

Mayor David Anderson called the January 27, 2009 council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President John Langs, Council Members Chris Clark, Connie Wells, and Dave Gray, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Assistant City Administrator Dave Sims, Clerk Kris Larson, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Water/Sewer Department Supervisor Jim Fritzsche, Street Department Supervisor John Youngwirth, and City Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Karen Schumaker, Tracie Iverson, Rhonda Hamerslough, Don Jordan, Paul Rawlings, Kate Turner, Debbie and Chester Richardson, Julie Golder, and John O'Connor.

John O'Connor spoke to council asking that the bridge and south hill walkways be kept a priority in the winter time. He said pedestrians may have chosen to walk in the traffic lane on the bridge during the heavy snow period. He asked that the priorities be kept open particularly for the bridge and the south hill due to them becoming a bottle neck if they are not kept clear. Stephen said the city only has one snow blower that fits on the sidewalks and the machine broke down during the heavy snow. He said it took a bit of work to catch up once we had the equipment break down. John O'Connor said this is not the only year there have been problems. Mayor Anderson said the equipment is a topic of discussion with council.

John O'Connor said the Bookstore would like to pay for a convex mirror for the alley crossing at Larson's on Bonner Street. He said he would be happy to pay for it if the city would take responsibility for maintenance and replacement if necessary.

Mike Sloan joined the meeting.

Rhonda Hamerslough spoke regarding Second Chance Animal Adoption building and animal shelter. She said the Board of Directors and the Commissioners, Mayor Anderson, Dave Kramer and Rick Alonzo have met several times. The Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency wants to work with the city and not against them. They would like to someday see one animal ordinance for both the city and county to work with and for an animal control officer and a shelter to house both dogs and cats. The Board would like to meet with all to get the plans in place. Rhonda introduced Don Jordan to the group. He is a designer for the layout, design, and building process for the new animal shelter. SCAA wants to have one central location for services.

Rhonda spoke briefly about the Pawsitive Works Program and said they are hopeful that the new shelter will have space for meeting rooms for training. SCAA is looking at small grants for office furniture and equipment. There is a planned city/county drop off for animals at the shelter. She said there is a large cat problem in Bonners Ferry. She also spoke of the drop off being a fenced area with a kennel. Rhonda said they have helped the city pound with the medical treatment and care and adoption of animals. Rick Alonzo thanked the Second Chance Group for their support and volunteerism this year. Rhonda said the SCAA is looking at a donation or lease

with either the city or county for property. She also said the area near the fairgrounds would be an ideal location for the shelter.

Paul Rawlings asked the city to place a narrow lot in the Eaton Addition up for auction because he is interested in bidding on the property. He said the properties on each side of the lot are privately held. The property came to the city in 1968 from the former owner Bruce Plumlee according to Paul. Paul owns the lots immediately west of the city's lot. He would like to build a carport on the lot to provide off street parking for the home he owns west of the lot. Stephen said we are planning on installing a water main on Maple Street and there are geological concerns in that area. Paul would not disturb the geological aspects of the lot. Paul said Beloit Mendenhall and Jerry Kothe were both in favor of the lot being put up for auction. He said they are concerned about an old pine tree that is wounded and are hopeful that Paul would remove the tree if he were to obtain the lot. Mayor Anderson said Council will put the item on the agenda at the first meeting in February which will be on the first Wednesday of February.

Tim Dougherty joined the meeting.

Rick Alonzo said there have been eight arrests, two accidents, three DUIs, and two burglaries over the past two weeks. The evidence room is virtually finished and invited council to look at it. He said he is working on the old evidence room to be his office so the Mayor can have his office.

Pat Warkentin said there have been six fire calls since the last meeting but they have been false alarms. The fire department has controlled traffic on several accidents. A call from the hospital came in but it was cancelled in route but the fire department is obligated to respond so the Assistant Fire Chief checked out the situation. Pat said once a call comes in fire department personnel are obligated to check out the situation.

Stephen said the city is starting to recycle with cardboard and paper. He said there is information on the Columbia River Treaty in the packet and it affects the Kootenai River and wanted Council to be aware of it. A renegotiation is being looked at. The sewer camera from the City of Sandpoint is coming up for sale. The pool drain is required by federal law and will be coming available for ordering. The evidence room is nearly complete and the in-house labor is working well. Rick said they are doing a great job. Stephen reminded council of the Planning and Zoning training in Post Falls on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

John Langs moved to approve the consent agenda. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of payrolls and January 27, 2009 accounts payable; approval of January 6, 2009 regular council meeting minutes and January 15, 2009 special council meeting minutes; approval for Steve Neumeyer to attend Hands on Relay School in Pullman, WA from March 16-20, 2009; approval for Dan Rice to attend Voltage Regulator School in Vancouver, WA from June 9-11, 2009; and

approval for David Sims and Christine McNair and Planning and Zoning Members to attend the Planning and Zoning Seminar in Post Falls on February 7, 2009.

The Arizona Street land transfer was discussed. Stephen said it is an equal trade of ground to straighten out the street behind the Sheriff's Office and make the intersection safer. Dave Gray moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Quit Claim Deed with Boundary County. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

John Langs moved to table the wage increase discussion until the 1<sup>st</sup> of April to get a better look at revenue. He said he makes this motion with great regret because he wants to support he employees but he is concerned about the changes coming in. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Chris Clark asked about the budget figures presented. He said it looks like a \$.40 per hour raise would fit the budget. Dave Gray said he would like to go higher than that. Connie said she would like to offer a \$.40 per hour raise now and if we can go higher later to do so. John Langs said he does not want to go through a layoff and he is concerned about that. He thinks if we postpone the raise and go retroactive the employees would get the same amount. He wants to get a better handle on the budget and revenues without dipping into the reserves. John said by April we would have a more definite idea of the State revenues. He said he would feel more comfortable by waiting and giving the largest raise we can afford at that time. Mayor Anderson said he feels comfortable with a \$.40 raise and our employees are good employees and this will save a bit of money over what was originally anticipated and put the wages in the hands of the people who need it most. John Langs “yes”. The motion died.

John Langs moved to give a \$.40 per hour raise retroactive back to January 1, 2009 as well as the budgeted hourly adjustments for Dan Rice, Christine McNair, and Judy Jeske. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Dave Sims said his name is listed and he does not feel it is appropriate to give the raise to him. John Langs amended his motion to omit Dave Sims raise and add the additional hourly \$.25 per hour for Alan Branson and John Delaney for their certifications. Dave Gray agreed to the second. The motion passed, all in favor.

John Langs moved to table the legal contract discussion to a later date. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Chris Clark asked if the city is now operating without a legal contract. Mayor Dave Anderson said he feels we are getting the services from the contract and is in favor of signing the contract with the city attorney and thinks the budget can handle it. John Langs “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “no”, Chris Clark “no”. Mayor Anderson voted “no” to break the tie.

Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract as presented with the City Attorney. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Chris Clark said his reasoning is that the council asked the Mayor to negotiate this contract with the City Attorney and the Mayor and the City Attorney negotiated in good faith and the contract is for a one year term rather than a five year term. Connie Wells said she thinks the increase is too sizable and too high of a raise at this time

even though he does a good job. Chris said law enforcement is one hundred percent behind Tim and appreciates his responsiveness and he does not like going out of town for an attorney. John Langs said he will vote for it but he cautioned that we must be careful about general fund spending and there could be a disaster in the general fund. John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “no”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Dave Sims said the city website was discussed in August, 2007 and council approved it but he thought it would be prudent to have council reapprove the purchase since there has been so much time elapsed. Dave Gray said he has a passion for this website to go forward. Dave Sims asked council to let him know if there is information that they would like to have on the website other than utility information, building permits, council agendas and minutes. Mike Sloan said he likes the county website because it has many links and the city’s website would be a door to the city. He said the city link would join things together and the public could get pertinent information. Dave Gray thinks this will be a great addition to the city. Tim Wilson asked if the city code would be on the website. Stephen said there would be a link to the Sterling Codifier’s website. Dave Gray moved to contract with Gov.Office for a city website in the amount of \$1,669 plus an ongoing monthly fee of \$37.00. John Langs seconded the motion. John O’Connor said he would like to see city business on the website as well as their minutes. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

The annual city contracts were discussed. Stephen has put a summary of equipment costs together for the department heads to look at if they need a contractor for a job as well as for council to review. He said this contracting keeps the insurance and workers comp policies on file at the city in case we have an emergency and need to call on the contractors. Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign contracts with Mastre Backhoe, Mike Kelly Excavating, Brimhall Excavating, Kerby Trucking, KG&T Septic Service, and E.R. Balancing, Alan Flory Logging, Lake City Infrared and Electric. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Rick Alonzo said Darrell Kerby told him that if any city vehicle goes into Canada that ICRMP does not cover the city vehicle. ICRMP is looking at covering this travel to Canada according to Rick.

The E.R. Balancing Services contract was discussed. Stephen said with rotating equipment there can be problems. He said with the brushes there is arching and he has gone out for proposals to the two contractors that do most of the work at our power plant. He said they have come back with their proposals and he has come up with the method to repair the unit. He spoke of pulling the exciter and said this can be done at anytime and this repair should not hinder our production. Chris Clark asked if we should get a quote for H&N Electric. Stephen said H&N does more of the electric side of the work and he thinks E.R. Balancing is the best contractor for this job. Dave Sims said the work to be done is specialized. John Langs moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with E.R. Balancing for work at the power plant based on the City

Administrator's recommendation. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Bonneville Power Administration for substation lease for the Moyie Tap line. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

John Langs moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the ICDBG paperwork for payment of engineering and administration costs. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Dave Gray moved to accept Planning and Zoning's recommendation for the rezone of the S 1/2 of the S 1/2 of the W 1/2 of Lot 18 Jackson Sunny Home Sites from residential A to commercial. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Snow dumping by the city was briefly discussed. Dave Sims said he thinks it will be worthwhile to reiterate the policy. Stephen said our snow is dumped at the site near the Kootenai River Inn until the site is full and then the snow is dumped near the dike and we follow best management practices. Best management practices are to keep heavy solids and garbage out of the snow being dumped in the river. Stephen said we learned to have a large cat come in right away and compact the snow at the dump site. John Youngwirth said we need more room for snow dumping. Dave Sims said he is not concerned about dumping in the river but we should find a better site before someone mandates that we do. Mayor Anderson said the distance is the largest liability for hauling to a dump site. Dave Gray agrees with John Youngwirth and Dave Sims that we need to look for a larger site. John Youngwirth said dumping on a flat site is difficult because they cannot get all the snow out of the truck. John Langs asked about chemicals being put in the river. John Youngwirth said the clean snow is dumped in the river and there were no chemicals in it. Stephen said the fairgrounds is problematic due to the drainage and it is pumped into the river. Stephen spoke about best management practices.

John Langs moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the LHTAC grant application for the Alderson Lane Rebuild Project and approve Resolution 2009-02. Stephen said this grant is limited to streets considered collectors. The project will be for widening the street and installing sidewalks. Dave Sims said once the traffic study is adopted that we can change the designation of collectors for the city by going through the county. Mayor Anderson said they want shovel ready projects that can begin in 90 days. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Stephen spoke regarding the amendment with Welch Comer for the bond design contract. He said there is the need to have design funding moved to the master plan mainly for the storm water protection plan. He said the city needs to go ahead with a storm water protection plan on

site. He said a storm water protection plan meets best practices if we are questioned. Stephen said the environmental agencies can show up on site and if they do not like the storm water protection plan they can still fine us. Stephen said the storm water protection plan for the visitor center was written by Mike Klaus. Dave Gray moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment #7 for the Water Bond Design Contract with Welch Comer. John Langs seconded the motion. Stephen said phase 2 of the water project has been broken down into phase 2 and 2a. Phase 2 includes VanBuren, Pine, and Comanche. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Stephen said the right of way questions are not on phase 2 of the water project. John Langs moved to authorize advertisement of bids on phase 2 of the water project. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

The discussion of the transportation plan additional fee was moved to executive session for legal review. John Langs moved and Connie Wells seconded. Motion passed, all in favor.

The hearing date for the transportation plan will be scheduled for February 17, 2009. Chris Clark moved and Connie Wells seconded the motion and it passed, all in favor.

The rate increase hearing date was tabled.

Rick Alonzo said Heiko Arshat has been selected for the new police officer position but he would like the hire date to be effective in two weeks. Heiko has not attended POST yet but attended the Reserve Academy. John Langs moved to hire Heiko Arshat as the new police officer. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Gray spoke about the Rotary Club Membership. He said since Dave Kramer has retired the city has not been represented at Rotary. Dave Sims has offered to represent the city at the Rotary Club. The dues are \$75 per quarter and Dave would pay for his own meals with the city reimbursing the meal costs. Dave Gray moved to authorize Dave Sims to be the city representative at the Rotary Club. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

John Langs spoke regarding a student representative being selected as a non-voting member of council. He said it is becoming popular with student government and it is a way of giving the youth in the community a feeling of being part of city government. It would be a two year term and it would be a good way to bring the youth into city government. Dave Gray thinks it is a pertinent way to receive participation from a person that is involved in being a part of government. John Langs said there would be an application and selection process with limited terms. Dave Gray said all areas including home schooling should be considered. Tim Wilson suggested having the school body elect a representative. The group briefly discussed the terms of the representative. Mike Sloan asked if the student representative could interact with the

school council to disseminate information. John Langs suggested that the Student Body Representative be the liaison between the city and the schools. Stephen will speak to the high school about the program. John Langs moved to invite the Student Body Representative to attend the city council meetings and represent the student body. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Right of way certification is a requirement of Rural Development for our water projects according to Stephen Boorman. John Langs moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the right of way certification for phase 2 of the water project. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

John Langs moved at 8:33 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 for discussion of legal, personnel, and negotiations. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. At 9:30 p.m. council went out of executive session. No action was taken.

Dave Gray moved to table the issue of the increase in fees for the David Evans Associates contract for the traffic study. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk