Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of July 21, 2015 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, Acting City Administrator Mike Klaus, Attorney Will Herrington, Economic Development Coordinator David Sims, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Police Chief Vic Watson, Water/Sewer Superintendent Adrian Dice, and Officer Chris Langan. Also present were Necia Maiani from Welch Comer, Steve Nelson, Whitney Jones, Marcia Cossette, Ken Blockhan, Jerry Higgs, Ruth Sutton, Amy Bridges, and Brion Poston. Councilman Rick Alonzo was gone on personal business.

Ken Blockhan spoke to council regarding Denver Street and Highway 95 access. He encouraged council to close Denver Street access, making it a commercial drive, and change the right of way to a utility easement. He said this would give the adjacent parcels adjoining the street more room to build on. Ken said this would alleviate future traffic issues if Denver were left a through street to Highway 95. Ken said Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Planner thought it would be best to have Denver Street as a driveway access rather than a street access. He thinks this will reduce conflicts with traffic in the future. Ken suggested the City look at access easements on El Paso and Lincoln.

Whitney Jones from the American Cancer Society spoke regarding the special event permit application for the Amazing Race against Cancer. It is a race with various teams and challenges. They are looking at getting businesses involved to sponsor the event and cancer survivors will be honored.

Jerry Higgs spoke to council about a densely forested piece of property (approximately 18 acres) above Marx Subdivision that was recently purchased by Isaac and Sons. He said the new buyer has the intent to harvest the timber and then sell it. Jerry said there is another piece of property that is over 12 acres that Mr. Isaac has the intent of purchasing as well. Jerry said the drainage collection is an alluvial fan. He said in 2006 the Fire Safe Program brushed out areas adjacent to city properties. The problem with the Fire Safe Program was that no hydrologist was involved according to Jerry. Jerry had much drainage work done after the Fire Safe Program that worked until 2013. He said logging was done after 2013 and then his drainage did not work because the surface run off increased by 300 percent and it had already increased 300 percent after the Fire Safe Program. The road bed of Wildhorse Lane collapsed according to Jerry after a rain event last year. Jerry told council they need to get on board with Isaac and see what their schedule is for logging as Jerry thinks they will be ready to log this fall. He explained the flow of water on Wildhorse Lane. He said there are culverts with grates on them for safety consideration. They are a problem when there is a major water event. Jerry explained the drainage system in Marx Subdivision and said Jim Marx and Mike Woodward did a good job of designing the drainage system for the subdivision. Jerry suggested a subterranean drain with a clean out capability. He said this would not have a problem handling the flows that are anticipated. Jerry said there are substantial water flows every other year. Jerry spoke of the stem wall at the Thompson residence and also the stem wall behind Basler’s residence. He said these homes will get flooded from the anticipated volume of the water coming from the drainages. Jerry predicts Deer Run will be a ditch when this event happens. He suggested that the City contact Mr. Isaac and find out his
plans. Jerry thinks 50 to 70 percent of timber will be removed. Jerry anticipates the repair to cost over $100,000.

Ron Smith said all the property Jerry is speaking to is in the Area of Impact. He said this issue would have to go through Boundary County’s Planning and Zoning. Jerry suggests all parcels and terrain with timber in the City’s area of impact be identified. He said there is nothing in the Department of Lands regulations that prevents a landowner from developing or using his property. He wants an ordinance that requires these property owners to come before planning and zoning and adjoining property owners of these timber parcels be notified. Mike Klaus said it is typical in the timber industry to create a buffer zone to protect adjoining properties. He said he would speak with Isaacs about this. Jerry does not want his neighbors to go through what he has since 2006 and does not want the City to incur a large expense due to this project. Mike Klaus said much of the ground will not be logged by skidder as it would have to be done with a high lead due to the steepness of the property so this may not cause such a path for runoff. Mike suggested that the comp plan contain language in the natural resources section that states best practices will be used in forestry management. Ken Blockhan said he has worked on many projects like this. He said the City and County both need to have a plan that designates native growth protection. He said there are erosion plans and there is normally a setback depending on the soil and slope. Ken said the City should look at the trees adjoining city property so there is not a future problem as everything follows contours. He said there are ten year events and one hundred year events. Ken said the City and County need to define the hazard areas.

Necia Maiani from Welch Comer spoke to council regarding the status of the new water tank. Plans are ready to be submitted to DEQ this week. She has a couple items to discuss with Adrian. Necia spoke with Nancy Mabile and they can move forward with advertisement for the project expecting it to be August 6, 2015 with environmental clearance the end of August. She is looking for the notice to proceed about mid-September. The old tank will be taken off line and remain off line until about May 1, 2016. She said with the window that we are looking at we should get competitive bids. Ron Smith asked what the total dollar figure is for the project. Necia said the total estimate is $950,000. The grant was for $350,000 but it includes the expenditure for grant administration. The City will possibly have to borrow $630,000. Mayor Anderson spoke about bidding. Necia said a pre-bid walk through will be mandatory as the site is difficult and the roadway will need improvements. She thinks there will be many contractors interested in the project.

Necia spoke to the group about the Augusta Street Project. She said HMH will be the engineer for the project and they will do the topographic survey that Welch Comer needs for the water and sewer line project design. She said there will be about 2,000 feet of steel waterline to be replaced and about 1,000 feet of sewer main to be replaced also. As part of the design they will coordinate with HMH on the sidewalk and drainage project. Welch Comer will do record drawings and will have a person on site to oversee the project. The waterline and sewer main replacements would be done prior to the sidewalk project. Necia said there will be about a month of work before the sidewalk and drainage project. Mike Klaus said we would like to get the water and sewer lines replaced by June 1 with the sidewalk portion of the project to follow.
The preliminary estimate for the line replacements is about $270,000 according to Necia. Mike Klaus said replacing the steel mains is important and this project will take care of about 3600 feet of steel mains that are decaying and need replaced.

Brion Poston spoke regarding projects at the golf course. He said the roof of the clubhouse needs to be replaced as it needs to be stabilized and is in dire need of help. He said there is not a firm estimate of costs yet but needs to be looked at. Ron Smith asked if a grant could be sought for this. Brion said there is a problem with matching funds. Ron said there will be timber that will be cut and the dollars from that could go for this. Brion asked if the City has someone to look into grants. Ron said Panhandle Area Council writes grants. David Sims said recreation grants may apply at the golf course and suggested the Idaho Water Conservation Fund be researched. Mike Klaus said he would be happy to sit down with Brion and look at what is needed and call the Idaho Water Conservation folks. He will put some costs together. David Sims said there is a representative in Coeur d’Alene. Brion asked Mike to come to August 11th golf committee meeting at the clubhouse. Brion said the roof was built in 1974, the windows are bad, and there is no insulation.

Brion said Ralph has spent 300-400 hours this year on the water system at the course and he needs some help. Brion said it is not Ralph’s job to be working on the waterlines as he should be maintaining the course. He spoke of the pumps and said the Waterways Board and they may have a couple docks to donate to the golf course. Brion said we may have to work with the Commissioners to obtain the used docks. He said the City was doing cart path work the past few years and he did not see anyone this year. Mayor Anderson said he was not sure of the plans of the Street Department. Brion said there is some work to be done around hole number two and three. Mayor Anderson will speak to John Youngwirth. Brion spoke of the brush that is to be disposed at the golf course and spoke of a fire pit. Steve Nelson said maybe when the logging is done the contractor can build the pit. The group discussed cedar prices. Mayor Anderson said there is also some earth work that needs to be done.

Mayor Anderson is looking forward to the revenues at the golf course this year since the weather has been so good. He said we should go all the way with the grant request including the water system. He said we cannot sell the golf course or abandon it unless we provide likewise recreation elsewhere. We are obligated to operate our golf course. Brion said there is a 50 percent match. Mayor Anderson said we can provide in-kind for part of the match. He said city equipment has to be operated by city employees.

Steve Nelson said there is a need for an ADA approved restroom on the golf course. He said Friends of Mirror Lake has designed a plan and has volunteer labor but asked for a partnership with the City. Steve thinks they can do it on their own but asked for the City’s blessing. Steve thinks the receipts from the tournament with what is in the account from last year will fund the bathroom project. Steve asked for direction. Mayor Anderson said the City would support the bathroom project. Steve said the City will have to apply for the permit for septic and building permit but they will pay for it. Mike Klaus said he will help with this. Steve said there is a Friends of Mirror Lake meeting next Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. at the golf course. Steve Nelson said some of the Friends supported projects are basalt column tee markers, new steps on hole #3 tee
box, provide sand and seed for divots in the fairways, and work on tee boxes and cart paths. Steve asked that the City waive the green fees for this year’s Friends of Mirror Lake tournament.

Brion Poston and Steve Nelson left the meeting.

Vic Watson said calls for the past two weeks included two traffic crashes, two driving without privileges, three domestic calls, one obstructing a police officer, three warrant arrests, one felony warrant arrest, one trespass, one unattended death, one minor consumption, two marijuana cases, one DUI, and six speeding tickets. The police department is becoming fully operational and Vic is very proud of the crew for the efforts they have made during the time the police department was shorthanded.

Pat Warkentin said there were 50 people at a training with the Spokane Bomb Squad with many emergency services attending. Fire calls in the past two weeks included two vehicle accidents involving power poles, a smoke investigation due to a lightning strike above Alderson Lane but there was no incident, and a natural gas odor investigation at the Mormon Church.

David Sims said there is a company interested in providing fiber to residences. He said it is a one gigabyte connection that provides great speed for a reasonable price. Tacos is a large company and Ting is a subsidiary of that company with a business model that can provide service to smaller areas. One of the consultants, Ernie Bray, would like to work with Bonners Ferry on this project. One advantage to Bonners Ferry is our power company as we can work at a more rapid pace than others. Fiber connectivity at the dam would be another advantage of this project. Remote shut off of power would also be a possibility if the fiber project is successful. David thinks we have a reasonable shot at them looking at Bonners Ferry.

David said HMH is working on a scope of work with ITD for council to review on August 4th on the Augusta project. Ron Smith asked if this will include the pedestrian crossing by Valley View. David said it will be looked at. He thinks a meeting will be held before school starts to discuss the crossing.

ITD will have the hearing for the Highway 95 Improvement Project on August 5, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Armory.

Mike Klaus, Acting City Administrator, said the substation project is well underway and on target with timing and budget. Mike said the water department has been fighting turbidity issues that are not uncommon for this time of year. Doug has been gone and he is the person that is optimal for the chemical feeds. There will be overtime for the water department for the past week. Mike looked at the surface of the spillway at the Moyie Dam. He said it is not a structural issue but there is an inspection in a month or so and FERC will be noting it. Mike thinks the face needs to be resurfaced and he anticipates this project being done in two different years. Mike spoke of backup generators needed at the City especially at the water plant. He said we need to be able to pump from the lower tanks to the upper tanks to keep the entire city fully operational and served with water. He will have a cost estimate for this at the next meeting. He would also like to see a generator behind city hall to operate the pumps to the Northside especially when we do the water tank project. He will get a number for the pump station generator for council. One
of the vehicle accidents near Lift Station #4 took out the electricity. Without power there was wastewater in the drywell area but there was no hazard because it was below ground. Mike said we need to phase in generators for the lift stations because it is not only a risk with our crews but also with EPA. Necia thinks the generator for the pumps to the Northside during the tank project would be a great idea so we are not only relying on storage. Mike said the City has been very busy the last two weeks since he has been here. He wishes we could do more but our crews have been taxed and cannot get to the golf course. Connie inquired about the portable generator. Mike said we do have one but we are more vulnerable between now and November due to the substation project because the way the electricity is routed. Ron Smith asked about the line move bid. Mike said it came in about $800,000 and we are looking to re-bid the project with different components bid separately. He wants folks to bid on underground work and then others to bid on overhead work. He is hoping to get more competitive bids. Mike said the line move should be finished about the same time as the Moyie Substation project. Mayor Anderson said the City of Moyie road project grant was not successful.

Connie Wells moved to add late agenda items authorizing advertisement for bid for a used chip spreader and to approve payment to Knight Construction for the Moyie Substation project. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “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”, 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 June 30, 2015 special council meeting minutes and July 7, 2015 council meeting minutes.

Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment #16 to the Owner-Engineer Agreement with Welch Comer for the Augusta Street water main and sewer main replacement project. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Connie Wells asked if the $270,000 estimate included this engineering cost. Necia said it does not.

Ron Smith moved to waive the green fees for the Friends of Mirror Lake for the golf tournament with all proceeds going to the Friends of Mirror Lake account for golf course improvements. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus is working on the re-bid for the Moyie line move project. He is trying to separate the line work and underground work in two different bids. Mike is looking for authorization to re-bid the project. Connie Wells moved to authorize re-bidding the Moyie line move project. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells asked if there will be any street closures needed for the American Cancer race event. Whitney Jones said no street closures are anticipated. Connie Wells moved to approve the special event permit for the American Cancer Society Fundraiser-Challenge/Race on August

Adrian Dice spoke to council regarding the WaterSolve polymer make-down unit. He explained that the geobag would have polymer in it to help with the algae problem. Adam asked if this will alleviate some of the current algaecide purchase costs. Adrian said we are hopeful that this will. He said a pump with polymer will be injected into the geobag to help with the process. Adrian said he sent samples to Water/Solve and they put together a proposal for us. He has worked with the company to rent to own the equipment for the rest of the summer and if it works the rent will apply toward the purchase price. The rental price is $960 per month. Will Herrington said council should make the motion to approve the monthly rental price. Ron Smith moved to approve the rent to own lease agreement with WaterSolve for $960 per month pending legal review. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. Connie asked for clarification of the costs and what the new system would save. Adrian explained that algaecide is put in, determined by what the algae level is, and this would lessen the algae. Mike Klaus explained that the bags would dewater quicker. David Sims said we used to dredge only in the spring and fall skipping the summer months due to the algae season. Adrian said the summer and fall was not getting this done. Adrian said some of the ponds are only two feet deep and they are designed to be four to six feet deep. Mike said we need to get the sludge dredged out to make the ponds operate more efficiently. He said the coagulant helps keep what you take out of the ponds from getting right back in. Adrian said we need to speak about a headwork’s room to keep other solids out. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The Highway 95/Denver Street access was discussed. Mike Klaus said he has a conflict of interest and he should not speak to the decision. Mayor Anderson asked what Mike saw from a resident’s point of view. Mike said often there are conflicts from someone making a right hand turn from the north and someone trying to make a north turn from the south. David said there were people who wanted to keep this access open. He said the accesses for the Church and Far North need to be considered and looked at but he is not sure what ITD is planning. Adam spoke about these accesses and Denver Street. Mayor Anderson said ITD said they are limiting access. Ken Blockhan said the planner making the design layout is looking at the commercial access similar to a mall or shopping center with an ingress and egress. He said the City needs to look at roadway improvements along El Paso and Lincoln. He spoke of spacing and traffic. Connie Wells said she has spoken to some of the residents in the Denver Street area and they want the access left open. She said it would make more sense to keep the street access open and have the businesses access off Denver Street. Adam agreed. David said he thinks ITD is just looking at reducing the number of accesses off the highway. There was a subdivision looking at the area above Denver Street and Denver Street would be the primary access to the highway. Connie would rather see the street left open. Ken said there could be traffic problems and backups from traffic trying to get on and off Denver Street into the business lots. Mayor Anderson said the earlier we make our voice known the better for design. Mike said the City alleyways are important. Mayor Anderson said there are some properties that use the alleys for access and one resident has the alley as their only access. He suggested that ITD leave all alleys open if possible. Ron Smith moved to leave all the alleys open in the highway project area. Adam
Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to leave the Denver Street access open. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Mayor Anderson said a letter will be sent to ITD.

Connie Wells moved to approve the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint Eric Anderson to the Urban Renewal Agency Board. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Vic Watson spoke to council regarding the purchase of a used police vehicle and requested $10,000 for the purchase. He said the estimated cost of the vehicle is $9,500 but he would like to keep $500 for logos. Vic is looking at a pickup with all the police equipment installed that was previously owned by the Idaho State Police. Ron Smith asked if this needed to go through a bid process. Vic said it does not as it is considered to be a transfer from one State entity to another. Connie Wells asked if this vehicle is good due to it having over 100,000 miles on it. Vic said it probably would not be for a personal vehicle but it will be replacing a vehicle with over 200,000 miles on it. He said it is a heavy built vehicle and Vic thinks we can get another 100,000 miles on it. Adam is not concerned about the number of miles on it, as vehicles get very high miles now, but he expressed concern about fuel mileage since it is a ¾ ton rather than a half ton. Commercial vehicle safety officers are hauled from border to border so this pickup was not a heavily used police vehicle. He would not consider purchasing a police car with 100,000 miles on it but this pickup is heavy duty. Vic said it is a club cab and prisoners will have to be seated in the front. Vic said it will be put in service but it may be used for administrative duties rather than law enforcement. Ron Smith asked if there is liability for running vehicles with 200,000 miles on them. Vic said the limit is 110,000 for the Idaho State Police but law enforcement agencies run their vehicles as long as they can due to financing issues. Ron is concerned about liability to the City for the high mileage vehicles. Vic said the pickup will replace the blue Tahoe. Vic said he would like to pursue more used vehicles in next fiscal year as he can get three used for the price of a new one. Ron Smith moved to authorize the purchase of the used 2010 pickup from Idaho State Police. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. Adam said we could make money on this if we turned around and sold it. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve Fee Resolution 2015-07-01. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The budget workshop date was discussed. The workshop will be August 4, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Ruth Sutton, Amy Bridges, David Sims, and Ken Blockhan left the meeting.

Mike Klaus spoke regarding a used chip spreader for the street department. He told council of the safety hazard of the gate opening on the current chip spreader. A new chip spreader costs $250,000 for a four wheel drive unit. Mike said John has been researching a used chip spreader across the country. He is looking at $50,000 to $70,000 for a used machine. Mike asked for
approval to go out to bid for a used chip spreader. Ron Smith moved to go out to bid for a used chip spreader. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike recommended council approve the first payment to Knight Construction and Supply, Inc. for the Moyie Substation project. Connie questioned the sales tax on the invoice. Connie Wells moved to approve the payment to Knight Construction after reviewing the payment of sales tax. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. Mike said this invoice is subject to the bid amount. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 9:24 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (b) 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. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Executive session ended at 10:05 p.m. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk