

Mayor David Anderson called the special meeting of February 11, 2010 to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center. 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, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, Boundary County Commissioners Ron Smith, Dan Dinning, and Walt Kirby, Boundary County Commissioner Secretary Michelle Rohrwasser, and Boundary County Landfill Supervisor Claine Skeen, Moyie Mayor Doug Evans, Moyie City Council Members Geoff Hollenbeck, Willie Byars, and Steve Economu, Ron Frederickson, Kevin Frederickson, and Robert Hanover. Carolyn Testa joined the meeting late.

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss garbage issues.

Garbage was discussed. Mayor Anderson said where the tonnage falls is heavily on the paper and cardboard side. Stephen said there are many unknowns as to what portion of garbage comes out of the city residential program. David Sims said Moscow and Sandpoint have .2 tons of garbage that goes into their recyclables per day so this statistic shows that there needs to be some more research done. Primary concern is to maintain the landfill and keep it open and secondary would be recycling.

Claine said tipping fees are \$85.00 per ton. Ron Frederickson said there are five or six tons of garbage on his truck. If his truck is fully loaded it would be six tons.

Dan Dinning said EPA and Panhandle Health are coming after Boundary County so we need to come up with a solution even if it is short term until we can find a long term solution.

Claine said we are at 15 to 16 ton per day at the landfill and the manned sites are making a big difference on the recycling side. Ron Smith said he thinks if we get serious about the recyclables then we will be able to keep the landfill open because we won't have so much garbage going in the hole. Claine said once a month the county is getting about a ton of recyclables when they are at the Far North/NIC parking lot. Mayor Anderson asked how the county is arriving at the tonnage numbers they have since they don't have scales. Claine said the Bonners Ferry Garbage truck is weighed for each load and once a month everyone dumps their garbage in blue containers and they are weighed for the waste stream study.

Mayor Anderson said different cities are finding that the tonnage is minimal from recycling. Ron Smith asked about Ron Frederickson purchasing his equipment for recycling. Ron Frederickson said he has found through his research that curbside pickup is beneficial. Mayor Anderson said the figures are not adding up to making the program worthwhile. He also spoke about a cost of service study that could be done and said the city may help the county pay for this cost of service study. Mayor Anderson said the goal is to save money and keep the landfill open. He said the city could start recycling in the city and increase the billing but it is a pass through to our customers. Anything that happens on our end has a cost associated and he is concerned about the burden on the city customers.

Mayor Anderson spoke of the yearly solid waste fees paid by other counties that are transferring their garbage out being in comparison to what Boundary County residents are now paying. Claine said Boundary County has another 30 years if we stack the garbage. Walt Kirby said we are still subject to the 20 ton per day limit. Claine said six ton per day is \$181,000 per year. For

20 ton per day the tipping fees are \$600,000 if we transfer our garbage. Ron Smith said we cannot close our landfill at this time because it will take over a million dollars to close it. He said the county puts in about \$30,000 per year and currently there is about \$600,000 in the closure fund. Ron Smith spoke of recycle sites in the city and asked what the city cost would be. There are over 2,000 pounds of recyclables in five or six hours on the monthly pickup at Far North/NIC.

Chris Clark thanked the county for taking steps to work on the future of the landfill and running the landfill. He spoke of recycle bins in the city limits that will help with keeping tonnage out of the landfill. He would like to take interim steps and keep working on the issue. He also said a more aggressive advertising program would be helpful and maybe the first step. Chris is not sure the community is aware of the dire situation. He said these interim steps need to happen first. If we make recycling easy enough and educate the public they will do it.

David Sims handed out paperwork on "Recycling in Idaho: Profiles of Community Recycling Programs".

Ron Smith said Boundary County no longer has the agreement trading with Bonner County for maintenance of the Pack River Road and use of the Naples dumpsite. Boundary County now pays Bonner County a small fee for maintaining the portion of the Pack River Road that is located in Boundary County.

The group spoke about notifying the public through tax notice mailings and utility billings. They also discussed a recycle site in the city. Ron Smith is concerned about unmanned sites because he thinks the public will not sort properly. At the post office there was 11.75 tons of recyclables in 2008-2009. Ron Frederickson brings in cardboard that amounts to about one and a half ton per week.

Mr. Economu said he does not know about recycling rules. The City of Moyie does not have mandatory garbage pickup. Ron Frederickson said he has about 50 residential accounts in Moyie. Dan Dinning agreed that the county needs to educate the public better. Connie Wells said there are many unanswered questions and confusion about what is cardboard or paper and whether the cans and plastics need to be washed out first.

Stephen said there is a lot of yard waste that is picked up by city residents. Ron Frederickson said it is seasonal in the city but many residents put yard waste in their garbage bags. Connie said unless it is mandatory many people will not recycle. Dan Dinning asked about city picking up yard waste. Stephen said the City does this in the spring. Dan said the county is doing well with the voluntary participation of the county residents. David Sims asked if the city needs to change their ordinance prohibiting yard waste. Mike Klaus said the amount of his garbage has been reduced by over half since his family has been recycling but the weight has not reduced that much. Mike is concerned that the recycle program will not be enough to keep the landfill open but he does understand that it is the right thing to do. The most cost effective way to get people to recycle is to put recycle containers near places where people go often such as grocery stores. Some people don't want to keep the recyclables in their homes for a week or longer.

Dan Dinning asked about the cost of bins. Stephen thinks it would be cheaper to do a curbside recycling program than what the county pays for one manned site. He also said in the city's

research it was found that the other counties still have unmanned sites. Claine said the blue boxes are \$800. Claine asked if he would be infringing on the city garbage hauler if he does the recycling program more than once a month. Ron Smith suggested increasing the number of recycle days in the city. Dan suggested having bins placed in the city as a start.

Doug Evans said there is garbage being thrown in the closed sites in the county and the people that are throwing the garbage in the wrong places should be found and fined. Claine said he uses a community service worker at the recycle site once a month at the Far North/NIC parking lot. Stephen suggested having a better place to drop off the recyclables at the landfill so the people don't get their shoes all dirty.

Ron Smith said everyone in the city limits are also county residents. Walt Kirby spoke of the solid waste fees paid by county verses city residents. David Sims said the city residents do not use the manned sites and it may be worth looking at the cost of the manned sites to keep the cost difference just. Ron Smith said city residents do not have the option of paying for residential garbage pickup. David said the question is whether the county is providing a service to the out of city residents that they are not providing to the city residents. Tom Mayo said the city resident pays about \$80 more per year because the pickup fee is about \$100 per year and the city resident landfill fee is about \$20 less than the county fee. David said the county is hauling the garbage part way for the county residents. Dan said it is a matter of reducing tonnage and we need to be equitable. He suggested increasing the recycle days in the city or placing bins in the city and allowing Ron Frederickson to pick up the recyclables. Tom said a lot of residents do recycle but they haul their recyclables to the landfill. Connie asked how much in recyclables from the manned sites is pulled out of the waste stream. Claine said 3000 to 4000 pounds per week for all the manned sites is pulled out.

Ron Frederickson said as a private contractor he would like to offer his services and he thinks he can do it cheaper and better than a governmental entity. Ron Smith asked if there would be a cost associated to it. Ron Frederickson said there would be.

Mike Sloan said he has lived in communities where the public puts their yard waste in special bags and it is hauled by the contractors but is separate from the household garbage.

Robert Hanover suggested setting up recycle sites in the city that are unmanned to test whether it will work. He also suggested a method for the residents to keep yard waste out of the landfill by having it picked up on Mondays to get an idea of how much tonnage is involved.

Mike Klaus suggested two unmanned sites in the city for recyclables to get an idea of cost. A question would be who would bear the cost. Ron Smith is concerned about people putting non-recyclables in the recycle bins. Connie said she does not see why city residents would dump their garbage other than recyclables in the recycle bins since their garbage is picked up anyway. Mayor Anderson suggested agendaizing the garbage issue for the next council meeting and setting out guidelines to give to the county. Ron Smith is concerned about stepping on Ron Frederickson's toes with the recycle issues. Mike Klaus said the yard waste is much heavier than the recyclables. Mayor Anderson thanked all for their garbage input.

Mike Sloan handed out information on grant funding for helping communities develop strategic plans. Mike contacted the people who did the Hudson Study several years ago. Many of the

projects identified in the Hudson Study have been completed. The Hudson Study was completed in 2002 and it needs to be updated. To do a study there is funding available between \$20,000 and \$70,000. He said there is also grant funding that may be used for construction. Mike also spoke of the Idaho Rural Partnership funding that is available. Two cities will be awarded the Idaho Rural Partnership grant but they require manpower to assist with the process. Mike thinks it would be a good idea to go after both sources of funding but said he may need assistance from Nancy Mabile at Panhandle Area Council for grant writing. Dan Dinning asked if we have the ability to include the City of Moyie and their needs. Mike thinks there is a way. Mike said a huge cost that was part of the Hudson Study originally was engineering and we would not need that now.

Mayor Anderson spoke to the group about the Hudson Study and how insightful they were. Mayor Anderson offered a copy of the Hudson Study to Moyie.

Stephen spoke of the local improvement district legislation and the upcoming Planning and Zoning workshop in Post Falls. He also spoke about the Columbia River Treaty with Canada and said it will expire in 2014. He said quite a few factors will be worked on in the next few years. Dan Dinning said the Kootenai Tribe will analyze the information on the Columbia River Treaty. Stephen said if the majority of the workings can be done in the northwest it will be advantageous to the northwest.

Stephen explained the local improvement district process. Currently, after hearing notices, a local improvement district can be formed with government approval. The new legislation requires a vote of the people rather than a vote of the governing body.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk