Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of August 2, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Chief Vic Watson, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed. Also present were Jerry Higgs, Jessica Tingley, Ingrid Spears, and Paul Anthony. Councilwoman Connie Wells was gone on personal business.

Ingrid Spears asked for an update on the trees she spoke about at the last meeting. Mike Klaus said he is unsure if the tree is on City property or private property and typically we do not remove trees. He said it will be expensive to have it removed. Ron asked if it poses any problem. Mike said it is in a spot where if it did come down it could cause damage. He said we usually do not remove trees. Ingrid said when there was a bad wind it bent over her home. She agreed that it would be expensive to have it removed, as she checked on the prices and it was about $800. Mike said it would have been better to remove the tree before the home was built. Ingrid said she was told the City owned the trees east of her property. Ingrid is concerned about the tree falling on her home. Mayor Sims said he has not seen the tree, but he read about it in the minutes from the last meeting. Ingrid said there is a traffic issue near the Pearl Theater. Mayor Sims said the traffic safety committee will look at this. Mike said the water meter has been cut down so the lid is not protruding above the sidewalk. Mayor Sims said we will take another look to see whose property the tree is on.

Jerry Higgs spoke about logging above the Marx Subdivision behind the Fireman residence. He said a substantial amount of timber has been removed. He would like there to be a procedure in place for Department of Lands to notify the City when there is logging done in the area of impact. Mayor Sims said the drainage is a big issue in that area.

Police Chief Vic Watson said since the last meeting there have been two vehicle accidents, one marijuana paraphernalia arrest, one driving without privileges, one malicious injury to property one aggravated battery, two burglaries, two warrant arrests, one battery on a police officer, one petit theft, and 12 speeding citations issued.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said there have been no fire calls since the last meeting. He said there will be a fire fighting one class and EMT class given in house. Reed Bennett will put on the training. Pat said there is discussion of having all firemen in the County be EMR certified. Pat said this training is quite a commitment on the part of the fire fighters. He said the younger firemen are the future of the fire department.

City Administrator Mike Klaus said the Augusta Street Project is being worked on. There were two water lines that had to be moved quickly and the water crew did a great job. Manholes and catch basins are proving difficult to find. He anticipates the contractor to have from Lincoln Street north done before school starts, but the south portion of the project may not be done.

Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed said he sent a list of projects to Boise State (BSU) to consider in their intern program. They are trying to keep the projects to one semester projects. BSU will be here to meet with Dennis on August 12, 2016. Dennis is also working.
with a committee to work with downtown businesses. He is also working on a biking/walking committee. The walking/bike path project on Riverside is scheduled for 2019.

Mayor Sims said Urban Renewal has not had any meetings but will have a budget hearing later this month.

Adam Arthur moved to approve the consent agenda. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of July 19, 2016 council meeting minutes, July 22, 2016 special council meeting minutes, and July 26, 2016 special council meeting minutes.

Ron Smith moved to have the second reading of the cablevision ordinance by title only. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. City Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the title of the ordinance.

Mike Klaus said the final payment for Riverside, Inc. for Unit 2 repair at the Moyie Hydro is recommended to be paid in the amount of $22,429. Rick Alonzo moved to approve pay request in the amount of $22,429 to Riverside, Inc. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ron Smith asked what projects are still open. Mike said the Cassia Tank is nearly complete but there is backfilling that needs to be done. There is still dampness to the touch in a couple spots so Welch Comer does not want the backfilling to be done at this time. He thinks the backfilling will be done by the end of September. Mike said we may be applying for a grant for the sewer bridge, there is work to be done on the concrete spillway of the dam, and there is material to be dredged behind the dam.

The pay application for KG&T Septic was reviewed. Mike said the pay application amount of $121,358.51. Adam Arthur moved to approve the pay request for KG&T Septic for $121,358.51. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. ( Clerk’s note: there was a correction in the pay request and the amount changed to $121,168.51).

Mike recommends payment in the amount of $1,650.03 to HMH, LLC for the Augusta Street Project as HMH are the engineers of record for the project. Rick Alonzo moved to approve payment to HMH, LLC in the amount of $1650.03. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike said we received a request for utility services from Eduardo and Janet dosRamos whose property is outside the City limits. He said we have sent a letter notifying them that annexation will be required per City policy before utilities will be allowed.

City Attorney Andrakay Pluid said the City pays for a legal research subscription. She cut out the hard copy of the books to save money for the City. She said the online subscription is reduced from $245 to $178 per month, a savings of about $1,800 per year. Mayor Sims thanked Andrakay for finding the savings. Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the
Westlaw contract. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Police Chief Vic Watson spoke regarding the police policy manual change for corporal qualifications. He wants to reduce the requirement for an intermediate certificate to a basic certificate. He said only the certificate requirement will be reduced but nothing else. Vic said there is no pay increase that automatically goes with this, and he is not asking for any increase. Rick said it is a long process to get the intermediate certificate unless you have college classes. He said he has no problem bringing someone up to the corporal status. Vic said they don’t necessarily have supervisory status. Ron Smith thinks it should be a goal to get more pay if they reach corporal status. Vic said it is the honor of achieving the corporal status rather than the pay increase. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the police policy change to lower the standard of intermediate certificate to basic for corporal status. Ron Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Sims said the Idaho Legislature passed approval allowing 129,000 pound trucks on certain routes the State needs to approve. Highway 95 in Bonner, Boundary, and Kootenai Counties is being looked at by Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for evaluation of the 129,000 pound trucks. He said it is within the jurisdictions to look at their roads where 129,000 trucks will travel and see if they are capable of handling that. Rick asked about the length of these trucks. Mayor Sims said they will be heavier but the amount per axle is supposed to be less than the 80,000 pound trucks. They will be longer and the tracking will be five and a half feet. We can only deny access if there is a specific safety issue and the road is within one mile of the national network. The national network includes Highway 95 from I-90 to Three Mile and Highway 2 to the Montana border. ITD is providing a one stop shop of permitting for local jurisdictions. We would provide ITD with a map of roads within our jurisdiction for 129,000 trucks. LHTAC thinks ITD will do the permitting for the entire county. Adam commented that Riverside has the train crossing and Cow Creek has the bad corner. Rick Alonzo agreed and gave the example of trucks turning onto Riverside Street. The tracking is the biggest problem.

Ron Smith said he asked that special event permits be discussed tonight. He wants to be prepared if someone comes to the City requesting a permit. Ron said a change recommended would be that the Police Chief, Fire Chief, and City Administrator review the permit applications and approve. He said if there is a denial of the permit the applicant has the opportunity to appeal to City Council. Council likes the idea of staff approving the special event permits. Police Chief Watson said sometimes we have had late applications so special council meetings have to be held. Rick said the special event applicants are to be penalized if there is less than 30 day notice for the application. Andrackay said the City has not been penalizing for late event applications. Mayor Sims said the special events could be put on the agenda as information. This topic will be put on the next agenda for action.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.
Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk