Council President Rick Alonzo called the regularly scheduled meeting of April 1, 2014 to order at 7:00 p.m. and informed the group that it was the 115th birthday of the City of Bonners Ferry today. Present for the meeting were Council President Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Chief Robert Boone, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Water/Sewer Operator Mike Wade. Also present were Chris Shipley from Magnuson, McHugh and Company, Marcia Cossette, Tremain Albright, Jessica Tingley, Adam Arthur, Dale Simpson, Ruth Sutton, Doug Ladely, Sr., and Al Brown. Mayor Anderson was absent due to illness.

Tremain Albright said he is concerned about the city hiring Mike Klaus for engineering services and spoke of a possible conflict of interest since Mike also works for Cabinet Mountain Water District and the city being involved with Cabinet Mountain Water.

Chris Shipley from Magnuson, McHugh and Company spoke to the group regarding the city’s fiscal year 2013 audit. He explained that Magnuson, McHugh’s duty is to give an opinion on the financial statements and he said they are materially and factually correct. He said the City is okay and the Auditor’s give an unqualified opinion and that is good. He said our audit does not have any findings and that is good. Under Governmental Auditing Standards we do not have a federal expenditures over $500,000 so we did not have to have a Single Audit. Chris said the threshold may increase from $500,000 to $1,000,000 in the future. Chris spoke about the fund balance and said according to GASB we have to break down the fund balance. Restricted fund balance is from outside, commitment is from internal actions, and assigned fund balance is more at the departmental level, and unassigned fund balance is a catch all of whatever fund balance is left. The proper amount of a fund balance is a minimum of two months operating expenses, or $281,000 in his estimate. The city’s fund balance at September 30, 2013 was $497,000. He said the city does not have an overly large fund balance or too small of a fund balance. (Clerk’s note: the city strives to carry three months of operating expenditures).

Robert Boone gave the police report. He said during the last reporting period officers have made two felony warrant arrests, one DUI accident related arrest, investigated three vehicle crashes in the city, responded to four radio calls at the Kootenai River Inn including vandalism to a vehicle, a theft call, and three people having sex in the parking lot. There have also been three theft calls, three arrests for possession of paraphernalia, two theft reports, and officers also assisted the Task Force with a search warrant service inside the city limits. The School Resource Officer has in a six day period handled 22 calls on school grounds issuing 15 citations. The preliminary hearing for Alan Avery Stafford is scheduled this Friday at 1:00 p.m.

Pat Warkentin said the fire department had a call volume of seven for March. They responded to a chimney fire, two auto accidents on highway 95, bomb threat at the high school, two smoke investigations, and an alarm at Valley View that turned out to be a popcorn machine that got out of hand. Burlington Northern Sante Fe’s hazmat person from Vancouver attended the fire training last night with our department and six other fire departments and EMS to discuss the hazmat issues of the crude coming through on the train. Mr. Dukes from Portland Union Pacific will be speaking to the fire department this winter. Pat said we are fortunate to have our
railroads maintained as well as they are. Pat spoke of the ambulance calls that were included in the packet. There were 135 EMS calls in Bonners Ferry and the fire department only responded to six of them. The fire department received funding from TransCanada and Union Pacific in the amount of $14,500. Pat listed what we have used the funding for. We serviced all equipment on the rescue vehicles, purchased a rescue jack, electric extrication saw, and LED scene light. He said we are getting two high pressure breathing apparatus’ that are used but have not been used and a 2005 Dodge Dakota with a shell and slide out on it. This will be paid out of the donated funding. Pat spoke of the need for air conditioning in a vehicle on a fire scene to help recondition firemen when they come out of a fire.

Stephen said Steve Neumeyer has been rerouting the computer wiring in the building. There was about a four hour outage due to a truck/power pole accident near Dyck’s and the crews did well to get the power back in that amount of time. The Army Corps of Engineers are looking at their levy standards and in particular they are surveying levy conditions and the consequence of levy failure. Property values and life and safety issues behind the levies are being reviewed. There is a copy of the correspondence in the packet. He said all levies in the United States are being looked at both those in the PL8499 program and those that are not. The city has purchased five LED china hat style street lights and installed one behind city hall. He asked for input on these lights. We have 20 more inductions lights that we want to install along the highway. He said we put some of these on the bridge a couple years ago and they are more like a fluorescent light. Both styles use less electricity. The leak test was done on the steel tank and a hole about the size of a dime was found. Mike Wade said this will be repaired and then another leak test will be performed to make sure there are no more leaks. Stephen said we do a vertical and horizontal measurement of our dam and that is good. There is a leak at the Wanatum Dam and they had only been doing a horizontal measurement so they did not catch the leak earlier. He said we have been looking at the voice over internet protocol as our phone system is getting old. The Sheriff’s Office uses this type of system.

Connie Wells moved to approve late agenda items as follows: approval of David Kramer’s resignation as interim police chief and authorization for Mayor to sign independent contractor agreements for Wink Inc. and Mastre Backhoe Service. 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 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 18, 2014 regular council meeting minutes.

Rick Alonzo said he and the Mayor met with the Kootenai Tribe regarding the law enforcement/fire contract. He said the Tribe wants to eliminate the law enforcement portion of the contract but continue with the fire protection portion of the contract. Rick said the city proposed $24,000 but the Tribe has come back with a proposal of $21,000. Ron Smith would like to see an Attorney General’s opinion regarding where the city police stand and what their responsibilities are. Andrakay said she will submit a request to the Attorney General’s Office for
an opinion. Ron is concerned about the Sheriff’s Office getting a call and their deputy being at Porthill. Tom thought we would respond and Rick agreed that we would respond if the Sheriff’s Office requested our assistance. Andrakay has the concern that the Attorney General may take several months to give a written opinion. Connie asked the fire chief’s opinion. Pat said it tends to give the fire department a black eye and hurts morale if they cannot respond to help with a fire if it should occur. He said there are no smoke detectors or alarms or sprinkler systems in the old portion of the Kootenai River Inn. He wants council and mayor to make their feelings known. He said if there is a need council needs to address the issue. Connie said we have been working on this for months and it will not get better. Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Kootenai Tribal Contract for fire services and to have our attorney get an opinion from the Attorney General’s Office. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. Ron Smith asked how much we received on the old contract. It was $39,008 but it was for law enforcement and fire services. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Ron expressed concern about law enforcement and wanted to be able to give the new chief direction. Chief Robert Boone said if there is a life threatening call or an officer requesting assistance we would respond, but if not, the police department will not respond.

Tom Mayo said the city received an updated contract from the golf committee and it has an 18 percent increase for the golf course manager. He said we netted half that last fiscal year and we have many expenses coming up this year including the mower payments and the pump rebuild costs. Ron Smith has a problem with the 18 percent increase to a contractor because the city employees are not receiving an increase. Ron and Tom both agreed that Ralph does a good job. Tom has no problem with Ralph receiving 100 percent of the driving range fees but is not in favor of the 20 percent of the cart shed leases going to the contractor. Connie said we need to have more maintenance defined in the contract. Tom said there is a small list of some of the items that should be added to the contract. Tom suggested giving Andrakay some time to get this in the rewrite of the contract. Tom Mayo moved to have our attorney come up with a counter contract rather than the one we received. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie moved to approve the parade permit for the American Legion Memorial Day parade to be held on May 26, 2014. 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 the Mayor to sign the annual contract with Apex Construction Services. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. Stephen told the group that Apex is Jim Woodward. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes’, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to purchase the used Dodge pickup from the State Fire Marshall’s Office. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The coating for the steel tank was discussed. Stephen said in 1969 the sides of the tank were fiber glassed and the floor was coated with an epoxy. The floor coating is delaminated in some
Stephen said we have dug quite a bit in the city yard and it needs to be resurfaced. He said we want to make sure we have all the infrastructure in place before we do this. He said we want to contract with someone to do the earth work. Connie Wells moved to authorize the installation of fiber and new water lines in the city yard. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said the city is interested in contracting with Mike Klaus for engineering services for smaller job designs. He said Mike is a great engineer, and he works with Three Mile and Cabinet Mountain Water Districts. Connie said he is familiar with the city’s water and sewer systems. Ron asked if there is a conflict with hiring Mike. Andrakay said she does not see a problem on a broad basis. Ron Smith moved to hire Mike Klaus for engineering services. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick Alonzo read the memo submitted by David Kramer resigning his interim police chief position. Ron Smith moved to accept David Kramer’s resignation letter. Tom Mayo seconded the motion with the expression of gratitude for his service. Connie also thanked him for his service and Ron agreed. The motion passed, all in favor.

Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign annual contractor agreements with Wink, Inc. and Mastre Backhoe Services. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to go into executive session at 7:55 p.m. per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (b) (c). Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. At 8:43 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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Rick Alonzo, Council President

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk