Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled meeting of July 6, 2010 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, and Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Larry DeVore, Dave Gray, Carolyn Testa, and Marcia Cossette.

Larry DeVore spoke regarding the Cow Creek Road near Fodge Mill and the water on the road due to poor drainage. He asked if there have been any other complaints. He is concerned about chuck holes and wanted to know if there is some way to drain the standing water. Larry said he has lived out there and traveled that road for over 30 years. He also suggested cutting the corner back a bit due to poor sight distance and the truck traffic that is there causing people to have to drive on the railroad right of way to get out of the way. Mayor Anderson agreed there are significant problems in that area but part of the problem is the property that meets the road belonging to individuals and on the other side the railroad owns the property. The elevation change there is also a problem. Stephen Boorman said he took a look at the area after Larry phoned. He is unsure of the natural drainage in that area. He thinks if we get the area to drain off more to the south that it may help some. Stephen said we cannot cut a ditch on the railroad side due to the lack of space and people use the railroad area for safety purposes. Larry said the water can be up to six inches deep at times and then the chuck holes form and are difficult to fix. David Sims said quite a bit of the area in the turn belongs to the railroad and there has been engineers and geotechs looking at the area to correct the problem. David said the estimate of $800,000 was given to move the turn. He also said we are looking at funding for this type of project because the city does not have the funding. Mayor Anderson said he has viewed the site with Sam Fodge and is concerned about the truck traffic. Larry understands the bank problem but is still concerned about the drainage problem. Stephen said the approach from Ash Street to the Cow Creek Road has quite an elevation change so if this elevation was filled it would take a lot of fill and then the railroad would be concerned about the cars coming off the road onto the railroad. David said there is supposed to be an intersection of Ash, Oak, Georgia, and Cow Creek there.

Rick Alonzo gave the police report. There have been five DUIs, four driving without privileges, two warrants arrests, two possession of marijuana, one stolen car, one domestic dispute, two thefts, two mental subjects, and two traffic accidents. Rick said the Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency is up and running. The City of Meridian had a surplus vehicle that they prepared to sell and the City of Meridian has donated the vehicle to the City of Bonners Ferry to use as a patrol car.

Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. The majority of the fire department turned out for the 4th of July display and spent the evening there. The fire run volume is down for now.

Stephen Boorman said the pipe is in the ground on the northside. The project from the city yards to Eaton was started today. The bid for the Alderson Lane LHTAC project was awarded to Woods and that is good.

Connie Wells moved to add two agenda items – EPA Resolution as to discharge and Electric Transformer Surplus Property. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.
Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said we have an hourly rate for activity at the pool for birthday parties, etc. Chuck Schoonover has a diving class and they are not in need of lifeguards so Stephen asked Council’s approval of allowing a special rate of $25.00 per student for the dive class. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Chris Clark moved to authorize the Mayor to sign pay request #1 for phase 2 water project for Earthworks, Inc. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Council discussed the solid waste collection policy. Tom Mayo asked about yard waste. Stephen said the question is how council wants to deal with the yard waste. Tom would like to see yard waste eliminated. Connie would like to see it gone also. Tom would like to see section G6 of the proposed policy removed as it relates to yard waste. Connie also commented that section J be amended to eliminate yard waste. Stephen asked when the effective date of this change should take place. Connie would like to have the change immediately. Mayor Anderson said he would like lead time to let the customers know of the change. Mike Klaus said if we start it in September that would eliminate the leaves from the landfill. Chris Clark asked how we will notify the customers. One way would be a bill stuffer and another will be an article in the paper. Chris would like to see the implementation date as soon as possible. Chris requested that the stuffers in the bills have more personality by being on colored paper. Mike Klaus moved to eliminate section G6 and also the first sentence of section J1of the garbage policy to say that yard waste is unacceptable and change the wording from preferred to recommended for composting and have the effective date be September 1, 2010 for no yard waste. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mayor Anderson said the city still wants to put out a questionnaire regarding recycling to the customers. Council discussed the questions to be on the survey. Tom Mayo said we may want to ask the customer what they are currently doing regarding recycling. Chris Clark said we need a preamble to the survey. Mayor Anderson said we need to know if the customer is willing to pay for curbside pickup also. Connie said some people do not even think about it. Chris said education is the key. Connie suggested that we mention the fall pick up route by the city street department. Carolyn Testa suggested that if there was a weekly recycle station in the city if the customer would be more likely to recycle. David asked if the county would be willing to provide a recycle station in the city on the same day each week.

Council discussed the definition of a special event. The group heard from the police and fire departments about the reserves and volunteers that help out for the events and the costs associated for training these people. Connie suggested that events that are public require a special event permit. Stephen said football games or activities at the schools are public but we don’t and should not charge for these events. Chris likes it is a public event other than a personal one. He said anyone that requires city services should pay the $35.00 fee. Stephen will tweak the definition and bring it back for council to approve.

David said Carol Graham is at the point where she is willing to go forward with the sign but the question is whether the city wants the water feature. David said the rough cost estimate of
maintenance depends on the size of the water feature. Connie and Tom and the Mayor said unless there is a fund established to pay for the costs of maintaining the water feature that we should not have it. David said the labor is the biggest estimation of the costs and that is unknown at this time. Mayor Anderson said if we drain it each year or if we maintain it all year long and there are other problems that occur that adds to the cost. Mike Sloan said Carol doesn’t care either way. Mike Klaus moved that the city is not interested in maintaining a water feature for the visitor center sign. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Chris Clark asked how the real estate agent was selected. Stephen said Pace Kerby was not used previously due to a conflict of interest and now Chris’s real estate firm has a conflict of interest. Stephen said Chad Deitz has been used by the city before and has done a good job. Tom and Chris asked if we need a licensed agent to represent the city. Stephen said the individual we are dealing with who is selling the property has a lot of experience with property and real estate sales and we may need a professional. Tim Wilson said it is good to deal with a professional and it is an option to work on the commission percentage. Chris Clark said normally the seller pays the commission. Tom said the contract says that if the seller does not pay the commission that the city will. Chris Clark thinks the city attorney could work out the details of the sale. Attorney Tim Wilson said a councilman can volunteer his real estate services for free to the city for this transaction. Chris Clark volunteered his real estate services for this transaction.

Stephen spoke regarding water/sewer capacity. He said JUB Engineering has asked what the capacity is for large developments. Brett Converse said we are having violations on our sewer discharge so our sewer capacity is none. The permit limits have been tightened down so our capacity is not there in the sewer system. The water system is better because we have had a master plan done. One component of our system is the capacity is limited to the treatment of peak flows in any given day. The peak flow is 11,000 gallons per day. If one of the filters is down we cannot meet the peak flow. David Sims said the water usage has gone down since the master plan study was done due to metering. Stephen said the peak usage on both the electric and water systems was in 1996 and the citizens have been conserving since then. Stephen said one of the things this does is push us to a well system as regulators are pushing water systems to have a dual water system or source. Connie spoke about the Cabinet Mountain intertie. Stephen said the city’s agreement with Cabinet is that they will provide us water if it is available. Stephen said the city paid with primarily grant funding for the intertie to Cabinet Mountain Water when the Myrtle Creek fire happened so we had an alternate source.

The group discussed the budget workshop. The council will meet at 5:30 p.m. on July 20, 2010 in the council room. Mike said one contentious item in the budgets is training and he would like to see that listed by the departments for the budget discussions and if it is approved then he doesn’t see the need for it to come before council. Rick Alonzo said as long as the department head has funding in their budgets that they should be allowed to spend it.

Tim Wilson asked council to table the EPA resolution discussion until after executive session.

Declaration of the transformers as surplus property was discussed. Stephen said often transformers are taken out of service and a portion of them can be rebuilt and others are scrapped. There are 71 transformers that are to be declared surplus property and he has found an entity that is willing to give us $4.00 KVA so he is requesting that council declare these transformers surplus. Chris Clark asked how we follow the Idaho Code to deal with surplus
property. Chris Clark moved to declare the transformers as surplus property subject to Idaho Code and legal review. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345(1)f. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Council went out of executive session at 9:00 p.m. No action was taken.

Chris Clark moved to accept the resolution from EPA on the sewer discharge violation as presented to staff on July 6, 2010. Mike Klaus 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 9:01 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk