

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of March 19, 2013 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, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Water/Sewer Department Supervisor John Griffin, Police Chief Steve Benkula, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Attorney Will Herrington, Assistant City Administrator Andrakay Pluid, and Economic Development Coordinator David Sims. Also present were Laura Roady, Ruth Sutton, Dale Simpson, Doug Ladely, Sr., Jerry Higgs, Michael Stevens, Louise Carter, Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Thomas Keating, Natasha Keating, Brion Poston, and Ralph and Julie Lotspeich.

Jerry Higgs spoke to council about his comments made at the last council meeting concerning law enforcement and the bomb threats. Jerry said he left a message for Bob Graham, Incident Commander, but Bob did not return his call. Jerry said his comments were not critical to law enforcement but was hopeful that it would spur them on. Jerry said the bomb threats qualify as acts of domestic terrorism. He has found very little information or warnings for the public that tell the penalties, both state and federal, for these incidents. The bomb threats fall under the Patriot Act, and he is hopeful that we are working with the Idaho State Police, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the U.S. Attorney's Office. He suggested the School Superintendent consider cancelling spring break.

Will Hedrick joined the meeting.

Thomas Keating from Northwest Custom Tattoo spoke to council about advertising. He said he does not have highway frontage and spoke regarding City Code 3-3-2. He submitted an application and fee for the bill posting license and was told this does not fit his advertising needs. He had a sandwich board sign near the city parking lot and it did not cause a hazard. This resulted in 8 to 10 walk-ins per day, and that has dropped to one or two walk-ins a week after the sign was removed. He said there are repeat customers but growth is needed. He asked that the ordinance be rewritten to exclude local businesses or make it so his business qualifies for the bill posting permit. He asked what code would permit him to advertise and would like a solution for downtown advertising. Thomas spoke of the EDC website and growth for downtown. He said 80 percent of his customers bring family and friends that use other downtown businesses. He said there is a need for a clean tattoo shop at affordable prices that the customer can go to and not get an infection or disease. He asked that council help develop a way that is mutually beneficial and not a nuisance for all small businesses in the downtown area to have advertising rights on or near the highway. Rick Alonzo asked about the sandwich board that was on the city park property. Thomas was told he cannot have his sign on the city park as it is for community activities or nonprofits only. He said they were told they cannot have the bill posting license. Mayor Anderson said most signs are very temporary. Thomas would like a viable solution for downtown businesses. Mayor Anderson suggested the Chamber of Commerce and getting together with other businesses to talk about a viable solution. Thomas said all the way down Highway 95 there is advertising for businesses until you get to downtown Bonners Ferry and then there is nothing. He then asked if this should not be addressed. Mayor Anderson said the city is trying to keep a clean look to downtown. Thomas asked where he can put his sign and said that is why he is here. Mayor Anderson said to put it on his building. Thomas has one on the front of his building but said people cannot see it unless they are in front of his business. Mike Klaus asked where he wanted his sign on a regular basis. Thomas said where there is

visible access from Highway 95. Mike Klaus said whatever decision council makes it has to be equitable to all and that has to be sorted out before they can answer his question. Mayor Anderson thanked Thomas for his input.

Thomas and Natasha Keating left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

John Griffin gave a water department power point presentation. He explained the cross connection control program. He said we do not have a comprehensive plan for implementation of such a plan. A plan is required under the Idaho Administrative Code, Uniform Plumbing Code, Bonners Ferry City Code, and we are working toward this end. Backflow assemblies handle backflows and protect the water system. John spoke about pressure vacuum breakers. John said he found cross connection control program management software and staff is inputting our data so we can keep track. Cross connections protect all the city's water users. John gave council a handout for educating our water system users about cross connections.

John Griffin gave a fats, oils and grease pretreatment program overview. This affects our wastewater permit and industrial users are not allowed to discharge these fats, oils, or greases into our sewer. Grease interceptors shall be maintained in efficient operating condition. City Code lists many items that are not to be discharged in the city sewer. John explained what a standard grease interceptor looks like. Grease builds up in our lift stations. Fats oils and greases can be recycled and reused.

John Griffin went over some of the cost savings that have been implemented in the water and sewer departments to help maximize the revenue stream. He has also developed and implemented an equipment maintenance tracking program for the water and wastewater systems focused on predictive and preventative maintenance. Water filter nozzles have been replaced with a different type nozzle eliminating nozzle tip plugging with anthracite coal.

John Griffin informed council that he took the City of Bonners Ferry's water to a water tasting contest in Spokane and we won the best tasting water in the Inland Empire.

Mayor Anderson asked if there is a backflow prevention problem in Bonners Ferry. John will do inspections and set up a program. He said this backflow siphon can make people sick or it can even be deadly. The goal will be to eliminate these problems.

Police Chief Benkula spoke to council. He said for each bomb threat it takes two hours of resources to clear the school not counting the investigation process. On the first incident there were 40 interviews conducted. Entities responding for the bomb threat incidents are the City Police, Sheriff's Office, Fire Department, Boundary County Emergency Services, Homeland Security, Forest Service, Border Patrol, Idaho State Police, Boundary Ambulance, Boundary County School District, and the FBI. He said a lot of time and effort is being expended to keep the students and faculty safe and this is the primary goal. There are multiple suspects but investigations must be completed and the Police will not charge someone just for the sake of charging someone. There must be sufficient evidence.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the fire department has been responding to the bomb threats. The fire department responded to a gas alarm in the Marx Subdivision but it turned out to be a sewer issue. A mechanic came to inspect and fix the gear issue on the ladder truck. Pat spoke of the fill station for the air bottle system, the new Cascade system.

David Sims said the bark company is proceeding and are in negotiations with a property owner for a site in Moyie Springs. The oil essentials business has people from China here but it does not look like the pilot equipment will be installed until June. They have been getting samples from Welco to test and they are not sure if there will be a high enough yield. David said the personal property tax bill passed the House today and it still has to pass the Senate. As part of the Library expansion project a Fab Lab is being looked at through MIT. It is a combination of open source software and equipment that allows people to make things, fabricate things, and design things and share with people around the world.

Stephen thanked John Griffin for his knowledge and experience. Stephen commented on the backflow prevention devices at some of our older businesses. He said John Youngwirth and the Street Crew have done quite a lot of work on the drainage and cart path at the golf course.

Mike Klaus told the council that the Urban Renewal District (URD) paid the city back for over \$10,000 of the startup costs that the city fronted for the URD. He said this was a good investment by the City due to the job creation by the new store and the store owner said this would not have been possible if it were not for the URD. He also spoke of larger scale businesses that are showing interest in coming to Bonners Ferry and said this is due to the URD.

Connie Wells moved to add, as a late agenda item, the approval of changes to the Tetra Tech contract for the inundation study. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the agenda. 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 March 5, 2013 regular council meeting minutes and March 14, 2013 special council meeting minutes.

Mike Klaus moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the audit engagement letter with Magnuson, McHugh and Company. Connie Wells seconded the motion. This is for the 2012 fiscal year audit. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mike Klaus moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with P&O for heavy equipment services. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

The golf course contract was discussed. Mayor Anderson said he met with Kootenai View Golf Resources and members of the golf committee advisory board. Mayor Anderson said he received a letter from the Golf Advisory Board with a number of points. The Mayor would like to ask any questions of the Golf Manager that council may have. The Mayor proposed to put together an ad hoc committee of two advisory board members, one council person, and the Mayor and city administration to meet on next Tuesday. Mayor Anderson went over the changes he had made to the contract today that were different than the contract that was in the council packets. Ralph Lotspeich said he appreciates the changes and getting the golf committee more involved with the operation of the golf course. He asked about repair and maintenance of all the steps at the golf course but said he is not a carpenter. Stephen clarified that this was meant for

the steps to the tee boxes. Mayor Anderson asked what everyone thought about the ad hoc committee. All involved thought it was a good idea. Mayor Anderson will hand out the information he received from the golf committee to all the council members. Ralph said John and the Street Crew did a great job on the drainage issues and cart paths at the golf course. The proposed meeting will be at the golf course at 5:00 p.m. on Monday. Will Herrington said the contract should be a thoughtful agreement. He suggested making the changes to the contract that the Mayor suggested today with a clause that says the agreement will be worked on as he would like to see more time for thought on the proposed contract. He would like to see more thought put in the new agreement than just a couple meetings. Mayor Anderson said most of the issues are housekeeping. Will said most of his concerns were small and the city would benefit from research and looking at other contracts but having a contract in place has some benefits.

Mayor Anderson spoke about the City Code regarding the golf committee particularly golf committee members.

Mike Klaus moved to table the golf contract. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Chief Benkula spoke of a raise from patrolman to corporal for Heiko Arshat as soon as he receives his Intermediate Certification from POST Academy. Mike Klaus moved to approve the raise for Heiko Arshat from patrolman to corporal as attached as soon as POST issues the certification. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen Boorman spoke of the snow blower and sweeper attachment for sidewalk snow clearing that John Youngwirth found in Oregon. He said the owner will bring the equipment to Spokane. Mayor Anderson recommended the purchase of this equipment. Connie Wells moved to allow the street department to purchase the snow blower and sweeper for \$1950. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Water and sewer cost of service studies were discussed. Mike Klaus sees the need for the rate studies especially for connection fees but understands the biggest problem is the price of the studies. Rick Alonzo and the Mayor agreed. The Mayor asked John Griffin what his thoughts were. John Griffin said with the wastewater master plan study being completed that we need to have a rate study done for the upcoming costs and also the connection fees. He does not want to see the plan sit on the shelf as there are projects that need to be done. As for the water side, to be consistent, we should do it to make sure our rates cover repair and replacement needs. This should be built into the water rates as this is a serious component of the rate structure. He said this is a problem in other areas not just in Bonners Ferry. Mike said the need for the rate studies is there just so we can maintain a viable system in the future. Connie Wells understands that a cost of service study is essential but wants more information on the cost we are being charged because she thinks some of the costs are out of line. Mike said he wondered if we went from two contractors to one if there may be some cost savings. Stephen said we were looking at the firm that did the water work do the water study and the firm that did the sewer work do the sewer study. Tom Mayo asked about the EES Consultant. Stephen said EES is in Bellevue, Washington and their price did not include training in Bonners Ferry and it costs more than a firm in Coeur d’Alene coming to Bonners Ferry for training. Mike Klaus suggested an

addendum to the sewer study for a rate study. Stephen said both Coeur d'Alene firms would have addendums to their current contracts. Mike Klaus moved to table agenda items 11 & 12. Connie said we should look at all the angles. The motion passed, all in favor.

The TetraTech changes for the inundation study contract are reasonable, and Stephen is comfortable with the changes that are being requested. Attorney Will Herrington did not have a problem with the changes. Tom Mayo moved to approve the changes to the TetraTech contract. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 8:33 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a)(b)(c) to discuss personnel issues. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. At 8:58 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk