Council President John Langs called the regularly scheduled council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present for the meeting were John Langs, Council Members Chris Clark, Connie Wells, and Dave Gray, Student Council Representative Riley Boorman, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Assistant City Administrator David Sims, City Attorney Tim Wilson, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Water/Sewer Department Supervisor Jim Fritzsche, and Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan. Also present were Bill Houston, Marcia Cossette, Christian and Darcy McCarthy, Bob and Linda Case, Tina Wilson, Don Bartling, and Jim Rolletto from David Evans Associates. Mayor Anderson was absent due to illness.

John Langs opened the Transportation Plan hearing. There being no public comment the hearing was recessed.

Christian McCarthy spoke regarding the raises that the city just authorized and the utility rates that are increasing. He was happy to speak to the Mayor regarding the raises that were authorized but he is concerned about the timing of the raises and the rate increases proposed. John Langs said the water rate in 2006 was approximately $38.00 and when we consolidated with the other water districts we set the rates that we thought were going to meet our needs. John further said that we lowered our rates too far in 2006 so now we are correcting the rates. He informed the group that we have a water revenue bond voted on by the people and we have received a $1,000,000 grant to help fund our water projects and if we do not have the water rates sufficient to meet the requirement of the bond that we will forfeit the grant funding. Stephen said conservation has helped because it has great benefit to our users because it prolongs the use of our facilities without having to spend a lot to upgrade the water plant.

Bill Huston spoke to council regarding a book drop at the Library. He is concerned about the elderly or handicapped or a young woman with children and the safety of those individuals dropping off books. Bill said he has spoken to the Trustees at the Library and they do not have the money to build a book drop. The amount of the project would be at least $3,000 to $5,000 according to figures presented by Sandy Ashworth and Mr. Huston has pledged $1,000 matching funds. The Library Trustees said they will install the book drop if the money can be raised.

Don Bartling spoke to the group regarding the School District M&O Levy. He said the four day school week is saving money, about $110,000 to the School District. He said attendance is also better since there is a four day school week. Five positions are being considered to be cut from the budget to show the community that the supplemental levy is needed. This is not a new process because it has been a continuous levy for 23 years. The levy is for a two year period. Mr. Bartling went over the needs listed in the upcoming M&O levy. There are 17 out of 19 school districts in northern Idaho that run M&O levies. Mr. Bartling asked for the City Council’s support. Dave Gray said as a retired teacher he understands the M&O and it is the right thing to do and he supports education. Don Bartling said there are three important issues – one is to cut five teachers, two is to ask the community to pass the M&O, and the third is that the
Governor is cutting back 6.2 percent. He spoke of the transportation funding and the number of buses and miles that are traveled each school day.

Tina Wilson spoke regarding the IMAP program. Idaho Mobility and Access Pathways program was started in 2005. Local Mobility Management Network (LMMN) is referred to as a lemon. We are lemon 1A (Bonner and Boundary Counties). The needs for public transportation are identified by the lemons. The Senior Hospitality Center, the Hospital, and the Restorium have vans for transportation. Each entity applies for grant funding to run the van programs. She said under the new guidelines, the needs are identified. Once the strategic plan is completed the Lemon will make the recommendation to the District Coordination Council (six districts) regarding grant funding and the Council then makes the recommendation to the State for funding under the Stimulus Program. Tina said Boundary County is under represented. She is working with David Sims and Jeff Gutshall on the IMAP. She asked if there is a digital copy available of the City of Bonners Ferry Transportation Plan. She invited City Council to attend a meeting at the Hospital with Shawn Keough on Friday at 12:15 p.m. Dave Sims asked how much money our Lemon will be allotted. Tina said funding is not broken down by the Lemons. She said there is $2,000,000 on the table for District 1 and there is nothing in Boundary County out of the $2,000,000. The City of Sandpoint has requested funding for many projects as well as the City of Coeur d’Alene and NICE. The deadline for submission of projects is Friday. Council thanked Tina.

Rick Alonzo asked for permission to hold the Car Show from 6:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on June 6, 2009. He asked that this be considered a city function and have the special event fees waived and also be covered under the city’s insurance as a city function.

Rick gave the police report. There have been three warrant arrests, three DUlIs, a MIP at the high school, and a call at Zip Trip for a drive by shooting but it turned out to be holes made by a pellet gun. The Police are working on the seat belt grant from the 12th through the 20th. Moose and deer have been reported on the south hill recently. There was one vehicle accident in the past two weeks.

Stephen said Chris Clark toured the power plant. The clarifier project is moving along quite well. Unit 2 exciter is being worked on. Stephen spoke to Dick Staples at JRS Surveying about what it would cost for drawings of the golf course. Dick said it would not cost anything. Dave Sims commented that there were about nine contractors on the walk through for the phase 2 water project. He also said the clarifier building has arrived and that project is moving forward.

Dave Gray 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 accounts payable and payroll; and authorization for five firemen to attend the North Idaho Fire Chiefs Association Fire Officer Development Academy.
The public hearing for the City Transportation Plan was reopened. Chris Clark moved to close the transportation plan hearing. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Gray moved to table the adoption of the Transportation Plan until the next meeting. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Tim Wilson spoke to council regarding the conveyance of real property in exchange of real property in the possession of Boundary County. Tim is working with the county on this transfer of property. There is a notice that is required for publication in the paper and an ordinance must be adopted by the city and the county. John Langs stated that this is to straighten out Arizona Street. Dave Gray moved that the proposed land transfer of property between the City of Bonners Ferry and the County of Boundary, as described in the quit claim deed previously approved at the January 27, 2009 meeting, is in the best interests of the City of Bonners Ferry, consideration is other than monetary and is the receipt of county property, that notice and hearing be set by the clerk, and that notice and hearing be held jointly with the county if the county so agrees, if not to proceed independently. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Dave Gray moved to support the School District levy. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The Augusta Street sidewalk project proposal was discussed and a stimulus grant will be applied for. Dave said many of the IMAP projects are aimed at public transit but he thinks the sidewalk project will apply. Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the stimulus grant application for Augusta Street and approve Resolution 2009-03. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Gray moved to allow the Car Show and waive the special event fees and cover it as a city event. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The catering permit for the Pheasants Forever banquet was discussed. Connie Wells moved to approve the catering permit for the Eagles for the Pheasants Forever banquet to be held on March 21, 2009. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen spoke regarding Chippewa Street and the right of way work and monumentation that is needed. Welch Comer would do a survey of the right of way and put monuments on each angle corner. He said this is a reasonable risk cost analysis because this would be a recorded record of survey so the right of way would be known when a water or sewer line would be installed. Tim said this has been reviewed with Welch Comer. After the options were researched, this is the safest way so we can proceed with the project. Dave Gray said the sewer lines are in need of repair and the issue needs to be resolved. Stephen said this process is one that ITD follows on their projects. Stephen said Chippewa and the Eaton line will be part of phase 2A water project.
Chris Clark asked for clarification. Stephen said the survey will prove that the water lines installed will be on city right of way. He said this right of way documentation will serve the community and the city for years to come. Chris Clark moved to authorize the right of way and monumentation paperwork with Welch Comer. Dave Sims seconded the motion. The motion passed – Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Dave Gray moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the ICDBG paperwork for engineering services provided by Welch Comer. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Stephen explained the grant process. The motion passed – Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Jim Fritzsche spoke to council regarding the designation of foreman for Alan Branson. Jim said Alan is now a class 2 operator and the title helps to achieve the class 3 designation. Stephen said the foreman in our departments implements projects and follows through on the projects done. He said Doug has gone more with the treatment side and Alan does the construction side. Connie Wells moved to approve the foreman designation for Alan Branson. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen spoke regarding a part-time temporary employee for the indexing of our drawings. He said there is a need for an employee to organize and index our drawings and have them scanned by JRS Surveying. The cost of scanning the drawings is about $1 to $3 per piece. The cost would be paid out of the utility funds. Dave Gray moved to authorize advertisement of a part-time person for indexing the utility drawings as dictated in the memo for up to 200 hours. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Gray moved to have the Ordinance read and suspend the reading of three times for changing the meeting time of the council meeting from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Tim Wilson read the ordinance in its entirety.

Connie Wells moved to adopt the ordinance (Ordinance 512) to change the meeting time to 7:00 p.m. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Stephen spoke regarding Tier 2 power supply. Dave Gray moved to go with Bonneville Power Administration for Tier 2 power supply for the City of Bonners Ferry. Dave Sims said with the complexity of explaining the matter to our voters and with our load growth this is the best option for the city. Tim Wilson said with the Frazier case involved this would be very difficult to explain to the voters as well as NRU being a new organization that this is the safest option. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.
Dave Gray moved to table the electric rate hearing date. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

POST academy was discussed for Heiko Arshat. There is a pilot session in Coeur d’Alene that Heiko can attend. The Boise POST academy does not have tuition but the Coeur d’Alene Academy does. There is a tuition fee of $1,137 but comparing the costs of this academy to the Boise academy we think we will save about $200. Dave Gray moved to authorize the expenditure for Heiko to attend the Coeur d’Alene POST academy. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Jim Fritzsche spoke regarding the sewer line replacement on Montana Street. Dave Sims explained the location of the needed sewer line replacement. Jim said the line is so bad that the camera could not get through the line. Dave Gray moved to authorize advertisement for quotes for the sewer line replacement on Montana Street with an estimated cost of $8,000 to $12,000. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Chris Clark moved to reappoint Cal Russell and Louise Carter to the Golf Committee. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

At 8:00 p.m. Dave Gray moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 to discuss records and negotiations. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. At 8:25 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk