

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of January 26, 2010 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President Chris Clark, Council Members Mike Klaus, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Assistant City Administrator David Sims, Street Department Supervisor John Youngwirth, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, and City Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were David Gray, Boundary County Commissioners Ron Smith, Dan Dinning, and Walt Kirby, Michelle Rohrwasser, Roger Fraser, Ralph and Julie Lotspeisch, Carolyn Testa, Louise Carter, Donna Capurso, Claine Skeen, Cal Russell, and Ron Frederickson.

The first order of business was a hearing for sale of city property. Mayor Anderson opened the hearing and there was no comment so he recessed the hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Commissioner Chairman Ron Smith spoke regarding Boundary County solid waste and landfill issues. Ron said the city residents do not pay as much as a county resident for landfill fees. He understands the reason for the fee difference is that there are not dumpster sites in the city for city residents like there are for the county residents. The small community exemption is for less than 20 tons of garbage per day in our landfill so we must keep the tonnage down to maintain the exemption. There are three manned dumpster sites – Paradise Valley, Naples, and the Y up north near Mount Hall School. The county resident has the opportunity to haul their garbage to one of the manned sites or the landfill along with their recycling. There are no such sites for the city residents at this time but they are encouraged to recycle. There is a contractor in the city limits so the county cannot provide dump sites in town. He encouraged recycling in the city. Ron suggested that we work to get the city taxpayer equivalent with the county taxpayer and to get the city garbage to the landfill and not totally go in the hole as it does now. Mayor Anderson asked when the difference in landfill fees came about. Ron Frederickson thought it was in the late 70's or early 80's.

Commissioner Walt Kirby thought the differential was made in the early 1980's but did not know the particulars. He said the county is separating out the recyclable materials before dumping waste in the landfill and they are working on weighing the material going in the landfill. He said separation of materials needs to be done. Walt spoke of the amount a county resident paying \$75 per year and hauling their garbage to the landfill. He thinks the city residents should also pay \$75 and get their garbage to the landfill however they want to. It is simple to him to know that the landfill fee is the same for all residents of the county across the board. The garbage must be separated whether it be by the city contractor or by each household. He said the county is asking the residents to separate the garbage for recyclables at the manned sites or at home. He said if the county has to separate the recyclables out for the city they will charge more for the city garbage. Ron Smith corrected Walt's annual landfill fee. Ron said it is \$100 for city residents and \$120 for county residents. Walt said a household is a household and the weight of the garbage is the same approximately. Walt was astonished at how much less garbage is going into the landfill with just the few manned sites we now have.

Mayor Anderson said the point of the manned sites is to encourage the residents to sort their recyclables. He said the mobile recycling containers that come to town are the city resident's avenue to recycle. Walt spoke of the yard waste that comes from the city residents that counts toward the tonnage of the county small landfill exemption.

Dan Dinning said the county has been speaking to the city for nearly two years and the community has been wonderful in voluntarily recycling. He said whatever happens he wants it to be equitable between the city and county residents so it is fair. He said the county is at a point now that action must be taken. The county has done nearly all they can do except be the garbage police. Dan said there is urgency now and whatever we can do collectively to get the recycling done as soon as we can needs to be done. The rough quote for the life of the landfill is fifteen years if we can keep our tonnage down. He spoke of fees that are required if we do have to ship out the garbage but the recyclables would not be shipped out.

Ron Smith said the yard waste is not going in the hole unless it is concealed in garbage cans when it comes to the landfill. If there is something in a load that is sent to a transfer station that should not be in the load, the transfer stations sends the entire load back and we have to pay for both loads. Ron suggested the city council digest the commissioner's comments and get back to the county with their ideas. He said our garbage contractor could keep the recyclables and sell them. Ron said the commissioners would be available for an evening meeting if need be. Mayor Anderson said the garbage problem is not just a city/county issue because there are commercial accounts and residents outside the city limits that have their garbage hauled by commercial carriers. He wants to have the City of Moyie on board with the recycling issue also. He said the city understands the problem and wants to work toward a resolution.

Mike Klaus asked how much the county is saving from garbage not going into the hole due to the manned sites. Claine Skeen said 500-1000 pounds per week are pulled out of the manned sites.

Ron Smith asked if we can fast track the issue. David Sims said at the prior meetings there was a discussion of sorting and he asked if that is an option. Ron said it is not at this time but it will have to be looked into. Walt spoke of the outlying dumps that the county had in the past and now the county provides the landfill for the entire county. Connie Wells said the city residents pay \$100 fee for the landfill verses the \$120 fee that the county residents pay but the city residents also pay a monthly fee for garbage pickup and are now looking at paying another fee for recycling. Dan said the city residents have the fee for pickup as a mandate by city policy. Connie said the county does not mandate recycling. Walt Kirby said the manned sites and landfill are requiring recycling. Chris Clark said the city is one third of the population of the county and the city can set a program in place but there is education that is needed by the residents to learn about recycling. Walt said the county is in the cusp of the problem now. Ron Smith said there is not mandatory recycling now but there is a strong request to recycle. Ron said the city residents are about one fourth of the county population. Dan Dinning said 50 percent of the garbage going in the landfill comes from the city contractor. Tom Mayo asked if Ron Frederickson has an idea of how much garbage is just from city residents. Ron Frederickson said he does not know how much belongs to just residential because on his routes he picks up commercial garbage including the schools as well as residential. Mike Klaus suggested curbside recycling or else similar recycling to the county where there are recycle containers in the city for residents to place their recycling. He asked if the county would be able to help with the cost of recycling containers for the city residents. The group continued to discuss garbage at other locations. Mike Klaus said DEQ has three other criteria for closure. Dan Dinning said the county meets all the other criteria. Ron Smith said there is the option of keeping 20 ton per day and shipping the rest out if the county meets the criteria required.

Dan Dinning said there is cooperation between the City of Bonners Ferry, Boundary County, Kootenai Tribe, and the City of Moyie like there never has been before.

The County Commissioners and Michelle Rohrwasser left the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Jerry Higgs addressed council. He said the previous administration with Mayor Kerby, Mellett, Docherty, Burkholder, and Falcon, were in governance when the economic boom was in place. He listed many of the projects that were completed and said the city had to dip into reserves to finish some of the projects. Jerry said when Mayor Kerby appointed Mick Mellett after Leslie Falcon passed away that it was viewed by many people as a slap in the face. The message many residents sent when the next election took place was that they wanted to see more of the city resources spent in places other than downtown. He spoke of encouraging the public to vote. He said the attorney contract was another issue seen by many residents as unjust due to the raise in the compensation to the attorney when many residents were losing their jobs. He asked the new councilmen to take these issues to heart and pay attention to what the voters are saying. Jerry said they felt there was an atmosphere of persona and wanted to see more spent out in the neighborhoods not just downtown. Jerry listed many issues that he has heard to be concerns. One of the issues is traffic problems at certain times of the day. Jerry also said money saving ideas would be to renegotiate the attorney contract, combine the city police department with the county sheriff's department, and establish a fee schedule for services rendered such as burn permits. He said if the public is receiving services from the city that they should be paying for them. Another suggestion was storm drainage enforcement and he gave an example of the drainage on Kaniksu Street where the culverts are smashed and the drainage is poor. Snow removal was another concern he had particularly in areas where there are zero lot lines. He suggested tightening up snow removal ordinances so residents are not burdened by commercial snow removers putting snow in their areas. He spoke of visibility issues in city right of ways due to the allowance of the citizens to plant in the right of ways. Animal control needs to be considered. Jerry worked on an animal control ordinance when Dave Kramer was at the city. There needs to be off street parking. Enter into talks with the county and fire districts for a county-wide fire district to provide fire protection for less money. The last suggestion was to charge fees for developers who look to our area for development so the residents do not have to pay these costs. Voters want traffic improvements on the south hill; sewer plant improvements and a bond may be necessary and the residents need to know that may be coming; large population of retirees and they would like to see stop gates for snow plowing; a swale and ditch excavator is also needed because the city only has a loader; and the animal shelter proposal in a residential area is insane due to the noise and smell that will be generated. Jerry is a former Planning and Zoning member from the City of Hayden and city council can deny applications if they chose to so he wanted council to know they have the legal authority to make their decisions.

Rick Alonzo gave the police report. He said there has been one warrant arrest, two battery cases, four DUIs, four driving without privileges, six crashes, two agency assists, one fraud/forgery case, one theft, one burglary, one lewd and lascivious charge, one runaway/harboring offense with custodial interference. Rick said Don Moore has been ill for two weeks due to a viral infection in his inner ear and has not been able to work. Don will be in tomorrow to see if light duty can be assigned. He said another officer may be off for medical problems.

John Youngwirth said the fire department has had six calls. There were two car crashes, a co2 alarm, bad electrical hookup on a dryer, smoke detector in an air duct, and a three year old pulled

a fire alarm at the high school. John said the new truck is now in Bonners Ferry. He said the fire station doors have to be modified so it will fit in the fire station.

Stephen said next week we will do a fee presentation at 6:30 p.m. for the council. He said Unit 2 governor work is complete and working good and David Sims worked on this quite a bit. He spoke of the publications that council may be receiving and if the addresses need to be changed to let us know. He met with North Bench Fire Association. The Chippewa right of way hearing was held and there were no issues.

The garbage contract was discussed. Ron Frederickson is the city's agent when he is collecting garbage for the city residents. Ron Frederickson does not think the county figures are accurate. He thinks the city garbage does not include wood waste unless it is concealed in garbage bags. The people within the city also use the landfill to deposit their recyclables. He said there are a lot more residents recycling than the county is giving credit for. Ron said there is talk of charging him a tipping fee for depositing city garbage in the landfill. Stephen said the scope is clear that the garbage collected by Ron is city property. He said the first paragraph of the garbage contract spells this out. Mike Klaus moved to approve the city garbage contract with Frederickson's. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The golf committee gave a presentation requesting equipment purchases for the golf course. Ralph said we have a great golf course in Bonners Ferry. It is challenging and is in very good condition. Golf greens are a person's most important thought when they are golfing. Ralph would like to move the greens mower to a different position in the fleet and purchase a new greens mower. The tee mower is getting worse and does not have much life left. The fairway mower runs pretty good. The rough mower runs great, the trim mower is running good but it is in the mechanic shop now. The spray rig is incredibly important to the course for treating the course. Small mower runs great and the aerator is a great piece of equipment. The John Deere tractor is not doing very well so the city mechanic will be working on it. An hour on golf equipment is equivalent to 60 driving hours according to Ralph. Ralph would like to purchase a new greens mower and move the current greens mower down the fleet. The cost of new mower is \$610 per month through Toro for 60 months. He would like to earmark a percentage of net revenue at the golf course for equipment purchases or increase golf fees to meet the needs.

Ralph explained the workings of the golf committee and how the committee takes input from him and then they come to a conclusion and bring the suggestions back to council. Stephen explained the way the golf contract is written and how Ralph is paid.

Mayor Anderson asked about the rental on cart sheds. The Mayor said the city is very behind on equipment purchases and said it is difficult to buy such an expensive piece of equipment in such poor economic times. He suggested Ralph forgo part of his commissions on the green fees and season passes to help pay for the new equipment. Ralph said this can be discussed. He said the old equipment maintenance takes extra time for his employees to fix the equipment and it is costly to him. He paid more in labor this past year than he has before, mostly due to the poor equipment. The Mayor said another problem is the broken sprinkler system. The Mayor said we need a mechanism to keep the funds built up to replace equipment at the golf course and it may mean looking at the golf contract. David Sims inquired about the life of a new piece of equipment. Ralph estimated it to be 10 years. Connie expressed concern about the five year

commitment for the new mower and needing new equipment before the new mower is paid off. Ralph said the Coeur d'Alene Golf Resort is leasing all their equipment and leasing is cheaper than what they had been paying when they owned the equipment. Mayor Anderson asked about the profit for the golf course for 2009. Clerk said we did have a profit but we need to consider the sprinkler system costs that have not been deducted yet. Stephen said we have completed three holes on the sprinkler system and we still have six holes to go and unfortunately the costs may increase due to the supply costs. Tom said the golf course is a great asset and we need to find a way to keep it going. Chris Clark asked for a copy of the contract and the revenues and the fees so we can see the big picture. Mike said he would like to see the lives of the equipment that we have so we can plan better. Mayor Anderson said it is a guessing game on how much to raise the fees to meet our needs. He said we have two thirds of the sprinkler heads that we cannot get parts for. Connie asked when we can complete the sprinkler system. Stephen and David said we have to work on the sprinkler system in the fall. Stephen said the mobilization costs are not that high. Tom asked what the expenses are for the sprinkler system. One of the greatest costs is the wire. David said we purchased 35,000 feet of wire and we installed 28,000 feet. The irrigation system has main lines through the course but the lines to the sprinkler system have problems. The city purchased the sprinkler system parts from Hidden Lakes Course so that is what we are using for the new system.

Cal Russell said, as a golfer and from the golf committee, that Ralph is doing a fabulous job running the course and he encouraged council to help Ralph succeed by allowing him the equipment to do his job. Louise said our golf course is much nicer than the other nine hole courses in our area such as Sandpoint or Priest River. She said it would be a shame to let the course deteriorate because it is such a nice golf course. She has spoken to people about golf fee increases and no one has a problem. Connie said the city is just having a problem with money issues and is worried about the future equipment needs. Ralph said our green fees are very reasonable. Mayor Anderson said we should look at long term needs of the golf course during the budget workshops.

Mayor Anderson reopened the sale of property hearing at 9:01 p.m. Tom Mayo inquired about the revenue that the city garners from the property sales. Mayor Anderson said typically the city puts one-time money in a fund for capital purchases such as other land acquisitions. Stephen explained the history of past logging revenues that have been used for projects such as the downtown project, visitor center, and tunnel. There being no public comment, Connie Wells moved to close the hearing at 9:08 p.m. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The group discussed possible auction dates. David Sims suggested the bond requirement for the bids. Chris Clark moved to publish as soon as possible and sell the city property described by sealed bid with a 10 percent security deposit and 90 days to compensate the transaction and have the sale by double sealed bid. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Independent contractor agreements for Brimhall Excavating, KG&T Septic Service, Mike Kelly Excavating, Kerby Trucking, Wink, Inc., Dennis Fitch Construction, E.R. Balancing, Lake City Infrared, and Alan Flory Logging were discussed. Mayor Anderson explained that the contracts are annual and we use the contractors for different needs during the year. Mike Klaus moved to authorize the Mayor to sign independent contractor agreements with Brimhall Excavating,

KG&T Septic, Mike Kelly Excavating, Kerby Trucking, Wink, Inc., Dennis Fitch Construction, E.R. Balancing, Lake City Infrared, and Alan Flory Logging. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to read the Cable Franchise Ordinance by title only. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. City Administrator Stephen Boorman read the ordinance by title only.

Council room expansion was discussed. Stephen explained that the council room would be extended about six feet across the hallway and the hallway would be where the janitor closet is now. He said the biggest costs of the project are the carpet and the lighting but the lighting reconfiguration is very much needed. Carolyn Testa asked about the need for the expenditure at this time due to the cuts that have been had and the economic times. She is concerned about the public perception. Chris Clark asked about how much of the estimated \$2,000 would come from general fund. It would be approximately 23 percent. Council tabled the issue.

Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant pay request with Idaho Department of Commerce for payment to Welch Comer for engineering of the phase 2 water project and to Panhandle Area Council for grant administration. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk