Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of November 15, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Member Ron Smith, and Council Member Connie Wells participating by phone, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andraday Pluid, Police Chief Vic Watson, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed. Also present for the meeting were Mike Listman, Owen Plato, Henry Steiner, and Jerry Higgs. Council Member Adam Arthur was gone on personal business.

Jerry Higgs observed an excavation project on Wildhorse Lane near the Hinthon’s property. There was a retaining wall built but the hill was cut and it washed out due to the fall rains. One of the neighbors is having problems since this run off has occurred. Jerry is suggesting that the City have a mechanism to make sure someone is not damaging or reducing a neighbor’s property value as a result of a project. He had Mike Woodward look at the situation as he is the control person for the Marx Subdivision and Mike said since no structure is involved the City does not require a permit. Jerry said there is a substantial amount of timber that has been removed from the Unruh property above the Marx Subdivision. He said there is a 30-40 feet span near the street where the hillside is fracturing. He said the increased water is pooling on the granite below the ground. Jerry said the logging project is continuing and there will be a great volume of water coming off the hill. He said this problem will have to be dealt with. Mayor Sims suggested that council may want to look at this. Mike and John Youngwirth have looked at the situation and Mike thinks there may be some simple solutions to keep silt from hitting the road.

Police Chief Vic Watson gave his report for the past two week period. There have been two vehicle non-injury crashes, one DUI, one driving without privileges, one agency assist, two warrant arrests, two calls to investigate suspicious activity, one felony drug and paraphernalia charge, one possible meth and paraphernalia charge, one petit theft, and one unattended death. The Police Department is preparing the vehicles for winter.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report for the past two weeks. There was a residential fire on Atlanta Street due to a microwave incident. Training is progressing for Fire Fighter One. Pat said he will be retiring in the spring and they are looking in-house to see if there is anyone that is interested in taking the Chief position. He said the Mayor and Council will have to be looking for Pat’s replacement. Ron Smith asked if there is anyone on the Department that would be interested and qualify to take over. Pat said there may be someone interested. He cautioned about putting someone in place that would run people off the department. Pat plans to stay on the fire investigation task force after he retires.

Eric Lederhos joined the meeting.

City Administrator Mike Klaus gave his report. He showed a power point slide of the flash over training by the Fire Department. Fire Chief Pat Warkentin explained how the training works. The next slide was a picture of the golf course roof remodel. He said lighting is being installed at this time by Steve Neumeyer and Heiko Arshat is staining the tongue and groove that will be installed on the ceiling. Mike anticipates the project to come in under budget. The next slide was of the crew working on Bingham Street where a new sewer main was installed. The asphalt
was replaced on Bingham Street due to the project. The next slide was of the Augusta Street project and the paving being done. Mike said it is a very durable roadway surface. The next slide was a picture of Lift Station 4 near Pape Machinery. Part of this lift station was replaced during the Augusta Street Project. Mike said the tour will start at the Moyie Substation at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow and then go to the power plant and then the Mill.

Dennis Weed said he is working on a number of different projects in town trying to fill empty stores downtown. He is also working on the pathways north of the Kootenai River Bridge. He is hoping to have a Charter recognized by the City, County, and City of Moyie so ITD will recognize his committee. There is a Main Street Committee that will meet tomorrow night to work on lighting, etc. Dennis said there is a lot of activity. The School Board passed a proposal to go with E Rate for fiber optics. Ron Smith inquired about the Theater. Dennis said the outside of the building is having some remodeling done to comply with the building permit.

The Urban Renewal Agency met and there is funding possibly available for the Riverside Project grant match. The application for this grant is due in January. The County project to the Wildlife Refuge will be completed by 2020 and our project would connect to this.

Rick Alonzo moved to add the late agenda item to discuss the grant match for the sewer bridge project. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll, and approval of November 1, 2016 council meeting minutes.

Rachel Fireman joined the meeting.

Dennis Weed spoke to the group about the Cap Stone Project at Boise State University (BSU) for the visitor center. He said the goal is to find out a way to keep people in town to see what businesses are in our area and to use the visitor center to its best potential. We want to keep people in town visiting our businesses and doing activities that keep visitors engaged. The other portion is to find a way to fund the costs of operating the visitor center. Dennis clarified that the operation and maintenance costs would be funded other than by the City. Mayor Sims said currently the City pays about $20,000 to maintain the visitor center. Dennis said the other aspect is that BSU is looking at about $3,500 for an intern to come up and implement the scope of work they come up with so at the end of the summer we will have a well-run visitor center. He said the end result is to get the City out from under the costs associated with operating the visitor center. There will be one professor and five grad students working on this project. Mayor Sims asked if there will be a contract coming forth. Dennis said there will be.

Rick Alonzo moved to declare the wrecked 2006 Ford Crown Vic surplus property. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

11/15/16 Council Meeting
The pole use agreement was discussed. Andrakay said E.L. Automation is requesting that the performance bond requirement in item #22 be waived. She does not have a problem with this waiver but it will take council action. Eric Lederhos does not see a need for the performance bond. He is working on increasing the capability of the cable system. Within the next two months the bandwidth will be 60 times what it is now. Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Pole Rental Agreement with E.L. Automation Inc. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”...

Rick Alonzo moved to waive the performance bond requirement in section 22 of the pole use agreement. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Mike Klaus spoke to the group about change orders submitted for the Augusta Street project. Mike is still working through this but there is one change order that needs to be done right away. The elevation of the sidewalk is raised in front of the apartments on Augusta Street so ponding is occurring in the parking lot for the apartments. He said we are requesting KG&T to put in a storm drain in the middle of the parking lot to drain without water flowing over the sidewalk. He is requesting a change order for the drainage work. Connie Wells asked about the extra funding the City has paid for the extra time KG&T needed to complete the project. Mike said the project was to be completed on September 5, 2016 and since that date the City has paid Jim Fritzsche for oversight nearly $8,000 due to this time extension. Mike said he will sit down with the contractor and engineer later in the week to get some of these items sorted out. Ron Smith moved to approve the change order for storm drain work in the amount of $2,160. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

No pay request was submitted by KG&T so this item was tabled. Mike said we may need to have a special council meeting for this.

Mike is proposing a contract for IT services with Computer Arts and have it be effective in December. He asked for approval to work with Computer Arts to prepare a contract. Ron Smith said he does not want hard feelings with Tech Partners when the vote occurs. Mike said he understands that Council does not see the inner-workings of the computer system. Rick Alonzo agreed that the staff works directly with contractors for the computer system and if they feel a change is necessary he would go with their recommendation. Connie Wells moved to go forward to work with Computer Arts for an IT contract. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Mike gave a presentation for the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) Program. This program is changing from a national program (NPDES) to Idaho. IPDES will have control over surface water and wastewater discharges. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) plans to write permits in 2018 and has applied for the permitting authority. Mayor Sims asked if we get our next permit from EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) or DEQ. Mike was not sure as this is not decided. We are regulated for drinking water by DEQ through fees. One of the big questions is the cost of the fees for wastewater permitting. Mike said it will be $1.74 per EDU (equivalent dwelling unit) and we have 1874 EDUs so this comes
out to $3,200. The first bill will be October, 2018 for the first assessment. There are 34 permittees in the Coeur d’Alene District and that is where we are. Mike said there may be negotiating that takes place for the SWPPP (storm water pollution prevention plan) for projects over 5,000 square feet because that would ultimately be all our projects. SWPPP is for storm water management. Mike spoke of the ECHO program where public can view the Bonners Ferry Waste Water Treatment Plan discharge permit requirements and our data submitted. He said sometimes we get close to the limits but it is primarily due to the algae growth in the summer. Rick Alonzo asked if there is an advantage for local municipalities to be under the control of the State rather than the national program covering everything. Mike sees a benefit for working with local regulators due to the relationships we have and receiving good technical help.

The grant application for the sewer bridge replacement is due this Friday. Mike Klaus said a grant can be applied for up to $500,000 but match should be 55 to 60 percent to be competitive. Mayor Sims said 50 percent match would be the minimum we should offer according to Nancy Mabile from PAC. Ron Smith moved to provide $350,000 in matching funds for the sewer bridge grant. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk