

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of June 2, 2009 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President Dave Gray, Council Members John Langs, Chris Clark, and Connie Wells, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Assistant City Administrator David Sims, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, City Attorney Tim Wilson, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, and Water/Sewer Department Supervisor Jim Fritzsche. Also present were Marcia Cossette, Carolyn Testa, and Mike Normandu from Bonneville Power Administration.

Mike Normandu from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) spoke to the group. He said last fall a high water mark was locked in to meet the city loads. He spoke regarding Tier 2 BPA alternatives. Future load growth can be met by BPA but there are alternatives to the city from what we had in the past. The high water forecast will be set on our fiscal year 2010 actual loads. BPA will serve under current rates if it is under one megawatt load. City of Bonners Ferry has an 8.34 megawatt adjusted load. The high water mark to be allocated is a bit higher than what was forecast. The product we want BPA to serve our above high water mark load with is a question to be answered. The Tier 2 product choices are rate alternatives. BPA can serve the entire load for Bonners Ferry if we would like according to Mike. A resource is a specific generating source such as windmill, hydro, gas, or nuclear. Load Growth Tier 2; Short-term Tier 2; or Vintage Tier 2 are the products or rate alternatives offered. Stephen said under the vintage there will probably be higher up-front costs and then lower costs on the other end. Mike said rates for this fall are being looked at and it looks like it may be a five percent increase but it was forecasted to be quite a bit higher earlier. Mike said a third of the rate we pay to BPA is on fish and wildlife related costs.

Rick Alonzo gave the police report. He said over the past two weeks there were a couple vandalisms, a couple curfew violations, three drug arrests for marijuana and paraphernalia, two MIPs, one domestic dispute, a medical assist, three DUIs, one person with a concealed weapon, one driving while suspended, one vehicle accident, a battery assist with the Sheriff's Office, and a grand theft charge at one of the banks. The grand theft charge was from a scam and the individual has not taken care of the problem.

There were nine fire calls in the month of May according to Fire Chief Pat Warkentin. Pat said there is another stimulus program for fire halls available with no grant match. The program is open from June 8 to July 10, 2009. He has been encouraged to file an application.

Stephen said there are charts for general government in the council packet that includes historic expenses adjusted for three percent inflation. He pulled out all the grants and DARE/SRO and capital from the charts. He spoke of the public works memorial article. He encouraged council to attend the ICUA meeting that will be held in Post Falls this year. The new lineman is now hired. The pool will open on Monday.

John Langs moved to approve the consent agenda. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; approval of the Treasurer's Report; approval of April 21, 2009, April 27, 2009, May 12, 2009, and May 19, 2009 minutes.

Mayor Anderson asked that items 5, 6, and 9 be tabled this evening due to work that needs to be done on the cablevision ordinance and pole use agreement. John Langs moved to table. Connie Wells seconded the motion and it passed, all in favor.

John Langs moved to table items 7 and 8 (contract with Kim Finegan and Riverside property). Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Amendment #9 to the Welch Comer contract for Phase 2A water project design was reviewed. Dave Gray said this was money that we originally did not intend to spend but it is due to the Idaho DEQ and EPA requirements. Dave Gray moved to authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment #9 to the contract with Welch Comer for design work on the phase 2A water project. Chris Clark seconded the motion and it passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

The clarifier project is now complete. Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the final payment to S&L Underground for the clarifier project. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

David Sims spoke to council regarding the EPA permit for the sewer discharge. We received a notice of continuing non-compliance from EPA. He explained the violations listed in the letter. Most of the violations concern TSS which is algae growth. BOD violations are also noted. He presented a power point presentation for the group of the history of the sewer lagoons. Our four ponds include aerobic processes and anaerobic processes. Sometimes there are instances where the bottom comes to the top and the top goes to the bottom, mainly when there are temperature changes. Last year JUB Engineering was hired to work on the algae problem. Water that would normally go into the river is being chlorinated and then going out to the ponds and then is being de-chlorinated before it is released into the river. David said we are close to finishing the sewer project that will move towards meeting the EPA permit requirements. The month of June was sampled before chlorination so there may be violations. David said the algae problem has been going on since the 1970’s. The BODs are the biggest indicator of how the lagoons are operating. David said this may be the most difficult issue to deal with. The two biggest factors concerning the BOD in the winter months is temperature and retention time in the lagoons. In addition to the normal discharge there is a drain at the bottom of one of the ponds and there is a valve that has been open for quite some time. This was closed and this will help the TSS problem because sludge from the bottom of the pond was being sucked into the discharge when the valve was open. The TSS trend is going down. Stephen said about 85 yards of sludge was dredged out last year. David said there is a lot of material that needs to come out. David said the city has built a dock with a walkway to it so the lines can be worked on in the lagoons. Stephen said a sump pump will be installed in the manhole. To reduce BOD we need to dredge the sludge from the ponds according to David. He thinks we may be looking at the month of October for the dredging. Efficiency methods are also being looked at. David said he thinks we should reconsider our sewer master plan. He said a plan in advance of the city spending a lot of money should be done. Stephen said a headwork’s room is also an alternative to pull out trash before it goes into the ponds. David said there are many ideas and alternatives available so we need to find what will work. Tim Wilson said there are fines and jail time that can be involved with the violations being assessed by EPA.

Stephen said EPA has primacy for discharge permits. If DEQ had primacy it may be easier to deal with. This will be a topic of discussion at the AIC Conference in Boise in June.

David said Idaho has a grant program for meeting EPA violations and instituting planning processes. David said the urgency is with the treatment end. He said Brett Converse from JUB has been great to work with. The City has been sending letters to EPA each month when we send in our discharge monitoring reports to let them know of our status. Stephen said the chlorination process for meeting the TSS problem may not be long term due to the costs of the chemicals involved.

Connie asked about the previous sewer studies. In 2001 the study done was paid by the Kootenai Tribe to see what the capacity of the sewer lagoon was. There was another study done by Welch Comer that looked at land

applications and life extension of the sewer lagoons. Stephen said we had very limited data when both these previous studies were done. By the end of the summer we will have much better data to go on. David suggested that Brett Converse come speak to council regarding the options for the sewer lagoon. Council would like for him to come to a council meeting.

John Langs moved to approve the fireworks for 4th of July and cover the event as a city sponsored event. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

John Langs moved to appoint Chris Clark to vote for the city at the AIC Conference. Dave Gray seconded the motion and it passed, all in favor.

The fire/law enforcement contract for the Kootenai Tribe was discussed. Pat said he has an appointment with the Kootenai River Inn tomorrow to inspect the building. Pat said the facility has been discussed previously by the fire department and some of the basics were not done on the original part of the facility such as sprinkler systems. Smoke alarms in the rooms are not monitored in the old part and on the new part the smoke alarms are monitored only in-house by security at the Inn. He is concerned about the variables that should be considered. Pat said the difficulty is the river side of the property. The water pressure at the fire hydrants near the Inn is good. Pat said the shortage is equipment and manpower should there be a fire. Pat thinks there are issues that can be addressed. Rick Alonzo said it is becoming a little more difficult to access the videos of the Inn's security system and he does not understand the problem because we have worked together quite well in the past. Tom Turpin is working with the Tribal attorney to get this issue resolved according to Rick. The tribal contract will be ajenized for the next meeting.

Council reviewed the general fund budget and cash flow. The cash in the general fund is dangerously low so it was recommended that only necessary expenditures be made the rest of the fiscal year and that capital expenditures be put on hold other than what has already been obligated. It was also mentioned that if someone in the general fund leave employment with the city that the position be kept open for a time.

The next council meeting will be held on June 15, 2009 because the AIC Conference will be on the 16th of June.

Dave Gray moved at 8:46 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 to discuss legal issues. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. Executive session ended at 9:00 p.m. No action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk