

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of August 20, 2013 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President Connie Wells, Council Members Rick Alonzo and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Police Chief Steve Benkula, and Economic Development Coordinator David Sims. Also present were Laura Roady, Marcia Cossette, Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Walt Kirby, Jerry Higgs, Dale Simpson, Ruth Sutton, Doug Ladely, Sr., and Dave Gray.

Police Chief Steve Benkula said 233 calls for service have been taken in August generating 22 reports including five possession of controlled substance charges, one DUI, five burglaries, two driving without privileges, two thefts, one unattended death, one trespass, one disturbing the peace, and one juvenile that ingested spice (synthetic marijuana). The juvenile had to be admitted to the hospital. He purchased the synthetic marijuana in Spokane.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. He said there have been five call outs in the month of August including two brush fires and several gas odor calls. The fire department spent time at the Fair doing public education.

Ken and Teresa Baker joined the meeting.

Ken Baker spoke to council regarding the Boundary Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) and asked for their support. He asked that the elected officials work together to get the ambulance issues settled. He said the primary goal of the BVA was to improve the ambulance service not to start a conflict. He asked if there were any questions for the ambulance service and again asked for city support. He said there are three levels of service and we are trying to get to the advanced life support (ALS) level. He said two years ago an ambulance district was formed to help fund the goal of meeting the ALS level. The BVA also offers extrication and rope rescue. He said if the BVA goes away in the next six weeks the fire department extrication will be the only one in the county. He asked that the council work with the county elected officials to get the ambulance issue resolved. The original agreement BVA signed with the County is on the BVA website. BVA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. He said Medicaid/Medicare is decreasing and costs are going up. Police Chief Benkula asked about the levels of service. Ken said there are first responder, basic, intermediate, and paramedic. He said we are in the middle at advanced life support. Many hours are required for certification and most often the volunteers pay for the training themselves. Kenny said there are eight to ten people in the county that are active. We are a critical access hospital that gets the people ready to transport to a hospital with surgeons or trauma centers. If we have the ALS level then the transports can be made by BVA and it is better for our community. Most of the BVA volunteers get a small stipend to cover their fuel costs. Kenny is the only paid person on the BVA other than a bit of office help. They have a billing contract with a private business in town. Kenny said there are 800 ambulance calls in Boundary County per year and the BVA takes care of the people in our community because they care. BVA backs up the fire department and asks for backup from the fire department most often for lifting. Tom Mayo asked what the problem is with the county. Kenny is not sure. One of the questions he has been asked is why the BVA has gone from \$8,000 per year to needing \$220,000. He said Medicaid and Medicare are paying less and operational costs are increasing. He also said volunteerism is going down. He said if we go to the next step of ALS we need to purchase the equipment to get us there. Pat Warkentin asked what the condition is of the BVA fleet. Kenny said it is getting old and the demand is increasing. He said so far this year BVA has responded to 500 calls. Marcia Cossette

asked if the commissioners are bringing in someone from the outside. Kenny said they are using someone else for the contingency plan if they cannot work something out with BVA. Pat Warkentin said he hears the calls from BVA on the radio and for public safety entities when a call goes out the public safety person leaves to respond to the emergency no matter what is happening in their personal lives. Pat said a lot of people have come and gone from the BVA. Kenny said he appreciates the city fire department for the support they offer. Kenny said the Commissioners are losing focus when they get into the personal side but he understands that they need to watch the money. Mayor Anderson thanked Kenny for all his efforts.

Stephen Boorman said the conservation program for BPA is on a two year schedule and we are looking at spending \$72,000. The window replacement program is now going on and will stay in place for the next two years, previously we did a conservation lighting program. In the past week and a half Bonneville has been doing some work on transmission lines and substations. Reconfiguration of the system causes unexpected outages and delays. The Bonners Ferry substation bushings will need to be replaced so there will be loads transferred to the North Bench substation. The bushings are ordered but will take about six weeks to get here. There is a water leak on Hazel Street and one on Bonner Street under the railroad tracks. We are looking to see if the water line on Bonner Street near the railroad tracks should be taken out of service. Many of the four inch lines are at the end of their lives and we need to make a decision whether or not to replace them. The FERC inspection at the power plant went well and Stephen said Pat and Adam did a good job with that. Mayor Anderson asked about the window replacement program deadline. Stephen said we have about \$68,000 to spend in the next rate period on conservation.

David Sims gave the Economic Development report. He said there were 20 economic development coordinators (EDC) that were funded by the State and only six of them got funded in full. The Boundary County EDC was one of them. Washington State University will assist in helping the Library come up with plans for their remodel. Teams of students will come up and do conceptual drawings and cost estimates so the Library will have an estimate of how much to bond for. The Library is looking to go from 8,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet. David said the Idaho Transportation Department gave the senior bus to the Restorium. The Area Agency on Aging has come up with funding in the amount of approximately \$30,000 for the Restorium to help with transportation expenses. Susan Kiebert has replaced Cliff Warne on transportation issues. David said a hiking map has been redesigned to be handed out at the visitor center. Laura Roady supplied the pictures, Andrew Price did the map, and Stephanie Sims did the layout. David said after this tourist season is over they will be shifting the furniture at the visitor center to make it better for visitors. Mayor Anderson said some of the information will be put outside for when the visitor center is not open. The Chamber is getting some response for volunteers.

David said the urban renewal district (URD) got about \$15,000 for the second half of taxes this year. He said next year they are anticipating approximately \$60,000. The urban renewal agency owes the City of Bonners Ferry about \$1,300 for the remainder of URD startup costs and will pay this off this fall. They also owe the City about \$7,000 for the sidewalk near Beazer's. He said an owner participation agreement will be drawn up with the city.

Connie Wells moved to add the late agenda items of approving purchase of a crack filling machine and equipment and authorization for the Mayor to sign the USDA Control Sheet #11 and Closeout letter for

the Highway 95 South Project close out letter to USDA. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Connie Wells “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

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

Andrakay Pluid was sworn in as City Attorney.

Rick Alonzo moved to have the second reading of the ordinance amending Title 10 by title only. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Andrakay Pluid read the title of the ordinance amending Title 10 of City code.

Connie Wells moved to approve the special event permit for the Bonners Ferry Herald’s Block Party on Friday, August 26, 2013. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign change order #3 and pay requests 4 & 5 for payment to Accelerated Excavating and Construction for the Highway 95 South Waterline project. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The audit engagement letter with Magnuson, McHugh and Company was the next agenda item. The group discussed the audit and possibly looking at other firms. The City went out for requests for proposals for auditors about two years ago. Council does not have a problem with Magnuson, McHugh. Tom Mayo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the audit engagement letter with Magnuson, McHugh for fiscal year 2013. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the beverage license for the Rusty Moose Tavern and Grill. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) contract revision was briefly discussed. Stephen said it is clears up language in the contract concerning demand charges and regional dialogue. It also updates the rate for the fiscal year 2014-2015 rate period. Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract revision with BPA. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. Motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said Asplundh Tree Trimming Service is hired to trim trees in Bonners Ferry as they have an arborist. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Asplundh Tree Trimming Service Contract not to exceed \$21,334.80. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mayor Anderson asked Brion Poston about the mower leases as the three year lease on the mowers would take the amount budgeted for capital. Brion said the mowers are the most important. Connie asked about the clubhouse improvements that are needed. Brion would like to see the roof fixed to get it sound and wait until 2015 when grant funding is available to do the other clubhouse improvements. Rick said he went to the clubhouse and looked at the windows, and they are leaking due to there not being caulk around them. Mayor Anderson said he is in favor of getting the mowers. Stephen said we need to go through the public bidding process before we can get the mowers. Rick asked if there was a fire near the

golf course. Stephen said there were some spot fires that were suspected to be started from a chain dragging on the highway causing sparks. Tom Mayo moved to authorize staff to go out for bids for getting mowers for the golf course. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Stephen said the process will be to go out for quotes and he will work with Ralph on this.

Stephen said we may want to put up a joist structure when we make repairs of the existing clubhouse roof. He said if the cost is over \$10,000 then we have to build in time to allow our local contractors to get their public works licenses. He said if Sewell does a structural analysis that it will cost about \$5,000. Stephen said horizontal loading may be an issue but the vertical loading is good. Rick said it has held up for the past 40 years. Stephen said the beams and posts are strong enough but the horizontal strength may be a problem if there is an earthquake or high winds. Brion thinks Theron Wages would be a good person to do an analysis of the building. Stephen said structural analysis must be stamped by an engineer so that is why he spoke to Sewell. He said Theron did help to come up with the rough numbers for the options presented last meeting. Mayor Anderson said a cost benefit analysis should be done. He spoke of the increased revenues at the golf course this year but said we don't have guaranteed revenue streams each year as weather is a huge factor. Stephen said we could fix the roof, paint the exterior, and caulk the windows. Tom Mayo agreed. Ralph Lotspeich said people come to the course to play golf. Two people that inquired about the missing paint, and Ralph told them that it was temporary. Ralph said money is made at golf courses by putting money back into them. Tom Mayo moved to direct staff to get support on the roof and get the contractor back to get it painted and get the windows caulked. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. Rick volunteered to caulk the windows if we cannot afford to pay for this. Ralph said there is volunteer labor available to get some small projects done such as caulking windows. Stephen thinks caulking may be part of our painting contract. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Brion Poston and Ralph Lotspeich left the meeting.

The crack filling machine was discussed. Stephen said there are a number of streets that are getting cracks but the chip sealing is still good. Connie Wells moved to authorize John Youngwirth to spend up to \$2,500 for a crack filling machine and equipment. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign USDA Control Sheet #11 and Highway 95 South Waterline Project close out letter to USDA. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The regional engineer for FERC out of Portland will visit this fall.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk