Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of December 19, 2017 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/Engineer Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Chief Vic Watson, Fire Chief Dave Winey, and Council Woman Elect Valerie Thompson. Also present were Jessica Tingley and Tim West. Councilman Ken Toline was gone on personal business.

Tim West asked what the stance of the City is on the proposed highway remodel. Mayor Sims said the elements of the project were developed over the course of 17 public meetings the past two years. He said there were a few aspects that were changed recently. One was the removal of the stop light and the other was the work from Madison to the Kootenai River Bridge. These items were not spoken of in the meetings over the past two years. Mayor Sims said Alderson Lane to the Kootenai River Bridge is phase 1 and phase 2 is Alderson Lane to LaBrosse Hill Road. Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) wants the traffic light to be taken out at Alderson Lane. ITD has done studies and said it is not warranted. He said the City is doing a traffic study now and if it warrants a traffic light ITD will put one back. Rick Alonzo said he voiced disagreement with the removal of the light at the ITD meeting and asked what the criteria was. Tim West said he has been at a couple meetings, and he does not understand why they want to remove the light. He said if the light were not there he would not have been able to turn into Dyck’s to get fuel tonight. The bypass was built in 1974, and two lanes were designed each direction. He does not think ITD should narrow the bypass down to single lanes. Tim said Dean Kerr and JBs are concerned about the new highway plan. Mayor Sims said ITD will be visiting with the businesses to discuss highway access. Tim said many people are hoping to get the project stopped. Mayor Sims said he encouraged ITD to hold a public meeting because there were many questions people needed answered. Tim said this is our town, and ITD is messing up the town. Mayor Sims said we don’t have control over ITD. Tim wants the project stopped and redone. Mayor Sims said JUB will do an engineering analysis of the traffic light at Alderson. Tim thinks we need the light at Alderson.

Police Chief Vic Watson said over the past two weeks we have had one property dispute, one controlled substance arrest, one felony probation violation, two felony warrant arrests, one misdemeanor warrant arrest, two unattended deaths, and multiple vehicle crashes.

Fire Chief Dave Winey said there have been three calls. One was a traffic assist and another was an incident at Shopko where there was an overheating problem due to the power phase going out. There was a lady that ran into the fire chief pickup on Saturday.

Mike Klaus said the electric crew just energized the last outage this evening. The street crew will be out early tomorrow morning to get the streets clean and will be quite busy. Water and Sewer are running well. Myrtle Creek runs clear when it is cold. We got quite a few applicants for the open position in Water/Sewer. Mike said in the JUB contract for the sewer bridge there is a reserve fund for engineering in the amount of $15,000. There is engineering needed for additional cross bracing needed on the sewer bridge and this will cost $12,680. He thinks we may be able to do the work with the City crews but we will have to look at this when the engineering is complete. Mike will speak to Andrakay about the contract allowance for expenses.
paid out of the reserve. Ron asked how we will replace the pipe without the contents falling out. Mike explained that we may run a temporary bypass line until the new pipe is replaced. Adam asked if we could run one six inch pipe to take the media until the new pipes are installed. Mike said we need to center up the load until the members can be replaced. Adam asked if two six inch pipes will increase the flow. Mike said two six inch pipes will make it better than one eight inch pipe. He said the lift station below Super 1 needs to be improved to pump the sewage through harder. This needs to be done due to friction. Upgrades to lift station five will make the situation better.

Ron asked about the waterline for the Cassia Tank. Mike said we cannot get the pressure test to pass. He thinks it is trapped air. He said we need to get as much water flowing through the pipe as possible. The plan is to do that soon but it is weather related. The water crew dug up every joint and there were no leaks, so it must be an air issue.

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 December 5, 217 council meeting minutes.

Rick Alonzo moved to have the third reading by title only of the ordinance amending Bonners Ferry City Code Title 11, Chapter 2, Section 4, Schedule of Building Height and Lot Area Regulations. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the title of the proposed ordinance.

Ron Smith moved to adopt Ordinance 572 Amending Bonners Ferry city code Title 11, Chapter 2, Section 4, Schedule of Building Height and Lot Area Regulations. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Sims said Idaho Smart Growth was scheduled to help update the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Originally, there were a couple sections that were to be rewritten but it is looking like the entire plan will be looked at and updated. Mayor Sims said we will look at it again at another meeting when Lisa is available. He said there will be a question about how much money we have to get this done, as assistance will be needed.

Mike said recently there was a resolution adopted for the conservation program and one of the categories was the residential side. Conservation funding comes in two year cycles and we were hoping to do $12,500 per year but the cost of the residential lighting program would be over $26,000. The funding for residential would be eaten up in one shot with the residential lighting program. Ron Smith asked about businesses in the City. Mike said this is just for residential customers. He is asking for permission to spend $26,858.48. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the residential lighting quote from AM Conservation. Ron Smith seconded the motion. Ron asked about approving other phases of the conservation program. Mayor Sims said it might be good to come back to council for approval of the other phases. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. 

12/19/17
Mike read from page three of the proposed contract with Inland Forest Management concerning payment for services. The easement work will not exceed $3,000. This is for access to our property for logging and the $3,000 is the maximum that we will pay Mike Walcot for this work. Mike is hoping to get the west side of the river logged before summer so we can have the money in the bank for projects proposed. Ron Smith moved to authorize Mayor Sims to sign the contract with Inland Forest Management for logging sales and easement work. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Andrakay Pluid said the social media policy is a policy from ICRMP that she made a few changes to. She said we have a Facebook page so it is good to have a policy directing how the page operates. It also includes what employees are allowed to put on social media in regards to city related topics. They must make sure their opinions are not those of the City when they post on social media. Andrakay said Lisa has a Facebook page for the City and does a good job of posting upcoming city events. Mayor Sims said the policy lays out the expectations for employees. Andrakay said this makes it more concrete. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the social media policy. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to approve the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint Gerry Anne Howlett to the golf committee with the term expiring December 31, 2018. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the 2018 beverage licenses. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. (Clerk’s note: the following licenses were approved: CHS Inc. Cenex Zip Trip, Eagles, Eagles Landing, Heartrock Wines LLC, Jill’s Café Inc-2., Kootenai Brewing Co., Kootenai River Inn, Lane 9, Linked Technology LLC, Mi Pueblo, Mugsy’s, Pizza Factory, Safeway, Inc., Shopko Stores, South Hill Mini Mart, super 1 Foods, The Pearl Theater, Under the Sun).

Mike Klaus showed a power point of the ITD maintenance agreement. The Cooperative Agreement listed on the agenda had a different milepost than what is on the agreement we are reviewing tonight. The amended agreement is for mile post 506.251 to mile post 507.565. This is from Alderson Lane to the Kootenai River Bridge. Mike went over the edits to the agreement. The project will be 1.314 miles rather than what they had. Maintenance functions are listed on page six dictating if maintenance is to be done by the City or ITD. Mike said we will be collecting a lot more storm water than what we do now. Adam asked if we have infrastructure in place to take care of this. Mike said we do not. Everything north of Harrison will be in storm drains to the Kootenai River. Much water south of Harrison will be directed to a new storm drain that will lead to the draw on Cody Street. The problem with that is more catchments will catch more water and he is concerned about lift station three. We will have to create hard scape to protect the infrastructure there. This is a cost that the City will incur. Mayor Sims said the chart in the maintenance agreement is very similar to what we have now. There is a notation in the agreement that says storm sewers that are on private property and City right of way will be maintained by the City. Additional peak load in the storm water system, due to development, will only be allowed with ITD and City approval. Mayor Sims said we are okay with storm water as long as it is not in the peak. Mayor Sims said we need to look at a storm water
ordinance. The group discussed storm water analyses. Mike said we will need to do this with developments. In phase two Mike will talk to ITD about additional storm water flow due to the potential of growth. Mike said phase one is in two parts, one from the Kootenai River Bridge to Madison and then from Madison to Alderson. We need to make sure there are enough and large enough conduit to handle the storm water. Mayor Sims said we will need to work with the County on phase two storm water because much of the storm water will be coming from County properties.

ITD cannot put the project out to bid until the maintenance agreement is in place.

Mayor Sims said ITD is open to terminating the slough agreement and release the funding that we are holding. This is the $40,199 that is left from repairs made to the slough in the past.

Mayor Sims said we will be requesting reimbursement for maintenance expenses to the Urban Renewal Agency. It includes snow removal, grass mowing and watering, and lighting.

The electricity went out so Mayor Sims recessed the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 8:17 p.m. The group continued to discuss the maintenance agreement. Mike would like to discuss the costs of this maintenance. David said from the Bridge to Madison there would be no change in the cost of maintenance but from Madison to the City limits there will be costs. David said we are looking at different grass types that won’t require as much mowing. Mike said the crosswalks will be the City’s responsibility for painting. ITD will provide the materials and traffic control for crosswalk painting. Mayor Sims said the ownership of property adjacent to the Highway near the Visitor Center and Library were discussed, and ITD would like to see the City have the property. Mike said ITD asked that we provide a survey of this property. He said there was a lot of discussion when reviewing the agreement.

Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Cooperative Agreement for Maintenance of State Highway US 95, Mile Post 506.251 to Mile Post 507.565 with Idaho Transportation Department. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

________________________________________
David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

________________________________________
Kris Larson, City Clerk