Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of March 15, 2011 to order at 7:00 p.m. 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, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, Water/Sewer Department Supervisor Jim Fritzche, and Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Necia Maiani from Welch Comer, Marcia Cossette, Phil Johnson, Toni Villelli, Jerry Lewis, Rick Philbrook, Dave Gray, and Jim Deffenbaugh.

Police Chief Rick Alonzo gave the police report. There have been four driving without privileges, one DUI, one mental subject, three warrant arrests, one reckless driving, one under the influence of drugs, one child abuse, one possession of prescription drugs, two unattended deaths, one medical assist, one CPOR violation, and one stolen truck recovery with a stolen trailer attached. Officer Murray had surgery last week, started physical therapy, and the prognosis looks good. He said hopefully she will be back to work in a couple months.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. There was a false alarm at Valley View and there was a gas leak from a woman’s hot water heater on Denver Street.

Stephen Boorman said we will have urban renewal districts on the agenda this evening. Dave Sims gave a report on the unit one project at the power plant and there will be a delay with completion due to a machine problem. Mike asked what the holdup is. David said the plates or maybe the bushings may be causing a problem.

Mike Sloan said we received the contract back from U. S. MetroNets and we will be proceeding and he is hopeful to start getting information on a regular basis.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the motion and it passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; approval of the Treasurer’s Report; and approval of the March 1, 2011 minutes and the March 3, 2011 special council meeting minutes.

Mike Klaus moved to have the second reading by title only of Ordinance 522. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. Attorney Tim Wilson read Ordinance 522 by title only.

Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the space rental agreement with the Farmer’s Market for 2011. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. Connie asked for clarification of the parking spaces. Stephen said they are not encroaching on the adjacent parking spaces. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Necia Maiani from Welch Comer gave a presentation on the City of Bonners Ferry’s water system history including a timeline of the City’s water projects. The water intake at Myrtle Creek was established in 1920 and we have an alternate source on the Kootenai River. The Myrtle Creek fire resulted in many new water projects being done and quite a lot of grant funding coming into the city. The Kootenai River Line upsize was done as well as the intertie line with Cabinet Mountains Water District, the meter installation project, District 1 waterline raw water line replacement, pressure reduction valves, clarifiers at the water treatment plant, and
completed a water master plan in 2003. DEQ has continued to modify rules since 2003. A revenue bond was passed in 2005 in the amount of $3,000,000 for water system improvements. There was $1,000,000 grant offered from USDA as well as block grant money for engineering costs. Phase 1 of the water project was construction of a storage tank and chlorine contact chamber. In phase 1a of the water project there was a backbone to improve the pressure. Phase 2 was replacement of steel lines on Van Buren, Comanche, and Pine. Phase 2a was replacement of steel water mains on the Northside near Chippewa and also in the Eaton Addition, as well as Alderson Lane water main replacement and upsize. She said 6.6 million dollars of work has been done since the fire. Necia said there is about $390,000 left from USDA for needed projects. There are still projects in the master plan that need completion as well as projects that have come to light since the master plan was completed. The master plan is being amended to include the additional projects that have been identified and set out a capital improvement plan for the next five to ten years. Jerry Lewis asked what was used to replace the steel lines. Necia said C900 was used as well as ductile iron and HDPE in certain places.

Stephen said we looked at a prioritization of projects today. He said the highest priority is the Deep Creek crossing as well as repairing the steel water tank lid. Stephen said the poor condition of the steel lines has been found in this process.

Chris Clark was saddened to read the comments in the Community Review regarding the negative comments on the chlorination level of our water. Mayor Anderson said everyone on the District 1 line liked their raw water better than the treated water they now have. Stephen said the raw water was a huge liability to the city.

Necia left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

David Sims said the change order for the Alderson Lane project is a no cost change order that needs approval. It is for catch basins and to fix a meander on one end near a pole. Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Alderson Lane project change order. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

David said we were close on the Augusta project. LHTAC funded 13 projects and we were number 18 out of 54.

Stephen Boorman spoke regarding the residential exchange issue with Bonneville Power Administration. Going back to the 1982 power act, BPA sent a certain amount of power to the investor owned utilities, residential and small farm customers. He recommended signing this agreement as it is a settlement negotiation between the customers, Bonneville Power Administration, and the investor owned utilities. Mayor Anderson agrees with the recommendation. Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with Bonneville Power Administration to settle the residential exchange issue. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Contracts with independent contractors were discussed. Mike Klaus moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contractor agreements with APEX Construction Services, Brimhall.

Chris Clark moved to set the budget hearing date for fiscal year 2012 for September 6, 2011. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Chris Clark spoke regarding employee appreciation. He moved to grant the employees two additional personal leave days to be used by September 30, 2011 resulting in no overtime. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mayor David Anderson turned the meeting over to Council President Chris Clark.

Chris Clark spoke regarding urban renewal. Mike Klaus moved to adopt Resolution 2011-02 establishing an urban renewal district and appointing the committee members. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. Chris Clark said there will be a five member board and three members have been found to date. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Stephen said there is a learning curve regarding urban renewal districts and Jim Deffenbaugh from Panhandle Area Council is here to help us. He explained a handout that was prepared by Welch Comer for the flow of a sample urban renewal district with checks and balances built into the system. Mayor Anderson said the developer will guarantee the $15,000 for the creation of the URD. He said he has a conflict of interest regarding the urban renewal district.

Stephen said the power plant employees were neglected from the discussion of making the employees whole regarding the standby time change. Connie Wells moved to increase the power plant operator wages by $.14 per hour and have it effective as of March 6, 2011. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk