Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of October 17, 2017 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Ken Toline, and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed, Police Chief Vic Watson, and Fire Chief Dave Winey. Also present were Val Thompson and Marty Martinez.

Police Chief Vic Watson said the cases for the last two weeks involved the following: two methamphetamine, heroin, marijuana paraphernalia arrests, one drug paraphernalia arrest, one vehicle accident, one investigate suspicious, one violation of a no contact order, one felony warrant arrest, one civil standby, one petit theft, and one runaway. He said the sixth officer position was filled yesterday by hiring Travis Stolley.

Fire Chief Dave Winey said things are pretty quiet for the Fire Department. There has been one medical assist, one odor call, and the department assisted on the accident on the North Hill.

Dennis Weed said he is continuing to deal with developers on a number of different parcels. The development at Pape fell through with the first developer and now another developer is looking at the property. He continues to work with Albertson’s/Safeway on the old Akins building. Dennis is trying to get them to work with a person interested in the building. Rick Alonzo said Performance Off Road will be moving up to the Yoder’s Grocery new location near Three Mile. Dennis said there will be 11 new recreational vehicle spots and cabins put in near the Log Inn.

City Administrator Mike Klaus said there was part of a tree that fell on El Paso Street, and the street crew and electric crew took care of it. There were three or four outages including one on LaBrosse Hill Road, and near Moyie there was a transmission line, between the north bench substation and the Moyie substation, with a tree on it that the crews removed.

Rick Alonzo moved to add a late agenda item to authorize contracting with Mark Fenton to do a walk audit and presentation for the master bike and pedestrian plan. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to approve the consent agenda. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of October 3, 2017 council meeting minutes.

Ron Smith moved to have the second reading, by title only, of the ordinance repealing and replacing City Code Title 3, Chapter 4, pertaining to door to door solicitation and sales in the City of Bonners Ferry. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Mike Klaus read the title of the proposed ordinance.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the employment agreement with Dennis Weed for fiscal year 2018. Adam Arthur seconded motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.
Eric Lederhos joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the fiscal year 2018 fire protection contract with the Kootenai Tribe. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the professional services contract with Panhandle Area Council for grant writing and administration. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus said American Utility and Residential Tree Service is a new contractor we are requesting to use for tree trimming this year. He said it will cost approximately $8,000 per week for a two week period. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract for tree trimming with American Utility and Residential Tree Service for $18,000. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adam Arthur moved to approve the catering permit for Rusty Moose Tavern and Grill for the Boundary County Museum fundraising dinner on October 28, 2017 at the Museum. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike would like to use the Job Service, AWWA, and AIC website for advertising the open position at the water/sewer department. Ken asked if the job description is the same as it was previously. Mayor Sims said it will be open. Rick Alonzo moved to advertise for the water/sewer position through regular channels as well as others. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus said he and the Mayor have met with Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) over the past few months to discuss the maintenance agreement with ITD. He said there will be more maintenance with the new highway project. Mike has a concern about sidewalk maintenance and wants ITD to do the replacement of the sidewalks. Ron Smith asked about the portion of the highway project that is outside city limits. Mayor Sims said we are working with the County on the maintenance of that portion of the project. Rick Alonzo suggested looking at low links grass as it only grows so high and then moves outward. Mayor Sims said it is estimated to cost about $15,000 for maintaining the new sidewalks for the highway project. Ron asked if current employees will be able to do this maintenance. Mike said we may have to have part time help. Mike said much of the cost is for snow removal. Adam asked for clarification of the maintenance agreement area. Mike said it is from the Kootenai River Bridge to LaBrosse Hill Street. He said there is LED lighting every 100 feet from Arizona Street to the end of the project. The first phase is from Arizona to Madison in 2018, second phase from Madison to Alderson Lane in 2019, and from Alderson Lane to LaBrosse Hill in 2020. There will be rapid reflecting flashing beacons (RRFBs) at the Madison Street crossing and the Alderson Lane crossing. Mike also said there is a list of maintenance functions in the agreement and the City is
responsible for painting the crosswalks, stop bars, and school crossings. Mike said when the project is complete a person can walk from the Hospital to LaBrosse Hill Street. It will connect the community. Mike asked that the maintenance agreement approval be tabled until the details are worked out.

Mike spoke about negotiating the scope of work with engineers. He said JUB Engineers will be up later this week to discuss the scope of work for the transportation plan with the City. He said the cost has come in higher than what we have projected. Mike said it is a qualification based selection for our engineer. Mayor Sims said some of the tasks can be accomplished by our employees so this may help reduce the cost. Mike said an interactive comment map may be done in house as well as the pavement and sign management plan. Council would like to keep the cost at $50,000 if possible. This subject will be on the next council agenda for consideration after the meeting with JUB.

Mike spoke about the purchase of a new bucket truck on a GSA bid through piggybacking. He is asking for the bid amount of $115,000 for the truck plus $2,000 more for a ladder rack. He also requested that council declare the 2006 bucket truck surplus. Rick Alonzo moved to purchase a new bucket truck for $117,000 and declare the 2006 bucket truck surplus. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike spoke to council regarding the new phone system. It includes a speaker phone and an additional three more phones than the original quote that was approved earlier this year. The switches, data converters, and power supplies have been installed for the city yard through fiber connections. The phone system will still go through the Frontier switch but it will work on an internal network. The power plant will be on its own connection. Adam asked how expandable the new system will be. Mike said he thinks we could double the number of phones we are using. Ken Toline moved to approve the quote for the new phone system in the amount of $20,233.60 and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Advance Communications doing business at DATATEL. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The resolution for the BPA conservation program was discussed. Mike said in the resolution there is an allocation for spending the conservation funds. Mike read from page two of the resolution. Mayor Sims said this is the first time we have had a conservation policy so we need to recognize that changes may be needed. Rick Alonzo moved to adopt Resolution 2017-10-01 Bonneville Power Energy Conservation Program Administration Policy. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Sims said he and Dennis Weed attended a meeting on a fiber network in Ammon, Idaho. He said the advantage of a fiber network is that it is more reliable than a radio network and has greater capacity. There is some fiber in Boundary County. We need an internet point of presence (POP) and a mid-mile segment from the POP. One of the barriers to bringing fiber to Boundary County is the lack of a mid-mile link to an internet point of presence (POP). The
nearest is in Sandpoint. We need a link between Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry. Fatbeam is planning to provide fiber to the School District so this may be helpful to our community. The Ammon model is promising. It started out as trying to serve their city’s own needs including SCADA for their lift stations and well houses. Now they are serving internet to some of their residents. Their fiber model is split into three different components: construction, maintenance, and internet service. The construction component is funded by a local improvement district (LID) and it is an opt-in LID, meaning customers are not required to participate. Customers pay the network cost for a 20 year period, currently $18 per month. Maintenance of the network is funded by the users of the system, currently $16.50 per month. Internet service is an open access network meaning that anyone can provide service. The cost for this is between $10 and $25 per month depending on the size of the service. Eric Lederhos said services offer “up to” size so the amount can be less than the maximum size. Mayor Sims said he and Dennis just wanted to let council know about the fiber possibilities that are out there. Dennis said fiber is becoming more and more important for people working in our community. Eric said fiber is light and it is fast. He said technology in fiber is tremendous but density needs to be looked at. Mayor Sims said Ammon buried the fiber.

Mayor Sims said Mark Fenton was a presenter at a meeting in Boise that he and Lisa attended. He has offered to come to Bonners Ferry, and High Five Grant will pay for a presentation and walk audit on the master bike and pedestrian plan promoting the benefits of physical activity for children. Ron Smith moved to approve authorization for Mark Fenton to do a walk audit and presentation for the master bike and pedestrian plan. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

There being no more business, the meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

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David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk