ralph anticipates the used mower having a life of eight to ten years. Ron Smith moved to purchase the used rough mower. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Ralph said in conjunction with the golf committee a grant is being looked at for rebuilding the clubhouse. Ralph put caution tape up near the number six greens and it seems to be keeping the elk off. Tom said we need to put the tape up near the new trees that were planted.

Rick Alonzo moved to reluctantly accept the resignation of Keith Fairchild as City Mechanic. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to accept the resignation of Mike Wade. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Stephen said Mike is going to work for Water System Management. Adrian Dice said Mike has a level three sewer license and that is something the new firm is interested in. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to read the ordinance amending the definition of the equivalent dwelling unit by title only. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. Tom amended his motion to omit the second and third reading of the ordinance. Rick seconded the amendment. The motion passed – Ron

Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the title of the ordinance.

Rick Alonzo moved to adopt Ordinance 545 amending the definition of equivalent dwelling unit. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said when we purchased the Moyie Substation it changed the point of delivery for Bonneville Power Administration. The point of delivery is now moving from the Moyie Substation to where our transmission line ties in to Bonneville up Katka. This will now be the point of delivery and the point of receipt. Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Exhibit A, Table 1, Revision No. 8 to Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement No. 01TX-10411 between Bonners Ferry and Bonneville Power Administration. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the beverage licenses for 2015 pending receipt of payment and proper documentation. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. (Clerk’s note: licenses approved pending receipt of payment and proper documentation for Akins, Alberto’s, Bonners Ferry Conoco, Club 55, Cenex Zip Trip, Eagles, Kootenai Brewing Company, Kootenai River Inn, Lane 9, Mugsy’s, Panhandle Restaurant, Pizza Factory, Safeway, South Hill Mini Mart, Super 1 Foods, The Pearl Theater, The Rusty Moose, Under the Sun, Goat Mountain Pizzeria).

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Payment Agreement with Country Cable for payment of franchise fees and pole use fees. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to authorize advertisement of water sewer laborer. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said he took a questionnaire to three mechanic businesses in town, Dyck’s, Riverside, and Bear Mechanical, to get pricing in case we need to contract with them since Keith is leaving as city mechanic. He said the contracts have not been written yet. Stephen said Dyck’s has a fixed rate for installing mufflers. He said we could use Fred Nystrom for fabrication. Stephen said the mechanic rates have been quoted at good prices for the city. Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign contracts for mechanic work with Riverside and Bear Auto. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes” Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to reappoint Richard Hollenbeck and Silas Thompson to the Traffic Safety Committee with terms expiring on December 31, 2016. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Building permit fees were discussed. Connie Wells moved to include the increase in building permit fees for our hearing notification. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 8:11 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (b). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. (Clerk’s note: Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (b) is to Consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student). Jerry Higgs told council that the Attorney General told people at a meeting on the open meeting law that they had to divulge what the subject is that they are going into executive session for. Mayor Anderson said we are keeping the water/sewer superintendent in executive session if anyone wants to read something into that. Jerry argued that council had to go beyond the sub paragraphs and say specifically what they will be speaking about. Andrakay informed the group that the open meeting law says we need to cite the subsection but not the specific topic and by law we cannot disclose an employee’s name if we are talking about disciplining them or hearing complaints about them. Executive session ended at 8:47 p.m. No action was taken.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk