

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of September 21, 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, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Connie Perez, Jake Perez, Wendy McClintock, and Marcia Cossette.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing for the fiscal year 2010 budget amendment. There were no comments so Mayor Anderson recessed the hearing.

Jake Perez said he is attending the meeting for a requirement for a merit badge. Mayor Anderson welcomed Jake.

Wendy McClintock spoke to Council. She said she had visited with council previously about the windshield sign above city hall. She thinks it detracts from city hall and the clock tower. She has not received any follow-up response to her former complaint about the sign so she is here again. Wendy had foot surgery so she has been using handicapped parking spaces and ramps since her surgery. She complimented the city on the sidewalks and the ramps that they have but was concerned because there was no signage near the parking spaces. She said she was in to visit with Stephen Boorman and he told her the city does not like to have too many signs. Wendy also contacted the Department of Justice and has found that signs are required as well as the painted markings on the streets and parking lots. Mayor Anderson said the signs are on order for the handicapped spaces. He said the city does not have an ordinance regarding the signage on the building. Wendy commented that the city has no recourse and the Mayor agreed.

Rick Alonzo gave the police report. He said there were two burglaries, one possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, three DUIs, four driving without privileges, two invalid driver's licenses, three warrant arrests, a hit and run incident, and a first encounter with a new controlled substance called spice. There were three juveniles that were caught with spice so they were charged with possession of an inhalant. There was an incident at Huckleberry Variety where two women were charged with disturbing the peace, trespassing, resisting and obstructing, battery, and battery on an officer.

Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. The State flashover trailer was in Bonners Ferry so there was a class held by the fire department. Pat explained the flashover training and said the cost to the fire department was about \$40 for particle board. The run volume for the fire department is about the same as it was last year.

Stephen Boorman said the fall rush is slow this year. The Alderson Lane project will not get completed until next spring and the cut areas on the street have been patched until it can be re-paved next spring. The main reason for the project completion delay is due to the realignment of the Avista gas line according to Stephen.

Connie Wells moved to add the agenda item of consideration of a contract with Paine Hamblin for mediation services for the Idaho Forest Group law suit. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mike Klaus moved to approve the consent agenda. Connie Wells 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 September 7, 2010 council meeting minutes, and approval of the beverage license for Akins Harvest Foods.

Assistant City Administrator David Sims joined the meeting.

Connie Wells moved to have the third reading by title only of Ordinance 517 repealing the fluoride ordinance and city code regarding fluoride and dispense with the full reading of the ordinance. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. Attorney Tim Wilson read Ordinance 517 by title only.

Chris Clark moved to adopt Ordinance 517. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mayor Anderson opened the fiscal year 2010 budget amendment hearing again. There was no comment from the group. Connie Wells moved to close the hearing. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to adopt Ordinance 519 amending Ordinance 513 Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2010. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The personnel policy was discussed. Mayor Anderson said it has been distributed to the department heads and it is a much improved version from the old personnel policy. Tom Mayo inquired about standby time. Stephen said the power plant has standby daily after the shift is worked and on weekends and holidays, electric department has standby during the weekends and holidays, and street has standby time on the weekends and holidays during the snow plow season. During the week the electric and street department are catch as catch can if there is a call out. Linemen and street department have standby only on the weekends and holidays. They are at four hours per day for each day of standby. Tom and Connie feel the four hours per day is quite a bit. Stephen explained this is currently what the city is doing. Connie asked if this should be addressed before we adopt the personnel policy. Stephen explained this personnel policy is the policy that the city currently has. Stephen said there is no urgency but maybe the council should keep it and look at it for a couple weeks. Stephen said standby time may be considered for the water department at some time but now they operate on a catch as catch can basis. Connie asked why catch as catch can does not apply to the electric and street department

also. David said it is quite an advantage to the city to have someone on standby because in the City of Cheney the power was out for over eight hours until they could find someone to come in and fix the lines. Chris Clark asked about scheduling of the standby time. Stephen said the linemen work out the schedule among themselves. He said the pay for the city linemen is lower than the average scale but the standby is a rich benefit and our employees understand this. Mike suggested looking at other comparable utilities to find out what other cities do for standby. Mayor Anderson said we had a local concern regarding water department standby on a weekend for a water pressure issue at the hospital. The policy is being reviewed and the problem was corrected. Chris asked staff to talk to other power cities in Idaho about their standby policies before we pass the personnel policy. The personnel policy adoption was tabled until a later date.

David said some programming changes have been made in the water department to work with the leveling of the water tank and there is also some new equipment coming to help alleviate the water pressure issue from happening again.

Council briefly discussed standby time.

Mayor Anderson said the city owns a generator to power the lift stations to keep the sewer effluent moving in case of a power outage. A trailer is needed to move the generator when the need arises. Stephen said the last time the generator was used was by the Sheriff's Office but the van that houses the generator had to be towed to the needed location. The trailer that is available belongs to a city employee and he wants to sell it. The electric department would be making the purchase of the trailer and the trailer would be less expensive than to fix up the van that houses the generator at this time. The generator weighs about 3,000 pounds with fuel in it. Stephen said with the size of the trailer other emergency equipment could be housed also. Chris Clark moved to go out for quotes on the cargo trailer not to exceed \$5,500. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Donna Spier joined the meeting. Stephen introduced Donna to the group as the Clerk from Plummer and said she does many jobs at the City of Plummer.

Attorney Tim Wilson said Peter Urbland is the chosen mediator for the litigation that the city is involved in with Idaho Forest Group. The cost of the mediator, if used, will be split between both parties involved in the litigation. Chris Clark asked if the mediation is binding. Tim Wilson said the mediation is non-binding. Connie Wells moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the mediation agreement with Paine Hamblin. Chris Clark seconded. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Donna said the City of Plummer contracts out their electric service so they don't pay standby for electric. She said the water, sewer, and street crews do not receive standby time either. Donna said due to budget constraints the street department does not get overtime. If they are required to work in the night then they go home early so overtime is avoided. She said the roads are not maintained quite as good as they were in the past due to this change.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk