

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of March 20, 2012 to order at 7:08 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, Assistant City Administrator David Sims, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, Acting Police Chief Joel Minor, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Ron Frederickson, Kevin Frederickson, Barbara Hansen, Jerry Higgs, Ruth Sutton, Dale Simpson, Doug Ladely, Sr., Claine Skeen, Roger Fraser, Megan Kuhnhausen, Terri Maine, Carolyn Testa, Al Brown, Dave Gray, and Brian Woods.

Jerry Higgs read a statement into the record regarding the chief of police position and the city not releasing the names of the applicants. He thinks not releasing the names of the applicants is appalling and goes beyond the bounds of executive privilege. He read a quote from Colin Powell that was in some leadership information in the packet of a previous council meeting and said if the city continues it could result in litigation, civil penalties, degradation of their ICRMP rating and the eventual wrath of the voters.

Acting Police Chief Joel Minor gave the police report. There were two driving without privilege charges, one domestic abuse charge, one theft, one vandalism/trespass at the old high school auditorium, one invalid driver, one trespass notice, two possessions of controlled substances – 7 grams of cocaine and 8.1 pounds of heroin, counterfeit money at Zip Trip, one DUI, one attempted internet fraud, one warrant arrest, and four k-9 deployments. The school resource officer had two out of control juveniles and one case of information on bullying.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. He said Officer Mayo called for assistance at the old high school auditorium so he responded. There were candles lit on the stage of the auditorium by juveniles. All together 24 candles were retrieved and there had been a fire started in a wheel barrow from wood in the building that was dumped on the stage. The owner of the facility was contacted and a key was given to the fire department. The building has now been secured. There was also a fire call on Oak Street for an electrical fire that did not amount to much.

City Administrator Stephen Boorman said Gary Lutz will be taking a leave of absence from cleaning the visitor center and the janitor for city hall will take over his duties. Stephen said Gary has done a great job for the city and thanked him for his service. There are quite a few more rocks falling on the road to the power plant due to the freeze thaw conditions this year. The road was closed for a couple days due to the falling rocks. Stephen met with an engineer today for the FERC Part 12 inspection that is required to be done every five years. We have been notified that in 2013 it looks like a full functional exercise for emergency action training will be needed. This involves quite a bit of time from the Sheriff's Office, dispatch, and emergency management. He also spoke about the KTEC presentation that was given to the Boundary Economic Development group yesterday. KTEC is a collaboration of school districts

for Coeur d'Alene, Lakeland, and Post Falls for vocational training for Junior and Senior high school students for half of the school day. There are schools like this in southern Idaho and also in Oklahoma and 91 percent of the students go on to college or are placed to work after graduation. Stephen thinks a program such as this would be beneficial for our community.

Mike Sloan said this vocational program is great but he has not spoken to the Boundary County School District yet. Mike said Blackfoot Communications has set up a model for the fiber to the home project and Bonners Ferry has been pulled from that model. Mike said there is the opportunity to link with a Canadian firm and that strengthens our position to get the fiber through our area. In order to sell the bonds to fund the project Panhandle Area Council would prefer to work with Boundary County Commissioners rather than Bonner County Commissioners.

Mike Klaus said the urban renewal district formed two agreements with Super 1 Foods and Kootenai Valley Preservation League. He thanked David Sims for his verification of the lots and map.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 7:22 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (f). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Executive session ended at 7:40 p.m. No action was taken.

The Farmers Market contract for 2012 was discussed. Mayor Anderson said the contract will remain the same as last year, the banner height cannot be lowered, and the Farmers Market has agreed to work with the Car Club. Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Farmers Market contract for 2012. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to table the garbage rate discussion until the next meeting. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Claine Skeen and Barbara Hansen left the meeting.

The group discussed the hire of Tom Bennett at \$14.00 per hour for sewer lagoon dredging for April and May and then possibly in the fall. Mike Klaus moved to hire Tom Bennett for sewer lagoon dredging as proposed. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen Boorman said Blaine Grossman came to us from Montana Power a few years ago and has done a great job for the city. He thanked him for his efforts and wished him well in his

future endeavors. Rick Alonzo moved to approve Blaine Grossman's resignation. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Ron Frederickson, Kevin Frederickson, and Brian Woods left the meeting.

Stephen Boorman explained Panhandle Area Council (PAC) to the group. Mayor Anderson appointed Connie Wells as the PAC Representative and Rick Alonzo as alternate PAC Representative.

The group discussed the contract with Welch Comer for engineering of the bore for the Super 1 Store. The design work will cost about \$250. Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Welch Comer for bore detail. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen explained the paperwork given to council regarding the lease purchase program for cell sites. He just wanted to make council aware that this program that is out there but he does not see the value at this time because the monthly payment is nice that we are receiving now. Rick asked after the term of the lease purchase if we could take it back with more carriers on the tower. Stephen said we could. Connie asked if we could add more providers. Stephen said we could. Verizon owns the tower but we own the ground that it sits on. The city has a radio antenna on the tower.

The personal property disposal policy was discussed. The city has not had a written policy in the past. Attorney Wilson said he has reviewed the policy and the policy follows his advice. Rick Alonzo said firearms have different disposal rules. Mike Klaus moved to adopt the personal property disposal policy. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the 1990 Dodge brush truck is being offered for sale by Eastside Fire District south of Coeur d'Alene. It is a four wheel drive with a Cummins diesel engine with a little over 35,000 miles on it. There is a fire fighting pump on the Dodge. Pat said John Youngwirth would like the chassis of the fire department's current brush truck for use at the street department and thinks he can sell the pump to another fire department. Pat said he has a donation from Union Pacific in the amount of \$2,500. Pat wants to take a look at the vehicle before a purchase is made. Tom Mayo moved to approve the purchase of the 1990 Dodge brush truck for \$5,000. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mike Klaus moved to allow a census for the disability policy quotes. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mike Klaus moved to table the Deep Creek easement. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Tom Mayo moved to reappoint Mike Woodward to the traffic safety committee. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Rick Alonzo moved at 8:01 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a). Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Executive session ended at 8:13 p.m. No action was taken.

Mayor Anderson said in the State of Idaho the City Clerk, City Administrator, Police Chief, and attorney, if an employee, are appointees of the Mayor with the approval of the council. He said we have gone through the procedures for hiring police chief twice with the approval of the process by the city attorney. He said all candidates were excellent candidates but he still thinks Steve Benkula is the best fit. Mike Klaus moved to hire Steve Benkula as police chief for \$51,000 per year pending a background check and legal review. Connie Wells seconded the motion. Rick Alonzo said he met Steve Benkula the other day when he was here for the interview but he is not from Bonners Ferry and does not have a repore with people and the kids and that takes a long time to get that going. Tom Mayo said he thinks this is a win, win for the city because we have the two best candidates here working. Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “no”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved at 8:19 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (f). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Executive session ended at 8:26 p.m. No action was taken.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

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Kris Larson, City Clerk