

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled meeting of January 2, 2013 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President Mike Klaus, Council Members Rick Alonzo, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Assistant City Administrator Andrakay Pluid, City Attorney Will Herrington, Police Chief Steve Benkula, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Economic Development Coordinator David Sims. Also present were Laura Roady, Aaron Dunham, Tim Fulton, Marcia Cossette, Doug Ladely, Sr., Beloit Mendenhall, Steve Oxford, Tom Oxford, Mike Riebli, Delton Amoth, Clarice McKenney, Robert Hanover, Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Ruth Sutton, Dale Simpson, Mark Pluid, Dean Satchwell, Mike Pluid, and Dave Gray.

Dave Gray spoke regarding the mutual aid agreement with Paradise Valley Fire Department and the comments that were made at the Becker Auditorium. He asked if this could be agendized as this possibly may be able to be done away with.

Tom Oxford said he would have comments on the no compression brakes topic on the agenda. Mayor Anderson said we are in the preliminary stages of this, and he is leaning toward an ad hoc committee to look at the issue. Mayor Anderson said we are aware of the two steep hills coming into town, and we don't want to have another accident like the one in 1981. Tom said there is an Idaho statute that speaks to muffled compression breaks and asked that it be enforced.

Clarice McKenney said she lives on the south hill and hears the compression brakes all the time. She said if it comes to safety that it would weigh more heavily. She would like to see muffled compression brakes.

Mike Riebli said he is a trucker and comes down the north hill every day. He said if this ordinance is put in place there will probably be more accidents and spoke of the speed limit being 60 at the top and 35 at the bottom of the north hill. He said he may be able to go along with muffled brakes but said not to take jake brakes away. Rick Alonzo said that was never the intention.

Tom Oxford said the 1981 accident got a sign that informed people that there is a town at the bottom of the hill. He said truckers from somewhere else are unknowing that there is a town at the bottom of the hill and urged city council to put pressure on Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for signage. He said what happened in the 1980's will happen again. He does not understand why it takes a bad accident before signage is put up. Tom spoke about a sign near a town in Wyoming that says "to our professional drivers - please refrain from using your compression brakes whenever possible but keep the safety of our citizens first and foremost".

Robert Hanover said he owns commercial property on Riverside Street and it is because of the no parking signs that he is speaking tonight. He lives on the West Side Road and has been driving into town for 20 years. Robert said he spoke this summer to City Administrator Stephen Boorman about trucks parking on Riverside Street and suggested a white line be painted so

people would recognize the stop sign. He said there were traffic safety committee meetings held to discuss this issue and city council also met to discuss the issue but he was not contacted and it affects his property. He is asking council to undue something they have already done which is to make it illegal to park in front of his property. He wants council to remove the no parking signs on Riverside.

Police Chief Benkula said a search warrant was served as well as an order to get a DNA sample in regards to the burglaries on the south hill. The police are closing in on the suspects. There have been 150 calls responded to in the past two weeks resulting in 11 case reports, three arrests and 32 citations.

Pat Warkentin said there were 72 calls in 2012. They have had one EMS call, one vehicle fire, and one vehicle accident on highway 95 near the Kootenai River Inn. The Fire Department is co-training with Paradise Valley Fire Department since we have a mutual aid agreement with them.

Stephen Boorman gave the Administrator report. He spoke regarding collection of garbage in the alleys and some alleys being too narrow. The annual inspection of the hydro has been done and the penstock is in very good shape. An inundation study was done by CH2MHill in the 1990s and FERC wants another one done. Stephen explained that an inundation study is to predict if the dam fails who gets wet the quickest. He said this is particularly important in the Twin Rivers area and the study would cost about \$10,000 but if we do the entire canyon it will cost considerably more. The additional water right that we applied for in 2002 for Myrtle Creek is now a license. Mike Klaus asked if we would go out for bids for the inundation study. Stephen said there is more investigation needed as to what FERC requires before we go out for bids. He explained the levels of the dam failure for the study. One of the problems could be precise surveying of the canyon. Mike also asked if we could do it under a professional services contract. It is a big dollar item as it could be \$60,000 to \$80,000 according to Stephen.

Mayor Anderson said he is touring the alleys with the garbage contractor, as he has already toured them with the city street superintendent. He said some of the alleys are not going to be able to be used for garbage pickup. He said alternatives might need to be explored.

David Sims gave the economic development report. He said the city has gotten its 15 Meg service from Frontier and a couple others in town have also been installed. Higher speed internet is good news. KML Labs is a microbiology lab behind the county road shop and David is working with them to get them certified to do water testing. Jim Deffenbaugh from Panhandle Area Council (PAC) has had a stroke and may not be the director in the future. David has been asked to serve on the loan approval board for PAC. Bill Jhung has been a great help to small businesses in our area, and his effective coaching for businesses is available to help them. David has been working on the senior bus issue and the bus may be transferred to the Restorium.

Mike Klaus said there will be an urban renewal agency meeting in February. He said there will be some tax increment coming in January to the urban renewal agency.

Connie Wells moved to add the agenda item to award the bid for the electric line truck. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, and Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mike Klaus moved to pass the consent agenda. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of the December 18, 2012 council meeting minutes.

Stephen explained the expansion joints on the Kootenai River Bridge. He said the north expansion joint has been replaced and the south end of the bridge expansion joint needs to be replaced. Stephen said the replacement time is less than eight hours but the work to get ready for the project is quite a bit more. The work would be done in the spring or fall. Mike Klaus moved to purchase the new flexible coupling for the water line on the south end of the bridge. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Andrakay Pluid spoke regarding the contract with Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency. She said the only substantive change was the renewal clause. Connie Wells asked if the contract is working. Steve Benkula said it is. Attorney Will Herrington said there are some housekeeping changes needed in the contract. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency contract subject to legal approval. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Mayo asked if most of the local trucks are muffled or unmuffled. Tom Oxford said most of the trucks are muffled. Tom Mayo asked if there was an unmuffled truck what it would cost to muffle it. Mike Riebli said it cost about \$1,000 to muffle his truck last year. Connie asked if this would cause any safety concerns or power or performance issues with the trucks. Mike Riebli said it is still loud and his is muffled. Beloit said he has mufflers and they are loud but he uses his jake brake and will continue to use it. He said you would have to drop down so low to keep from using the brake that it would be bad. He said when he hits the end of the bridge he switches his jake brake off but uses it and that is what it is for. Tom Mayo said the city and county have both tried to get the speed limit changed with ITD but have not been successful. Beloit said the steepest part of the hill is near the Hawkins house. Beloit said if you drive a loaded truck you want to be able to stop if necessary and if you use only your brakes and not the jake there will not be brakes. Rick Alonzo and Tom Mayo clarified that there was not a discussion to outlaw jake brakes but it was to muffle the jake brakes as there have been

complaints on the northside and southside but the noise seems worse on the northside. Rick asked if Andrakay could read the proposed ordinance that he has been working on. Tom Mayo said he did not want a large expense to the local truckers. Idaho Code 49-937 was submitted to council by Tom Oxford. Beloit said it is so much safer now but likes the security of the jake brakes and coasts off the hill so he can stop. Mayor Anderson said he sympathizes with the loggers and truck drivers.

Tim Fulton asked how or at what point law enforcement will know the trucks have mufflers. He explained that there is an eight inch pipe with a five inch muffler inside it but they are not visible from the outside of the truck but they still make noise. Mike Klaus expressed concern about someone unknowing of the jake brake muffler restriction and there being a problem. He said we need to get ITD to put up signage about the hill.

Mayor Anderson said no one wants anyone to get killed but this issue comes up every few years. Beloit said people do not understand the 80,000 to 100,000 pounds a truck is hauling and the stop time needed for these rigs. He said he will continue to use his jake brake to keep safe. Tom Oxford said he knows of a few trucks that need mufflers.

Attorney Will Herrington read a section of the proposed city ordinance speaking to the prohibition of unmuffled compression brakes in the city limits. Mayor Anderson said safety should be put in front of noise and possibly signage would help. He wants to put together an ad hoc committee to look at the ordinance issue to see which way we go. Beloit said there are three head stages of the jake brake.

Stephen said the bids were opened for the electric line truck and the All Tech bid was lowest. The price was \$195,151 with add alternates so the total cost would be about \$210,000. Rick asked why there was such a large difference in the bids received. Stephen said All Tech makes their own boom and installs it on the truck. He said All Tech also has better sales volume in the electric industry. Rick Alonzo moved to award the bid for the electric line truck to All Tech for \$195,151 with add alternates not to exceed \$210,151. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk