

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled meeting of February 7, 2012 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, City Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Acting Police Chief Joel Minor, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, and Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Ron Koubek, Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Carolyn Testa, Warren and Patricia Mahoney, Doug Ladely, Sr., Dale Simpson, Ruth Sutton, Gary Leonard, Terri Maine, Dave Gray, and Loretta Hunsaker.

Ron Koubek from the Rod Bender's Car Club asked council if it would be possible to use the city parking lot for June 2 and 3, 2012 for the car show. He said all the money made off the car show goes back into Bonners Ferry. Mayor Anderson said we will agendize the issue for the next meeting. Ron clarified that they would need Main Street and the city parking lot as well. Ron said the Rod Bender's would work with the Farmers Market and advertise an alternate location for them that day. Ron left the meeting.

Acting Police Chief Joel Minor said there have been three driving without privileges, two warrant arrests, two possessions of controlled substance, two DUIs, two minors in possession, one unattended death, two burglaries, one battery, one agency assist, one fraud, and one harassment. He said there is also a resignation letter from Jodi Hubbard that will be considered on the agenda tonight.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the fire department has been quiet the last couple weeks. He said the support unit is in place as of last night. The street crew did a lot of work on the support unit to make it more suitable for the fire department's use. He said there is quite a bit more storage than what the old unit had. He said the new unit clears the bay doors by a couple inches. He invited council to stop by the fire station and take a look at it.

Stephen Boorman told council there is a copy of the franchise bill being considered by the Legislature in the packet for council to review. He said there are changes that would affect our joint use agreement and he has worked with Will Hart on the issue. An APPA article on Bonners Ferry was circulated and told council if there are any changes to let him know. He spoke of the FERC Part 12 inspection that is required every five years as part of our license and said an independent engineer is needed. Stephen has started the request for qualifications process. Tom Mayo asked about District 2 waterline. Stephen said he has not done much on the project but he will look into it.

Mike Sloan said Blackfoot Communications met last week and they are willing to go forward with the fiber to the home project. Mike said the contracts are written so the cities are liable to make a profit and this will need to be changed because legally cities cannot do this. Mike said another service provider is needed and there are a couple possibilities out there. The POP in

Sandpoint is owned by 360 Networks. Mayor Anderson asked if Blackfoot is completely out of the picture. Mike said they are not but the contracts have to be re-worded.

Mike Klaus said there is a tentative urban renewal meeting scheduled for the end of February. Right now the final agreements are being worked on with the developers.

Connie Wells moved to add agenda item #19 approving the appointment of Steve Benkula as chief of police. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “no”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mike Klaus moved to approve 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; approval of the Treasurer’s Report; approval of January 17, 2012 regular council meeting minutes, and approval of January 25, 2012 special council meeting minutes.

Connie Wells moved to approve the catering permit for Under the Sun for an event at Pearl Theater on February 11, 2012. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration was discussed. Gary Leonard said it is his first time at putting on a 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. He understood that the city and Boundary County hold the liability insurance for the event. He also said he was informed by Stephen that the city can manage the donations made for the fireworks display. Stephen also informed Gary that a list of volunteers is needed for insurance purposes. Gary asked about food vendors’ insurance. Stephen said that would be up to the individual vendors to hold. Attorney Tim Wilson said the vendors need to have the city and county named as additional insured. Mayor Anderson said this is a great function for the community and the city will be happy to create a fund for the event.

Tom Mayo moved to accept the resignation of Jodi Hubbard from the police department. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Rick Alonzo said the city currently does not have provisions for a death in the family without an employee using their leave. He said the county has this proposed policy for bereavement leave of five days and he thinks this is a good thing to do. Connie said she thinks this is a good thing to do but the number of days may be excessive. She said she has done some research and thinks using sick leave should be allowed. Connie said the proposed time off can add up if there is a death each year. Rick commented that death is a rare occurrence. Mayor Anderson said he thought the proposed five days may be excessive. Mike Klaus does not have a problem with it either way. Tom Mayo did not want to comment as he is a county employee also. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the bereavement leave policy. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. Mayor Anderson is not against the proposed policy but would like more time to research other policies and would like to see the limit be more like three days. Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”,

Connie Wells “no”, Tom Mayo “no”. The Mayor voted “no”. The issue will be reviewed again in March.

Stephen said effective December 31, 2012 our radios have to use half as much band width as they did before and some of the truck mounted radios need to be replaced. He said our radio expert has asked us to get this taken care of before the crunch hits. Stephen estimates the cost to be nearly \$10,000 for the city to upgrade and retrofit all the radios. Pat Warkentin said the radio frequency was changed last week also and there were some complications in the retrofit for the fire department. He said testing from Dawson Ridge was also done last week. Pat said all firefighters carry pagers and that is a lot of pagers to be reprogrammed. He said this has been a chore to say the very least and is hopeful that when the city reprograms and retrofits the radios that it will be a smoother process. Stephen said we have our repeater in the city yard and we will use our reliable radio expert that we have used for years. There will be 20 truck mounted radios and two or three handhelds to purchase as well as reprogramming the other radios. Mike Klaus moved to upgrade the city radios at an estimated cost of \$10,000. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Stephen said over the past six or eight years we have received many radio replacements for the fire department through Homeland Security grants so most of the truck mounted radio replacements are for the street or electric departments.

Mike Klaus said the special use permit for Rawlings Community Counseling at 6658 Comanche Street looks pretty straight forward. He spoke of exterior lighting and a privacy fence. Stephen said the fencing partially done and is six feet tall. This is noted and Planning and Zoning requested that it be completed as well as the parking spaces be adjusted. Stephen clarified that parking space two was requested to be removed according to the Traffic Safety Committee and this should be followed. Mayor Anderson said the Planning and Zoning voted unanimously to approve the special use permit. Connie inquired about the hours of operation of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday. Stephen said Saturday was the catch up day but would not be full hours. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the special use permit for a Mental Health and Addictions Counseling Center at 6658 Comanche Street. (Clerk’s note: Rawlings Community Counseling). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The contract with Utility Services Associates for water leak detection was tabled until Stephen can get more information.

The flower baskets were also tabled until we get final quotes.

Mike Klaus moved to reappoint golf committee members Linda Hiatt and Brion Poston and appoint Chad Deitz and Dick Staples as new golf committee members. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor

Tom Mayo moved to reappoint planning and zoning members Marcia Morman, Sue Larson, and Wally Cossairt. Connie Wells seconded motion and it passed, all in favor.

The primary voltage current data logger was discussed. Stephen said this device helps monitor the power quality of the system and if there are blinks or short outages or reclosure operations that cannot be isolated the device identifies where the problem is. It also determines the load on a line at different metering points. It is a good trouble shooting device. Tom Mayo moved to approve purchase of a primary voltage current data logger. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The latest sewer discharge permit requires the city to monitor the temperature of the effluent. Mike Klaus moved to approve the lagoon temperature monitoring equipment for \$1,670. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The lagoon power point presentation was tabled.

Councilman Rick Alonzo spoke regarding compression brakes. He said when he was campaigning, especially on the northside, he heard a lot of comments about the loud trucks. He has researched Ponderay’s compression brake ordinance and it prohibits compression brakes entirely. Rick said we may want to consider using the language of unmuffled compression brakes being prohibited and asked Doug his opinion. He said some trucks have a retarder that helps with the noise. Doug Ladely said the difference in Ponderay and Bonners Ferry is that Ponderay does not have a hill and hot brakes are a problem. Mayor Anderson said he is not totally against the compression brake prohibition but he wants to talk to the former council and mayor. He said safety versus noise reduction is a consideration. Tom Mayo said the trains are so loud that the trucks do not even get noticed at the other end of town. Tom does not think it will rule because if someone is having a problem they will use the compression brakes. Connie said she is not educated enough but would not want to prohibit the compression brakes if they are needed for safety. Rick does not like the loud noise and some trucks don’t make a loud noise but other do. Rick asked Doug Ladely about the use of compression brakes from the 35 mile per hour sign through town. Doug said he uses his compression brakes at all times when he is driving his truck. He thinks if a person is at the bottom of the north hill he should be okay if the person is using his head. Mike Klaus would like to look at safety risks and thinks Doug is a good experienced driver but is concerned about others that may not have the experience. He is not against the ordinance but thinks we should look at the issue. More research will be done.

Mayor Anderson said there was a committee that interviewed four candidates for police chief and all were excellent candidates. He said in the end the decision was unanimous to appoint Steve Benkula as police chief. Mayor Anderson recommended that we appoint Steve Benkula as police chief and recommended paying him \$51,000 per year as he has not been a police chief

before. Mike Klaus moved to hire Steve Benkula at \$51,000 per year as the new City of Bonners Ferry police chief. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Rick said he did some checking on Benkula and he does not think he meets the criteria for chief due to him being a staff sergeant of Twin Falls and our criteria for a police chief states that the person must be a lieutenant for three years or have the command experience. Mayor Anderson asked where this was listed. Rick said it was in our job announcement. Mayor Anderson asked if this was in the city policy statement. Rick was not sure and will have to check. Mayor Anderson said he thinks the city has made exceptions in the past. Mike said he appreciated being on the selection committee and said we had four great candidates with Joel certainly being one of them. He thinks the new person will be a good addition to the force, will be a good leader, and will create unity among the existing police department and other departments. Attorney Tim Wilson asked if this was contrary to the job announcement made. He wondered if we needed an amendment to the motion to hire waiving the requirement listed in the job advertisement. He said it would have to be a motion to amend waiving the requirement of the leadership time as a lieutenant and accept the time of a staff sergeant and if that motion passed then council could continue with the vote or table until we figure out what the requirements are. Mayor Anderson said his intent was to hold a special meeting next week to make the appointment but if counsel thinks we should tuck in the corners then we can do so. Tim recommended taking time with this issue if there is a challenge involved. The group discussed tabling the motion to consider how to handle going forward. Tim said technically, the motion is still out there to be decided. Tom Mayo moved to table the motion of police chief appointment until further investigation. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

A special meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss and appoint the police chief.

Connie Wells moved at 7:58 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (f). Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Executive session ended at 8:17 p.m. No action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

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Kris Larson, City Clerk