

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of March 10, 2009 to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council Members Connie Wells, Chris Clark, and Dave Gray, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Assistant City Administrator David Sims, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Fire Officer Roy Marquis, Street Superintendent John Youngwirth, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, and City Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Ozzie Osborne, Dick Hollenbeck, Shirley Mullis, Allan Nicholson, James Eldridge, Bobby Eby, Brett Brown, Brian Newman, and Sandy Ashworth. Council President John Langs was absent due to illness.

Mayor Anderson announced that the water rate hearing will not be held tonight due to the lack of publication in the Bonners Ferry Herald and informed the group that the hearing will be on March 24, 2009. James Eldridge, Allan Nicholson, Shirley Mullis, and Bob Eby left the meeting.

Ozzie Osborne spoke to Council regarding American Legion Post 55 and the Veterans Administration's concern of the mobile clinic not coming to Bonners Ferry. He asked the Council to write letters to the representatives requesting that the mobile clinic be allowed to come to Bonners Ferry. Mayor Anderson said they have spoken to Representative Minnick and they were assured that the mobile clinic would not be eliminated from Bonners Ferry.

Sandy Ashworth spoke to Council regarding the Horizons Project. She said the goal was to build resiliency within the community and reduce poverty. She is on the steering committee and she attended a grant writing workshop with Anita Stockdale Woods and Erika Thiel. She said the thought was to keep the visitor center open full time rather than just part time by helping to find funding to operate it and man a coordinator. A small grant will fund a volunteer coordinator and a Vista volunteer who will work toward obtaining sustainable funding for the operations of the center and other community projects. One of the objectives of the Horizons Project will be to establish a Community Foundation. The data base will be available to Idaho 211 for statewide information and to showcase Bonners Ferry and Boundary County. She spoke of restoring Kootenai River Days as a major fund raising event. It would be a standalone event. She gave examples of the Farmers Market and logger events showing past and present. The grant is for about \$10,000 but there is quite a bit of in-kind according to Sandy. Part of the funding will be used for tech support to get the Chamber of Commerce's web site up and running, hire a part-time event coordinator, and get a Vista volunteer to work on the events. Dave Gray said he is in support of the idea. Mayor Anderson said there is a new resurgence with the new leadership at the Chamber of Commerce. Sandy said Pam Moe is a Vista volunteer for the School District and programs usually have the Vista volunteers for two years. The expenses of the visitor center can be used as match for the grant. Sandy said the Kootenai River Days event will not supplant any existing events and she figures there are about 50 other events throughout the year. Mayor Anderson commented on the sustainability of the project. Sandy said this is being looked at in the grant. Chris Clark said in these economic times if families can come together for affordable

activity that he is for it. Sandy will work on the grant and get it in a finished form and get it to the council for a final decision.

Rick Alonzo said there have been four DUIs, two reportable accidents, four arrests, two burglaries with suspects in each case, and a suicidal subject was dealt with and is still alive. For FY2008 the Police Department was at 74.3 percent for cases cleared.

Pat Warkentin said there was a gas leak at the Museum due to the snow being piled on the gas meter. Avista and the city crews took care of it. Fire Department Officers attended the North Idaho Fire Chief's training a couple weeks ago and came away with very good information.

Stephen Boorman said the web page will be up and running in the next couple weeks. He asked if council wanted to have a group picture or individual pictures. He thanked David Sims for his efforts on this project. He informed the group that B.F. Garbage has incorporated. The exciter work is done on unit 2 at the power plant. Water certification testing is being completed for Alan, Doug, and John this spring. The sedimentation basin was taken out of service today and the clarifier project is going forward. Lagoon leak testing is being worked on. The standard testing required by DEQ cannot be followed by Bonners Ferry because DEQ wants to take a cell out of service and we cannot do that. Dave Sims said we are proposing to test all four ponds at the same time. Dave Gray read an article from Public Power Council regarding the election of Stephen Boorman to the PPC Executive Committee. He congratulated Stephen.

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; authorization for Don Moore to attend ABC's of 21st Century and Gangs in Idaho on March 27-28, 2009 in Post Falls; Authorization for Dave Sims to attend Beginners Guide to GIS Training in Post Falls on April 7, 2009; approve regular city council meeting minutes of January 27, 2009, February 4, 2009, and special council meeting minutes of March 4, 2009.

David Sims asked for a biography on each council member. He asked if council wants to have their personal phone numbers on the web site.

Pat Warkentin said the fire department purchased a used rescue unit from Kootenai Fire and Rescue for \$7,500. The rear bumper needs a little work and the seats need recovered. It is a 1995 Freightliner five man cab with a generator, a foam system, cascade system to fill air bottles on a fire scene, extrication system, and lots of storage. Pat said a comparable vehicle would cost between \$70,000 and \$100,000. A little body work will be done and the upholstery will be done. It is estimated to be in service by the end of March. Pat said they would like to purchase extrication tools that go along with the unit.

Mayor Anderson spoke about unit 53 (the old rescue unit the city now owns). He said if we could donate this unit to South Boundary Fire District that they will donate their rescue unit to

the City of Moyie Springs. Pat Warkentin said we will take our hand tools and equipment off of unit 53 before it is donated. Mayor Anderson said we will buy good will by donating the old unit 53 to South Boundary Fire District. Chris Clark moved to donate old unit 53 to South Boundary Fire District. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen spoke regarding the sewer camera purchase. He said the City of Sandpoint got a new camera and have offered their old one to us for \$15,000. He said this is quite a good price. Stephen said the camera would be sent in for maintenance. David Sims said the purchase is for a van and the camera equipment. Dave Gray moved to purchase the used camera truck from the City of Sandpoint for \$15,000. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen explained what a water tapping tool was to the council. The tool allows work to be done on a pressurized line. Connie Wells moved to purchase the water tapping tool and spend up to \$2,000. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Chris Clark asked if this was in the budget. Stephen said it was. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen said E.L. Automation is generally used for the programming of the controls for the clarifier project. It is for the flow controls and rate controls. Mayor Anderson asked if this will integrate with what we already have. Stephen said it will. This is not the last expenditure for the project, as it is ongoing. Stephen spoke of the need to possibly have a backup generator for the clarifier project as well as the treatment plant. David said for short outages we draw off the gravity fed tanks. Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with E.L. Automation for the clarifier project. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk