Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of May 16, 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 Andrákay Pluid, Police Chief Vic Watson, and Fire Chief Dave Winey. Also present were Dick Staples, Marcia Cossette, Jerry Higgs, Kennon McClintock, Dave Gray, Ralph Lotspeich, and Julie Lotspeich.

Dave Gray thanked Mike Klaus for presenting the Moyie Dam story at the Museum.

Dick Staples, representing the Golf Committee, thanked the City for their support for the work done at the golf course and the clubhouse. He said they really appreciate Mike Klaus’s help. Ralph said he is in his 14th year at the course and thanked council for stepping up and for Mike and Kris’s help. The pump was a big item and it is good. Ralph said the local people that play golf really appreciate the improvements too. Mayor Sims thanked Ralph and the Golf Committee for what they do. Ralph said last year the course opened on March 10 and the year before was March 7 so the receipts will be down this year.

Jerry Higgs asked about the sewer line slough on Helena Street. Mayor Sims said we have applied to FEMA assistance and are waiting for a response. The Governor has signed off on the request so we are just waiting to hear from the federal government. We are hopeful that we will get assistance to make the repairs.

Dick Staples, Ralph Lotspeich, and Julie Lotspeich left the meeting. Star Silva joined the meeting.

Police Chief Vic Watson gave the police report. Over the past two weeks police responded to one aggravated assault, one phone harassment, two DUIs, one pursuit, reckless driving, driving without privileges, one felony probation violation, one hit and run, one domestic, one medical, one receipt of a stolen gun, one felony warrant arrest, one felony controlled substance, one civil standby, one petit theft, and one theft of a firearm. Vic said a prison work detail doing interstate cleanup found the stolen gun for our City. It was a Ruger 9mm pistol that was loaded. Vic said this is National Law Enforcement Week where we honor fallen law enforcement officers across the nation. In 2016 there were 145 officers killed in the line of duty. So far this year 50 officers have been killed in the line of duty. The number one reason for officers being killed is gunfire and the second reason is vehicle crashes. Average age of officers killed is 42 and average years of service is 2.5. Police officers rank in the top ten most hazardous jobs in the United States.

Fire Chief Dave Winey said in the last two weeks there have been six calls. Two gas odor reports, two EMT lift assists, one false alarm at Valley View School by a preschooler, and one false alarm at Boundary Community Hospital when they were doing asbestos abatement. He said prep work is being done on a house on Bonner Street that has been donated to the fire department for burning as a training exercise.

City Administrator Mike Klaus said there is cracking on the dike across from the Brewery. The fence is starting to lean a bit more so it is moving some. Mike also showed a power point presentation of City Hall. He said painting is needed and we are thinking of following the color
scheme of the clock tower. We need to pressure wash and clean the brick. There are some signs that will be installed on the outside of the diesel generator building and new lighting will be installed inside the building so public can view the generator. Mike also spoke about the eves on the back of City Hall that need to be closed in. He showed a slide of the concrete that needs to be cleaned and repainted. Mike also had a photo from 1933 of City Hall. Another slide of City Hall was the area above the council room windows and mentioned there had been a suggestion of putting the City logo above the council room windows.

Mayor Sims said there was an urban renewal agency (URA) meeting and the URA paid the City back for JUB Engineering for the FLAP project.

Mayor Sims checked with Idaho Department of Commerce regarding block grant funding we have applied for the sewer bridge. Congress approved funding so Idaho should be getting funding soon. Grant applications will be reviewed again in June or July.

Rick Alonzo moved to add a late agenda item to authorize a letter of support the Forest Legacy Program for Boundary Connections II. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adam moved to approve the consent agenda. Ken Toline 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 May 2, 2017 council meeting minutes.

Kennon McClintock handed out information to council for their review regarding the Idaho Forest Legacy Program and Idaho’s Forest Products Industry. Kennon said nearly every year the Nature Conservancy applies for grant funding for the Forest Legacy Program. The Forest Legacy Program is a voluntary program with the intent to protect rural resource lands, working forests, to benefit resourced based economy. The target is at risk private forest land that are at risk for conversion to other uses. The grant application has to be submitted by May 31st. Grants come from the Farm Bill to purchase conservation easements on properties. Properties are appraised and 75 percent payment is made to the landowner. Nature Conservancy is a land trust and Kennon said they don’t hire lawyers or file appeals. We have a very robust timber industry in Idaho and in Boundary County. Idaho mills on average cut one billion board feet a year or 222,200 log truck loads and of that number 60-65 percent of the timber comes from private ground, 20-35 percent from Idaho Department of Lands, and less than 15 percent usually zero to ten percent comes from the Forest Service. These figures are based on the past 20 year average. He said prior to the 1990’s the Forest Service was at 50-70 percent of the timber harvest. This all changed with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Kennon said Boundary County has 800,000 acres and 200,000 acres are taxable, 120,000 acres of the 200,000 acres are in forest land. Of the 120,000 acres, a third of that is industrial timberland. About 600,000 acres in Boundary County are owned by federal or state government. Nature Conservancy’s goal is to keep forest land working as timber ground and also for wildlife habitat and water quality. A conservation easement severs development rights from the property and they are perpetual. The landowner still holds the land, Idaho Department of Lands holds the easements. The land
remains as a working forest and cannot be developed commercially like golf courses or amusement parks, cannot be subdivided, or mined. Traditional uses are permitted such as agriculture, forestry, livestock, cottage industries, rentals, and gravel pits. Homes, shops, barns, and outbuildings are permitted on each parcel if the owner desires. Property taxes do not change neither do yield taxes. Kennon has managed the lands on the north bench being considered for 25 years. He said when areas are 20 acres or less they are harder to manage and they drop out of the timber programs. Boundary County has very good land for timber, the soils are deep and we have lots of rain. Plantation trees are harvested every 40 years or so. We need these plantations to keep our local mill running. Kennon asked for a letter of support for the 2,343 acres being considered for the Forest Legacy Program, 2,067 acres are industrial forestland owned by Molpus and Hancock and 276 acres are owned by Three Family Woodlands. The easements are in perpetuity. Ron Smith moved to authorize a letter of support for the Forest Legacy Program. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to have the first reading by title only of the ordinance amending City Code Title 2, Chapter 2 concerning the Traffic Safety Committee. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Andrakay read the title of the ordinance.


Mike Klaus spoke to council about the well site property near Dakota Street owned by Gary Falcon. Water testing is complete except for the surface water influence test, and that will take some time. He and the Mayor think it is worthwhile to purchase the property. The quantity of water is sufficient. We got 200 gallons per minute on the test well which is what the pump could handle. Mike thinks we will get over 300 gallons per minute when the well is developed. He thinks we should move forward with the land purchase and we will take the necessary steps to drill a well and develop the water source. The property is about 100 feet from the river. The City has electric transmission and distribution lines that are three phase in the area. If we don’t have to treat the water, David asked about how we would pump it. Mike said we would chlorinate it on site and pump it directly into our distribution system. He said there is room on the property for additional wells. Boundary County owns a small piece of tax deeded property near the Falcon property. Mike went over some test results from the well water. Mayor Sims asked what Suzanne’s thoughts were of the test results. (Clerk’s note: Suzanne is with DEQ). Mike said she was not concerned with the results and thinks she would say yes if she could. Mike said the material that the water will travel through is sand and small gravel so it helps filter it. Mike said the title company said the closing costs on the property are estimated at less than $1,000. Ken Toline moved to approve the purchase of the well site property from Gary Falcon and authorize the Mayor to sign the paperwork at a price of $45,000 plus closing costs estimated at $1,000. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

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Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant paperwork for the Augusta Street Project and pay HMH Engineering and KG&T Septic. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Mayor Sims said the original design of the Augusta Street Project was short on fencing so we are looking at fencing estimates for this.

Mike said during the substation project Knight Construction damaged a switch that had to be replaced and they turned it into their insurance company for reimbursement. Andракay said the settlement agreement and release was provided by Knight’s insurance company so that is why no dollar amount is listed. She approved the settlement agreement submitted by Knight for signature. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the settlement agreement and release with Knight Construction for the substation switch. 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 the Traffic Safety Committee recommended keeping the stop light at Alderson Lane and they are hopeful that the operation will be worked on at a later date. The other issue addressed by the Traffic Safety Committee for the Highway 95 Project scheduled for 2018 were crosswalks. Mayor Sims showed council a picture on a map for the areas proposed. The crossings suggested were at Madison/Monroe, Harrison, Denver, and Cody. The Traffic Safety Committee is recommending rapid flashing beacons (RFBs) at each crossing. Vic likes these RFBs and wants to see them at all the crossings. Ron Smith moved to approve the Traffic Safety Committee’s recommendation for crosswalks for the Highway 95 Project and the traffic signal light. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk