

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of May 5, 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 Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Police Chief Vic Watson, and Economic Development Coordinator David Sims. Also present were Jerry Higgs, Doug Ladely, Matt Solt, Jessica Tingley, and Adam Arthur.

Jerry Higgs said there is another quickly considered ordinance on the agenda this evening. He said people cannot control when and where an animal will take a crap. He spoke of his observations of people with their dogs. Jerry thinks it is mostly a problem due to dogs running at large. He would like to see a leash law and thinks this would eliminate the problem as folks would know where their animals are and could see what they are doing. Jerry urged council to create a leash law for animals when they are off their property. He thinks this would eliminate the poop problem. Jerry said planning and zoning can help draft what is needed.

Jerry Higgs also spoke regarding a historic designation of downtown. He thinks improvements done downtown have been done in good taste and questioned if we are trying to solve a problem before there is a problem. He questioned if we are adding another layer of bureaucracy as people are already being faced with horrific increases in their fee schedules. Jerry said a person has applied for a sign permit and should not be affected by a change. He is hopeful that we don't discourage her from improving her property.

Police Chief Vic Watson said the report is for the period of April 22 through May 5, 2015. Calls for service were one battery, one burglary, one trespass, one stolen identity, two no insurance, three driving without privileges, two malicious injury to property, two vehicle accidents, one DUI, one felony controlled substance, one unattended death, and three speeding citations.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the fire department responded to an accident with a vehicle involving a deer, a fire in a chicken house south of town, fire alarm at Boundary Community Hospital that was an unintentional false alarm, a propylene glycol leak in the mezzanine at the High School, and there was a smoke detector that went off at the High School that was an unintentional false alarm. Pat said there is a suspected pinhole antifreeze leak above the Library at the high school causing problems. Flash over training was held last weekend.

Stephen Boorman said there is an article regarding smart street lights in the packet for council's review. The Augusta Street project does not have the State/Local Agreement yet as there is a form concerning the in-kind match to be completed by the City and the engineers will help us finish this. The new windows are in the generator building. There is a tree that will be removed near the Rusty Moose and a couple other downtown trees may have to be removed as they have outgrown their space. Jack Kirsch from Worker's Comp will be here on May 28<sup>th</sup> to visit about our rates and the trend we are seeing in our loss ratios. Tom Mayo asked if Comanche will be resurfaced where the waterline work was done. Stephen said it will be when Wood's batch plant is open.

David Sims told the group that Bill Jhung will hold a seminar next Wednesday at the Kootenai River Inn on the topic of exit planning for businesses. He said the seasonally adjusted

unemployment rate is 5.1 percent for Boundary County. The unadjusted rate is about six percent. We are not in the top ten highest unemployment counties now. The employment level in Boundary County continues to increase so that is good. Commercial activity between 2012 and 2015 was shown to Council on a map created by David. David commented on the agenda item regarding the downtown historical designation. He said we should encourage people to invest in downtown and not discourage them by putting up roadblocks. David gave examples of the differences in our downtown businesses and the architectural differences in the buildings. He would like to steer clear of the historical designation for downtown. David said the sign ordinance is badly broken and many of the new signs put up do not meet the ordinance. The sign ordinance should be simple and objective not subjective. Rules should be clear and not spongy or rules that change. He hopes there will not be additional burden on development downtown. He said it all matters. David said the building permit fees have doubled for a new developer since January. The City also added 33 new fees in January. He said with the new capitalization rates for water and sewer increasing, this is a discouragement to development.

Connie Wells moved to add late agenda items for authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with John R. Douglas and Tevis Hull for prosecuting attorney services and to have an executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a) 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. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

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 and approval of accounts payable and payroll.

Ron Smith moved to discuss the ordinance regarding sanitation responsibilities for animals. He questioned what brought this topic up and also asked about the infraction charge. Attorney Andrakay Pluid said a citizen can make a complaint and the person will be fined. Stephen said there is a problem with local people letting their animals do their business and not cleaning up after them especially near the visitor center. Tom Mayo would like to see the ordinance encompass all animals rather than just dogs. He mentioned chickens. Rick Alonzo said when he was on the police force many people were surprised that the City did not have a leash law. Rick is in favor of the ordinance as we need to have something for those folks that do not clean up after their dogs. He said if people know they are subject to a citation they may be more likely to clean up after their animals. Mayor Anderson would not mind passing this ordinance as a first step, but we can either pass it or incorporate it with a leash law ordinance. Ron Smith does not feel comfortable with this ordinance being passed tonight. Ron Smith moved to put this on hold until the City Attorney comes back from maternity leave. Rick would like to see Andrakay put an ordinance together for the next meeting. Andrakay asked for guidance from council regarding the ordinance. Rick Alonzo moved to table the ordinance and to make an attempt to get it resolved prior to Andrakay leaving on maternity leave. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “no”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen spoke to council about the surplus transformers and reclosers. He said since Council declared those items surplus the prices have changed. Rick Alonzo moved to approve selling the surplus transformers and reclosers to Transformer Technologies, LLC. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The lease of the Kubota excavator issue was tabled as the City Attorney said this is not legal do to the cost in excess of \$50,000 and bids not solicited.

Rick Alonzo spoke regarding the agenda item regarding downtown area signage. He said it was not his intention to have a historical designation for downtown but wanted to discuss, as Mr. Sims had suggested, LED lighting rather than big garish boards as they don't really fit in our downtown area. Rick said he does not want to do anything that has a historic designation as that can cause a whole lot of problems. Connie Wells said she does not want to see a huge neon sign on top of a building downtown. Rick said no one has turned in an application for a sign so we are not trying to pass something to make life hard for an applicant. Tom Mayo said the problem is defining tasteful for a sign. Tom said he does not think anyone on Council wants to deter development or bringing business downtown. Connie and Tom would like to see downtown be non-Vegas Strip. Ron Smith thought we had already asked planning and zoning to look at the sign ordinance. Stephen said it is fair to give planning and zoning guidance as to what Council is looking for. Stephen will do a draft letter for Council to review regarding the sign ordinance. He will have this for the next council meeting. Rick moved to table the sign issue until Council reviews the draft letter for planning and zoning. Tom seconded the motion and it passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the special event permit for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, picnic, and fireworks display. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to approve the special event permit for the Kootenai River Fun Run to be held on June 13, 2015. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick moved to approve the special event permit for Car Show on June 6, 2015. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to approve special event permit for the Circus on June 16, 2015 sponsored by Bonners Ferry Rotary. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Attorney Andrakay Pluid spoke regarding the prosecution contract with John R. Douglas and Tevis Hull for the time she is out of the office on maternity leave. She said it is a fixed cost contract and the prosecutors are familiar with our police department. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with John R. Douglas and Tevis Hull for prosecuting

attorney services while our attorney is on maternity leave. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to go into executive session at 7:49 p.m. per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. At 8:11 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

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Kris Larson, City Clerk