Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of September 15, 2015 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 Adam Arthur, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Clerk Kris Larson, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Lieutenant Christian Frye, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Economic Development Coordinator David Sims, Electric Line Foreman Brian Kerins, Water/Sewer Department Superintendent Adrian Dice, and Fire Department Chaplain Len Pine. Also present were Marcia Cossette, Jennifer Graham, and Jessica Tingley.

Len Pine spoke to council regarding the 2015 National Fallen Firefighters Observance to be held on October 4, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. Len said they require some traffic control by the police department as there is a parade from Super 1 to downtown ending up at the fire hall. He said there is a national program called Bells Across America and Bonners Ferry is a registered participant. Len asked Mayor Anderson to read the Mayoral Proclamation. There will be a list of fallen firefighters read to the group attending. Council thanked Len for his efforts.

Lieutenant Christian Frye gave the police report. There have been 19 calls for service in the past two weeks including one felony warrant arrest, two arrests for felony possession of a controlled substance, a felony probation violation arrest, a trespass call, vandalism call, two domestic disturbances, a no contact order violation, two petit thefts, driving without privileges, one reckless driving charge, charge of injury to a child, excessive DUI arrest, two agency assists for domestic abuse charges, and six speeding citations.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. There was a vehicle accident near Fry Street on Highway 95 and the fire department controlled traffic. There was a natural gas leak reported behind the Rusty Moose that the fire department responded to. A smoke investigation near Pine Island Road was reported and it turned out to be field burning. Pat encouraged Department of Lands to notify the Sheriff's Dispatcher when a burn is scheduled.

City Administrator Mike Klaus reported that the sewer department has been busy with lift station issues and the dirt pile near the water shop has been removed. The electric department is waiting for the steel structure to come in for the Moyie Substation project. The Moyie Line Move bid came in and that is agendized later this evening. Mike said we need to have a special council meeting regarding the Cassia Water Tank bid as we will know by Friday if the grant has been approved.

David Sims said he has put in a request to Ting to see if Bonners Ferry will be included in the fiber project. Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) has decided to keep both Denver Street Highway 95 approaches open. He said ITD is looking at keeping the alleys open and they are trying to figure out another pedestrian crossing. David spoke of rebuilding Riverside Street. He said the County’s projects for replacing the Myrtle Creek Bridge and rebuilding Riverside Street were prioritized by the Commissioners and Riverside Street was the highest priority. The time table for this rebuild is 2018 according to David. David said the Drainage District has agreed to lower the dike. There is an Augusta Street meeting next Monday with the Valley View Principal and the School Superintendent, Mike Klaus, John Youngwirth, and David Sims.
Connie moved to add a late agenda item for approving a transfer of beverage license for Pizza Factory. Rick Alonzo 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; and approval of September 1, 2015 council meeting minutes.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the catering permit for Kootenai River Inn for the NRA banquet at the fairgrounds on September 19, 2015. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adam Arthur moved to approve the catering permit for Mugsy’s Tavern and Grill for a fundraiser at the fairgrounds on September 19, 2015. 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 special event permit for the Bull Bash at the fairgrounds on September 19, 2015. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to designate the City Administrator to be the ADA Coordinator and Fair Housing Coordinator for the City of Bonners Ferry. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to adopt Grievance Procedure for the City of Bonners Ferry. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to adopt the Policy Regarding Non-discrimination on the Basis of Disability. Adam seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Expert Retention Agreement with Cable Huston and EES Consulting. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

We received two bids for the Moyie Line Move Project rebid. Mike Klaus recommended approving the bid and awarding the contract to Probst Electric. Adam Arthur moved to approve the bid for the Moyie Line Move rebid to Probst Electric for $549,435. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve a two percent cost of living increase effective the first pay period in October. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

09/15/15 Council Meeting
Mike Klaus said the equipment needed for tracking temperature, monitoring and downloading data is problematic with what we have now. The new approach would be to use a PLC and a temperature sensor that is more reliable and easier to download data. Adrian said we have been using a Hobo data logger for several years with a battery as a primary source and it does not work well. It is difficult to get the data off the Hobo data logger. He said it crashes and the PLC equipment will be much better. The PLC can be tied into the SCADA system and they would like to start doing temperature recordings in multiple locations in the Kootenai River. He said we want to prove that the amount we are discharging in the river is not affecting the temperature of the river. Program logic controller (PLC) is much more useful than what we have according to Mike. Connie Wells moved to purchase the PLC data logger. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus said in one of the past personnel policy revisions the probationary period was omitted. Andrakay said a probationary period is fine but she has not looked at one. Ron Smith asked if the employees are given the revisions. Mike said we give the new policy to all employees. Ron asked if ICRMP is given a copy also. Andrakay said ICRMP does not want a copy. Mike and Andrakay will work on the probationary period policy and bring it back to council at a later date.

Adrian Dice spoke to council regarding certifications for the water/sewer department. He explained the handouts that were in the council packet. He said if council approves the license certifications listed on the worksheet that he does not think the crews will take all eligible testing for the certifications. He asked for $.25 for the pool certification rather than $.50 as the pool is only open a few months of the year. Adrian said responsible charge time can be used in lieu of college education. Ron asked about the number of years needed for certifications. Adrian said operator in training licenses are given if the employee passes the test until they get the required amount of time for the license. The City does not pay for the operator in training license as they get the increase when the time requirement is met. Connie cannot see paying $.50 per hour for water treatment four when we are only a water treatment three, and water distribution three when we are only a two plant, and sewer treatment two as we are treatment one rated, and sewer collections three as we are a sewer collections rated two plant. She asked about sending samples out to the lab if we have lab certified employees and asked if this would reduce costs. Adrian explained that if we had the lab testing certified employees that we could do some things but we would still need to send out to a third party. He said there is a difference between compliance testing and process control testing. We would like to have a lab certified person so ideally we can say our testing is done professionally and the compliance testing would count for DEQ. Now our testing is just for process control. Connie said Tom Bennett should not be on the schedule as he is a part-time employee. Adrian said he is part of treatment staff and is not eligible for licensing. Connie thinks we should pay for certifications required for DEQ but not for ones that are not required as they can take the certifications and move to another entity. Rick asked about the Pall filtering and what that would do. Adrian said we are a Class 1 sewer plant and if we go to the Pall filtering we would be a Class 2. Adrian is trying to encourage the crew to keep studying and growing. Rick agrees with Connie that if there is not a need for higher
classes for the City that we don’t need to pay for those certifications. Adrian explained when an employee studies for the certifications that they are learning a wide variety of information. Connie said if the employee does not use the information in the plant that they will not remember it anyway. Ron Smith said if there is a certification that benefits the City and it is part of their job they should get paid for it, but if it is not then the certification should be removed from the list. Adrian said the pool certification is required. Lab 1 is not required by DEQ but it is by EPA for lab testing. Mike Klaus said we should hold off on the lab testing and he is unclear with the reporting requirements until he has more information from DEQ. Rick said the only thing at this time that the employees are not getting paid for is the pool certification. Mayor Anderson said if the certifications do not benefit the City he understands not paying for them. He thinks the certification for sewer treatment 2 would be good. He wants to look at the lab certifications and does not have a problem with the pool certification. Rick inquired about the backflow assembly testing. He said we have to hire someone from outside the City for this and asked who we pay this for. Adrian said the City pays for our own backflow testing but not others. Adrian said it costs $50 per test. Ron again said if the certifications benefit the City then we should pay for them. Mike said he agrees with what he is hearing but water treatment 3 is what we really need. He said as we increase the features at the sewer lagoons in the future we may need a higher certification. Mike said if we drill a well we may be able to lower our class of treatment for water. Mike likes the sewer treatment 2 and said the backflow assembly tester would be a great asset to the City. He would like to learn more about the lab certifications. Adam said the pool, wastewater lab 1, and backflow certifications seem pretty good. Sewer piping and water distribution are others requested and he is not sure if we need those for the City’s benefit. He would like to know more about the lab. Mayor Anderson understands that Adrian wants excitement and some remuneration. He asked Adrian to meet with Mike Klaus and Adam to discuss the certifications. The lab and pool need to be decided. This will be discussed again at a later date.

The group discussed the fire protection agreement with the Kootenai Tribe for the Kootenai River Inn. Connie Wells moved to approve the fire protection agreement with the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus is learning quite a bit about Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) as he has met with four people from BPA. He said there is a fee that goes along with reserving power and that is what this document is speaking about. Rick asked Mike if he has enough knowledge to understand this. Mike said he recommends that the City sign the document. Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Revision 3, Exhibit D to power sales agreement with Bonneville Power Administration. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the beverage license transfer from Pizza Factory to CarKiss, LLC doing business as Bonners Ferry Pizza Factory. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

09/15/15 Council Meeting
The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Attest:

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Kris Larson, City Clerk