

Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of April 19, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, Police Chief Vic Watson, and Fire Chief Pat Warkentin. Also present were Jerry Higgs, Marcia Cossette, and Jessica Tingley.

Police Chief Vic Watson said over the past two weeks there was one warrant arrest, one felony warrant arrest, one welfare check, one unattended death, two DUIs, three aggravated assault charges, one domestic, one trespass, one traffic accident, and one possession of controlled substance. Vic has interviews next week for the vacant police officer position, and he anticipates having someone hired by mid-May. Vic and Travis Stolley met with the School Board this week, and the School Board would like to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the City for a school resource officer. Vic spoke of an issue concerning police powers at Naples and Mount Hall with the school resource officer. He said Sheriff Sprungl does not want to swear him in as a deputy, so he does not have enforcement powers outside city limits. This was relayed to the School Board so they are writing a letter to Sheriff Sprungl to help remedy this situation. Mayor Sims asked about writing citations on school property. Vic said there are three citations that can be written on private property, and the school is on private property even though it is used for the public. Private property citations include DUI, driving recklessly, and handicapped parking enforcement. The School District policy allows for driving privileges to be taken away from students violating their policy. Vic gave the example of a student spinning cookies in the parking lot and their driving privileges being taken away.

City Administrator Mike Klaus presented a power point presentation of the Cassia Water Tank. The floor and walls are poured as well as supports for the roof. Mike said the contractor anticipates having the scaffolding done by the end of the week. It looks like the project may be completed earlier than expected. Rick Alonzo spoke of a water leak in Colville that drained a million gallon tank. Mike said we have a shut off outside the tank and we have alarms that notify us of the tank levels. Jerry Higgs asked if there is a pressure head increase at the location of the new tank. Mike said not noticeably, as there is only a two foot difference. Mike showed pictures of the power plant unit 2 project. He said the crew did a good job painting unit 2 and commended Pat. Another slide was of the area above the dam where a concrete slab was poured for a portable toilet. He said a handicapped parking spot and a handicapped ramp to the water were also installed. There is a man that fishes there regularly.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said there have been two ambulance assists since the last meeting and a brush fire on the Northside. There was training in Coeur d'Alene for the four new firemen, and they came back very excited about what they had experienced. Pat said the new recruits are working out well. Eric Wasecha took the State inspector's course and is now a State certified inspector. Pat took a fire dynamics and line of duty death investigations course in Boise. The information garnered will be shared with the firemen. Ken Baker is flying to Indianapolis this week to attend an event where the results of the national dance contest for fire turnouts will be held. The president of General Fire told Pat that he was glad that we were winning the contest as we were in his district. We won't know for sure how we did in the contest until this Friday night.

If we win the contest we will have quite a savings in our fire budget from not having to purchase turnout gear. A fire chief from Stephens County came over and drove the fire engine we are considering surplus. There is also a mining company interested in the fire engine.

The EDC (economic development committee) board will be meeting and interviewing for a new coordinator. Grant funding has been applied for at the State for the EDC. Mayor Sims said the grant funding maximum amount is \$32,000 for the fiscal year beginning in July, 2016.

The Urban Renewal Agency agreed to reimburse the highway, water, and sewer improvements up to \$300,000 for the Shopko project. Mike Klaus said Frontier can get enough slack to move the poles without splicing so that results in a cost savings to the project.

Connie Wells moved to add a late agenda item for decision on fire truck bid. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Rick Alonzo 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 the April 5, 2016 council meeting minutes.

Mike Klaus spoke to the group about bond refinancing for our water and electric bonds. He said the Idaho Bond Bank used to be a good avenue for financing municipal improvements as it was a pool of a combination of many project loans together with a prorated share of the bond closing costs being spread among the participants. Three years ago the Idaho Bond Bank Board made a policy to not refinance federal debt like we have in our water fund. The Idaho Bond Bank Board members have changed since this policy was adopted and we may be able to compel them to reconsider our bond refinancing. Michael Keith of Piper Jaffray said we would need to apply to the Bond Bank and pay an application fee of \$500 if we are approved for refinancing. The Bond Bank interest is just about three percent and with this we could save about \$10,000 per year or about \$240,000 over the life of the water bonds. Piper Jaffray would serve as an underwriter for the bond refinancing for us and help us through the process if we approve the engagement letter with them. Mayor Sims said it makes sense to refinance. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the engagement letter with Piper Jaffray to look at refinancing the bonds. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus spoke of the need to purchase switches for the computer system. He said we are finding that the access to the server from the City Yard is sometimes failing, and if we put the switches in now it would alleviate this problem. The switches would also help when we are ready to go to the new phone system. There would be hard wire to the shops to access the City server. Long term it will give our phone system something to sit on. He wants to get specifications to get the new phones soon. Mayor Sims said about six years ago the switches purchased were used ones from the Hospital. Another aspect of the switches would be to enhance the backup system for the City as it would lessen the amount of time for the backup. Mike said the quote would be to go from fiber to copper at each of the shops on the hill and he is

asking for authorization to spend up to \$5,500. Ron asked if the approval will fix the backup problem. Mike said he thinks it will make it better, but it will not fix the entire problem until we get the software. He said we need the switches and media converters to operate the computer system, but they are part of the new phone system as well. Ron Smith moved to purchase switches for the computer/server. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to set the fiscal year 2017 budget hearing for September 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. Motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 7:42 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (e) to consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Executive session ended at 7:48 p.m. No action was taken.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Fire Chief to make a bid on the fire truck in Worley with the figures discussed in executive session. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk