Mayor David Anderson called the special meeting of October 22, 2012 to order at 5:00 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, Economic Development Coordinator David Sims, and City Attorney Will Herrington. Also present was Mike Weland.

The purpose of the special meeting was to hire city attorney/city administrator, contract with Tevis Hull, and discuss the levee near the Kootenai River Inn.

The contract consideration with Tevis Hull was for $125 per hour for prosecution services. Mike Klaus moved to enter into a contract with Tevis Hull pending approval of the City Attorney. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The levee near the Kootenai River Inn was discussed. Stephen said when work started on the Kootenai River Inn (KRI) remodel; he suggested that the dike be tapered off so the rooms would have a better view of the river. He said this was in the drawings but no formal permission has been granted. Stephen asked them to halt the construction until the council has made a decision. They are requesting the dike be tapered off and use a portion of Oak Street and keep it mowed and cleaned up. David said this is an area that had to be mulched this summer. It is actually on Oak Street. Rick asked if this was the fire lane. Stephen said it is. Arizona Street is the elevation of the 500 year flood level (1775 feet) and a bit lower on the south end of the tracks. He said if the water gets that high, we have notice and we could fill Arizona Street to be the levee. He said it would take an eight to ten hour day of hauling fill and it would cost an estimated $10,000 to $15,000. This would be from the railroad tracks to the existing dike and also a portion between the railroad and the highway. The Inn wants to lower the dike from 1785 to 1780. The lawn of the KRI restaurant is 1766. David said at 1780 feet the water would be 13 feet higher than it was this year. Connie asked if the Inn would pay the $15,000 if we had to do this. Stephen said we could negotiate this in the agreement. There would also be an alternative of running the dike from the off ramp, across the parking lot to Arizona Street. Tom asked why we did not have this conversation earlier. Stephen said because we did not know they were lowering the dike until it was being done. Connie expressed concern about the dike lowering being requested by others. Stephen said this is a precedent setting event but not all locations are equivalent. David said this question may come up again if the mill property is developed. Rick asked what the elevation of Riverside Street was. David said it is about 1785 feet. Stephen said the gas line and the road are the value of the levee armoring that was done earlier this year by the Corps on Riverside Street. Stephen said since we have a contract with the Kootenai River Inn for police and fire that this could be built into that contract. Stephen has a 1978 letter from the Corps of Engineers that says the city can set the height of the dikes but they do not recommend lowering them. He ran his memo past the Corps of Engineers. Mike asked if there has been an excavation permit granted yet. Stephen and Kris did not know but there will be a preconstruction meeting on Wednesday. Rick asked if this is being done to improve the view. Stephen said it is more than
just the view; it is to keep the area aesthetically beautiful. Connie asked if the council does not agree then will the Inn have to put the material back. Stephen said this would be up to council. Tom asked how many rooms would be affected by the view as the second floor would see the river. Stephens thought four. Mayor Anderson said this is preliminary as we have not talked to the Tribe but we want to update the council about the issue. He said we will find out more as time goes on. Tom asked about the concept of this. Stephen said it was a failure of communication between the city, architect, and the contractor. He said it was discussed with him that this could be the time to improve the looks of the property near there. Tom asked what they will be doing with the street, the extension of Oak Street. It would be in their fence. Tom said again this could be a problem. Rick asked how fire would access this. Stephen said there would be a gate. David said none of the buildings would be on city property. Stephen said there will be a new sidewalk that will be on the Tribe property and partially on the city property. He said storm sewer will be put along Arizona Street and it will be piped into a manhole and also fixed so it will not flow back from the river if the water gets high. Rick asked if the section of Oak Street will be paved. Stephen said they are looking at grass pavers.

Rick Alonzo moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (a) at 5:18 p.m. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Executive session ended at 5:44 p.m. No action was taken.

Connie Wells moved to hire Andrakay Pluid as City Attorney/Assistant City Administrator. Will Herrington said we cannot hire her as city attorney yet but can hire her as assistant city administrator. Connie agreed. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk