Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of May 20, 2014 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 Pfluid, Police Chief Robert Boone, and Fire Chief Pat Warkentin. Also present were Jerry Higgs, Dave Gray, Patti Branson, Wendy Hawks, Tamera Hiatt, Ruth Sutton, Dale Simpson, Doug Ladely, Sr., and Ralph and Julie Lotspeich.

Patti Branson from the Chamber of Commerce spoke to council. She said the raft race, the street dance, and a wheelchair race will not be covered by the Parks and Rec insurance through Boundary County. She has applied for an insurance quote from Pace-Kerby. Patti said the wheelchair race will be on Saturday and there will be a run for the Fallen on Sunday morning. Patti said the Chamber would like to speak to the police department about open containers for the Chamber events downtown. They also are looking at a band or disc jockey until midnight and were concerned about noise that late. Wendy said there is a family fun night on Friday evening until about 8:00 p.m. and then there will be a family movie. There will also possibly be a red carpet event for the Flory movie at the Museum on Friday night and again on Saturday. Saturday is a bike and hike event, raft race, barbecue at the Eagles, wheelchair race, breakfast at the airport, mush ball tournament, lawnmower races, and street dance. Sunday will be the run for the fallen and a worship service by Mountain Springs Church at the fairgrounds. Patti said the Chamber is hopeful that they can get their own insurance. Mayor Anderson said we have sponsored similar events in the past. Patti said the next Chamber meeting for Kootenai River Days is on June 3 and asked that the police chief attend.

Dick Staples joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Police Chief Bob Boone gave the police report. One malicious injury, two driving without privileges, two reportable crashes, an unattended death, probation violation, reckless driving, one public intoxication arrest, mutual battery, petit theft/criminal trespass arrest, a warrant arrest, and a bomb threat at Boundary County Middle School. A twelve year old sixth grade student has been arrested for the bomb threat.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the fire department has had three calls so far this month and had been averaging five to six calls per month. One of the calls was for a CO2 alarm. Another call was for the bomb threat and there was a natural gas leak in the supply line for the kitchen at the hospital. Many firefighters attended the North Idaho Emergency Services Academy in Coeur d’Alene. There was a train derailment just past the city limits on Cow Creek Road. The train cars were carrying grain so Paradise Valley Fire did not summon the City Fire Department. Pat thinks we dodged a bullet with the train derailment. There was another train accident back east with oil cars causing much damage. Pat is concerned about such an incident and said we will not have the resources and manpower for such an accident. Pat said we are purchasing three breathing apparatus’ for $3,000 under the grant money he just garnered. The new pickup for the fire chief was also purchased and outfitted with the grant money.
Stephen said the Moyie Substation sales documents should be ready by July with the effect date of August 1. The bid design for the substation is nearly complete so we expect to bid that project late in the summer. The Hazel Street waterline and sewer line project is complete. There was quite a bit of water due to leaking lines so the street is still torn up. Ron Smith asked if there are plans to repair the city streets such as patching pot holes. Ron said there was a cone near the Baptist Church that needs to get taken care of. Stephen said there was a water leak that needs attention before the street is repaired.

Connie Wells moved to add late agenda item for discussion of the steel tank floor foam coating. 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; approval of account payable and payroll; approval of treasurer’s report; and approval of May 6, 2014 council meeting minutes.

Andrakay said using public property for the sale of art is not a good idea. She is concerned about commercial sales on our property. Mayor Anderson commented that we allow the Farmers Market. Andrakay said the Farmers Market is non-profit. Tom Mayo said he would not mind if there were a local group of artists having an event such as an art fair. Connie Wells moved to not allow city property for private art sales. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mayor Anderson said he and Tom Mayo met with the golf contractor and the golf committee to discuss the golf contract. He forwarded those changes discussed at the meeting to the city attorney for incorporation into the contract. Ralph Lotspeich said there are a couple small things he wanted to discuss. On page 7 under the driving range, he questioned why he has to report the moneys to the city if he is keeping all receipts. He also questioned why the city would want monthly accounting reports. He does not see a problem with annual accounting reports. Ralph questioned the term of rent verses lease for the clubhouse. He also said on page 12 under #6 on Appendix A – we mow on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and wanted those days rather than the days listed in the Appendix. Ralph has a problem with him having to report his business profit/loss and does not think it should be public information. He does not have problem with reporting of green fees, season passes, etc. Ralph said if he should leave, he would be glad to share that information with a prospective golf manager. Rick Alonzo said it is no one else’s business. Mayor Anderson said there is a reason for this and that is to have a record of what the concessionaire does. Mayor Anderson asked about a gross sales figure being reported. He asked council to weigh in on the profit/loss, driving range, and cart rentals. Ron Smith agrees with Rick Alonzo that it is not our business and we should not get involved. Rick thinks the gross spoken of by the Mayor may make it worse for Ralph because someone may think it is too high so the net profit/loss may be better. Andrakay said in her research of golf contracts for municipal courses, it is common for profit/loss reports to be part of the contract. She said there is not a requirement but she thinks it is a good idea. Connie said she does not think monthly reports are
necessary but thinks an annual profit/loss would be good. Tom agreed that less reporting than what is listed in the contract would be fine but at least annually. Ron thinks it is none of our business what the contractor makes. Connie said this is not going to affect what we pay the contractor. Mayor Anderson thinks we can look at the management of the course separately and his opinion is that we do not need to know his business. Mayor Anderson wants council to weigh in on the advertising clause in the contract. A web page is of importance. Julie said she does not think the golf course needs a separate web page and does not understand the need for it. She said they have Facebook and thinks a web page would be just another expense for them to have. Tom asked about tee times being scheduled through web sites. Ralph said third party tee time sites are a nightmare. Ralph said when a person googles Mirror Lake Golf Course the city web site comes up. Golf fees were not correct on the web site. Mayor Anderson said we would like to discuss the contract in executive session at the end of the meeting. Ralph would like to see verbiage about an increase in compensation also. Ron thinks if the city employees get an increase that the contractor should get an increase.

Ralph and Julie Lotspeich, Dick Staples, Patti Branson, Wendy Hawks, and Tamera Hiatt left the meeting.

Connie Wells moved to have the third reading by title only of the ordinance amending business license City Code Title 3, Chapter 1. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the ordinance by title only.

Rick Alonzo moved to adopt Business License Amendment Ordinance 541. Ron Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

Tom Mayo moved to hire Bob Tritt for summer parks worker. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen Boorman said the list of returning lifeguards are in front of council and we will interview two new candidates. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the hire of lifeguards listed on City Administrator’s memo. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. (Clerk’s note: lifeguards returning are Samantha Kelly, Samantha Schmitz, McKenzie Moore, Tessa Payne, Emma Kelly, Olivia Langs, and Brenna Maas).

Chief Boone recommended hiring of Vic Watson pending a background investigation. He thinks he would be a good fit for the city. Chief wants to look at his personnel file and talk to some of the employees he worked with. There were six candidates. Mr. Watson interviewed previously for another position but had some family issues at that time. Chief Boone said he does not have reservations in promoting Officer Heiko Arshat if the other candidate does not work out. Council wanted to take this issue to executive session.

Pat Warkentin spoke regarding John Becker, John Savage, and Bill McCabe being added to the volunteer fire department roster. Pat went over the individuals qualifications. He wants to put them on a six month probationary status. Pat said several volunteers will be leaving the
department due to age in the next few years. Pat is not ready to put the new volunteers on payroll but wanted to get them approved so he can use them if necessary. Ron Smith moved to authorize the volunteers for the fire department. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said there was an easement error in the past on a storm sewer near Les Schwab Tire. Tom Mayo moved to allow the Mayor to sign the Release of Easement with the Wages Trust – Mary Jim Wages, Trustee. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen explained that the city has quite a bit of timbered property and it is time to have our forest plan reviewed that was done in 2001. Stephen said the one plan would quality the city to be in the Idaho Tree Farm Program. Connie Wells moved to approve the Inland Forest Management Plan Option 2 and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Poulton Development. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The cash reserve policy was discussed. Mayor Anderson said the policy sets lofty goals and justifies what the city does. Ron asked if the cash reserve policy will play a part in rate setting. Mayor Anderson said that it will be a factor. Stephen said the rates would be looked at in regard to the time it would take to reach the goals of the reserves. Mayor Anderson said Idaho Forest Group questioned the rate study when we set the rate for them and we had a large cash balance in the electric fund. He said from a legal aspect we need to have a policy and that was on the advice of our attorney. The group continued to discuss the reserve policy amounts. Council will table the issue until a later date.

Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with EES Consulting for the cost of service study. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said a foam coating on the floor of the steel tank will give a smooth continuous surface. Mike Klaus is working on getting approval from DEQ of the product. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the expenditure for the foam coating for the floor of the steel tank pending approval of DEQ. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 8:20 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a) (b) (e) (f). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. At 9:18 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.
Connie Wells moved to authorize the Police Chief to hire a lieutenant after further investigation. Ron Smith asked to add drug test, physical, and background check to the motion. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to take the verbiage out of the golf contract regarding profit/loss. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Tom Mayo said he is baffled with the issue of the web page as we don’t really have a plan but more advertising is necessary. Tom said Christine is looking into our website designer to get costs. Mayor Anderson said the contractor has to write up a plan for promotion of the golf course and submit it to the city administrator and the golf committee. The Mayor said the date for the submission of the promotion plan should be April 1 and reviewed at the end of the year. For this year the plan should be submitted by June 1.

Tom Mayo moved to have the golf contract read yearly profit/loss statements. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “no”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the proposed golf contract with the changes discussed. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “no”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk