

Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of May 17, 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, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Chief Vic Watson, and Fire Chief Pat Warkentin. Also present were Jerry Higgs, Vic White, Dave Gray, Mick Mellett, Jessica Tingley, Mike Listman, and Rita Pensmith.

Dave Gray invited the City to be a member of Boundary County Historical Society. He said there are different levels of friends of the Museum.

Jerry Higgs spoke regarding golf facilities and how golf participants are down nationwide. He thinks we should take a look at our golf course as the cost outlays are huge. He asked if the utilization rate is such that it can be sustained. He questioned if a building inspector came in and looked at the building if it would pass inspection due to the rotten trusses. Jerry said there have been previous discussions about the structure and possible grant funding, and this went nowhere because we don't have funding for the match. Subjects such as this are being placed in the comp plan, and he suggested that this be placed in the comprehensive plan. He suggested that the City Attorney look at abrogation of the grant obligation that we have with Parks and Rec for operation of the golf course into perpetuity.

Mike Listman handed council a newsletter from the Chamber of Commerce with the sponsorships listed. He said the Chamber is made up of volunteer staff and there is not a lot of time to do what a Chamber usually does. He developed a plan to eventually come up with a full time staff person. He attended a North Idaho Tourism Alliance (NITA) meeting today and learned of the grant funding that they have available for Chambers. He said our Chamber does not serve the members the way they should. He asked the City, County, and Tribe to fund the Chamber in the manner that they fund the EDC so the Chamber can take advantage of what needs to be done.

Vic White spoke to council. He owns property on Chippewa Drive and the purchase date was before the waterline was installed. Vic said when the bank was cut to put the waterline in that webbing and straw were put on the bank and it was hydro seeded. Vic told Stephen Boorman that hydro seeding would not work on this type of bank. Vic used to work for a construction company and did erosion control. The hydro seeding did not take. The snow lays against the bank all winter long after it is plowed. Vic is concerned that the bank will fail. The netting has slid down and the bank is starting to slide at the edge of the lawn. Council viewed power point slides of the bank Vic is referring to. Vic said it is a serious problem that will not go away. He invited Council to look at it in person. Vic thinks the bank will fail if it is not addressed. He said people drive along the bank since the waterline was installed. Vic does not want his lawn to end up in the middle of Chippewa Drive. He said by a resolve on one side of the road there will be problems occurring on the other side of the road. Vic said Mike Klaus and John Youngwirth have been very helpful. Ron Smith said he went over and looked at the bank.

Mr. White left the meeting.

Mick Mellett representing the Catholic Church spoke to council and showed a power point slide of the area. He said there is an undeveloped alley that runs through the Church's property. He said depending where you look there is 35 to 40 feet of unusable property between the alley and the setbacks that would be required. Mick said the Church would like to get rid of the alley and build the new Church in a different location on the property. Mick said the waterline could be moved to Grant Street and Denver Street. The sewer line would have to be moved to Lincoln Street. The Electric line would have to be moved to Lincoln Street also. New utility lines would have to be built for the home owned by Sue Larson and the Church Rectory. A footprint of the property is necessary for the Church to plan their new building. The Church owns the entire block except for Sue Larson's property. Mayor Sims asked if the Church was willing to pay the cost of the utility moves. Mick thinks the estimated cost of \$75,000 would be paid by the Church. Mick said there is steel waterline that loops the City's water system. He said instead of replacing a six inch line that Mike thought we should replace it with a ten inch line. Mick said the Church would pay to get the alley vacated and install new utility lines to Sue Larson, the Rectory, and Church. Attorney Andrakay Pluid went over the process for vacating the alley. Mick said he came this evening to see if council has a problem or knee jerk reaction to his suggestion. Adam Arthur said if the City does not have to bear the costs he does not have a problem. Mick said the new building will be about two times the size of the old building. Mick asked if the City would want to use their own staff for the waterline move. He asked Council to think about his proposal and will bring an official letter to the City. He appreciates the City Fire Department and the City staff that has been assisting him. Mick will be at the next council meeting.

Police Chief Vic Watson gave the police report. Over the last two weeks the officers have responded to one possession of controlled substance and paraphernalia, one felony drug possession, one delivery of controlled substance, one felony eluding of law enforcement officer, one battery on law enforcement officer, one DUI, one domestic, one warrant arrest, one driving without privileges, one voluntary mental, one missing person, one accidental gunshot wound, minor in possession, and one agency assist. Vic said there are several officers attending training this summer. Ron Smith asked about the Task Force. Vic said he spoke to the County about this and did not get a response from the Sheriff's Office about this issue. Ron thinks it is just a matter of sending a letter to the County. Vic wants to be on the same page that it is a mutual agreement with the County to dissolve the Task Force. He will continue the same drug investigations that they have in the past.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said since the last meeting there was one call for an odor investigation. It was for a person charging batteries in his kitchen. The fire department was involved in the Health Fair, and the Boy Scouts will be visiting the fire department next week. Stevens County will pick up the old fire engine this Friday.

Mike Klaus said there is an AIC webinar tomorrow morning for those who want to attend. The Shopko project is moving along better than it was two weeks ago. There is steel up and then the project will go up quickly. There is a pay request for unit 2 at the power plant to be approved tonight. There was arching on unit 2 so Riverside took the rings off and they will be up

Thursday to install the parts. The Augusta Street Project bids are due on Monday, and he is hopeful that the bids will be reasonable.

Mike said for the area near Vic White's place it is difficult to determine where the right of way is. He said there are a lot of cut banks in the City that have been there for a long time. Mike said we may install subsurface drainage, daylighting it, sloping it, and try to grass seed it. The City may not be able to do this until fall after the Augusta Street project is complete.

Mike showed the group a picture of the cracking concrete at the City pool. He is not sure what to do, but the life of the pool is coming to an end. He is hopeful that the community can come together and replace the pool. There is nothing to anchor rebar to for repairing our current pool. Mike believes the pool is safe for this season, and once there is water in the pool it is better. The winter time is when problems come up.

Mayor Sims said interviews are scheduled for the EDC person tomorrow and Thursday. The grant funding came through for the EDC for next year at the maximum amount of \$32,000.

There is an urban renewal meeting next week to go over the master owner participation agreement (MOPA) for Shopko.

Rick Alonzo moved to add late agenda items for approving the transfer of beverage license from Alberto's to Love Light Creamery and Grille and for executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 (1) b). 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. Adam Arthur 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 May 3, 2016 council meeting minutes and May 10, 2016 special council meeting minutes.

Mayor Sims gave the history of the visitor center. He said the visitor center was built with grant funding. We had a city paid person operating the center, and there was a visitor center committee. Mike Sloan, as Chamber President, took over the management of the visitor center and now the Chamber does not want to be involved. Colet Allen stepped in when Mike left and helped manage the volunteers, but she is leaving the area. He said the City will be taking over operations including scheduling of volunteers. Salinda Holderman is a very active volunteer, and Stacy Brown is willing to keep involved in the visitor center. Mayor Sims said the biggest challenge is how to keep it manned with volunteers. Another issue is supplies and how to pay for them. The donations for the visitor center will be coming back to the City since the Chamber is no longer involved. Mayor Sims said the information available for the public will need to be looked at. He said it will be expensive if we do not have NITA dollars to help support this. Mike Klaus said operating the visitor center will take some thinking to keep it going. We will have to become creative in finding staffing. Jerry Higgs said the Forest Service had maps available for the public. Mayor Sims said the Forest Service maps have been photo copied by the visitor center volunteers and the quality is getting bad. Mike Listman said the Chamber

wants to be involved with the visitor center and at some point would like to take over managing the visitor center as it should be.

Mayor Sims said the EDC was formed with a joint powers agreement with the City, County, and Tribe in 2001, and a lot of focus has been on infrastructure. He said the State requires match. He said the EDC person answers to the BEDC Board and works on projects that have impact on the community. He gave the example of the Downtown Main Street project that Robin Ponsness was involved in. There was also the parking lot on the dike and the Augusta Project. He said over time the State expects the locals to support the EDC position. He said there may be some overlap between the EDC and the Chamber, but fundamentally they are different. Connie Wells said the City does not have funding to support the Chamber through a sponsorship. Ron Smith said the City should have some kind of a connection with the Chamber. The City is a member of the Chamber through the EDC. Dave Gray asked what amount the City is being asked to pay. Mike Listman said dues for the Chamber are based on the number of employees, but if a person was a member last year the cost this year is the same, as it was grandfathered. Rick Alonzo said most of the sponsorships seem like a conflict for the City, as they are more for benefiting business. It seems to Rick that we cannot benefit from a Chamber sponsorship and gave the example of a \$10,000 sponsorship and what that sponsor would receive such as advertising credits. Mayor Sims said the EDC memberships may increase in the future. Mike Listman agreed that the Chamber does not directly benefit the City. He said the Chamber is hoping to build a vibrant community. Mayor Sims said it is to everyone's benefit to have a functioning Chamber. Connie said the visitor center benefits the entire county not just the city residents. Rick said we don't know what we will be facing in next year's budget, and this year's budget has been set. We will discuss this during the budget sessions.

Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with Kathy Zech for lifeguard certification class. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to hire lifeguards on the list for the 2016 season provided that they pass a background check and lifeguard certification class. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.  
(Clerk's note: the list included Tucker Cavender, Stephanie Koehn, Kaylee Kramer, Michaela Worley, Nick Sabin, Sophia Claphan, Jadin Tucker, Bailey Jenkins, Samantha Branson, and Abby Davis).

Vic Watson recommended hiring Raul Lopez for the police officer opening. Ron Smith asked where the new officer will be living, as there is a requirement of living within 15 miles of the City. Vic said Raul is looking for a home in Bonners Ferry. Rick Alonzo moved to hire Raul Lopez for the police officer position. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus said Jim Fritzsche and he recommend promoting John Delaney as water/sewer superintendent. Rick Alonzo asked if this is a temporary position. Mike said there will be a letter sent to Mr. Delaney setting out specifics. Mike said there is a policy in place that says there is a 30 percent increase for supervisors of water/sewer and street departments. He has used the base wage for calculation. Connie asked about the former raise garnered for being foreman.

Rick explained that we are dropping back to the base rate and the 30 percent is on top of that. Mayor Sims explained that the base rate plus the 30 percent plus certification increases would be the amount paid. Mike Klaus said the policy is not very clear so we need to clean this up. Rick asked if Mike has spoken to John. Mike has done this. Adam Arthur moved to hire John Delaney as water/sewer superintendent with wage rate to be determined. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adam Arthur moved to approve the special event permit for Jim Cadnum for the Kootenai River Run on June 25, 2016. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus said we no longer use the spray tank and John Younwirth suggested transferring it to Boundary County. We will be able to use it if the need arises. Ron Smith moved to transfer the City’s excess spray tank to Boundary County. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Sims attended a meeting today for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). We had thought it would be a good grant to apply for a walking path on Riverside Street from Main Street to the County’s project. He learned today that our project does not meet the criteria for the TAP grant as our needs are for recreation. TAP grants need to go for projects connecting a school area to a residential area or from a residential area to a commercial area.

Mike Klaus recommended paying Riverside Inc. pay request #2 for \$50,465. Ron Smith moved to approve pay request #2 for Riverside Inc. for unit 2 repair. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The Cassia Water Tank pay request #5 was discussed. The project is ahead of schedule. Mike thinks the tank will be filled and leak tests performed in the next week or so. Adam Arthur moved to approve pay request #5 in the amount of \$188,100 for S& L Underground and \$14,241 to Panhandle Area Council and authorize the Mayor to sign paperwork. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration and list of volunteers and authorize the Mayor to sign the Certified Statement of Intended Use. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the transfer of the beverage license from Alberto’s to love Light Creamery and Grille pending receipt of the State paperwork. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The Motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (b) to consider 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. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Executive session ended at 8:34 p.m. No action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

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David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk