Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of November 3, 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, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, Street Department Supervisor John Youngwirth, and Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Bob Blanford, Suzanne Cullinane, and Jessie Short from Idaho Forest Products, Carolyn Testa, and Marcia Cossette.

John Langs moved to add to the agenda discussion of possible action of the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year holidays. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Jessie Short from Idaho Forest Group at Moyie Springs spoke to council regarding the hearing of October 8, 2009 concerning the large industrial rate and ask with respect for clarification as it was the understanding of IFG that the interim rate would continue until the city made their decision regarding the rates. Mayor Anderson said that was his understanding. Idaho Forest Products has paid on the interim rate but the city has not credited their account. Jessie would like permission to comment depending on how the possible decision goes following the discussion. He asked at the next council meeting if it would be appropriate to comment. The Mayor said we would put the item on the agenda.

Rick Alonzo gave the police report. He said there have been three DUls, three driving without privileges, eight burglaries, one crash, one auto theft, and three warrant arrests. The police are working diligently to solve the burglaries.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the city has retained the fire rating class of four as was held in the past. Pat is not sure what it would take to bring the fire rating up to three but possibly more training. He said the LaFrance does not have seat belts but it still pumps. He is looking for an aerial apparatus to replace the LaFrance. He said the city of Nampa has a unit that is available with a minimum bid price of $15,000. He would like to submit a bid on the unit. Pat is looking at outside sources for funding. John Langs said he understands that a volunteer fire department cannot go below a rating of four. John Youngwirth said he understands that also. John Langs said a rating of four is golden and complimented the fire department. Pat said the volunteers put a lot of time and effort towards training and keeping the department running well. John Langs said a fire rating of four reduces the homeowner’s insurance by 60 percent.

Stephen Boorman said the Myrtle Creek sign will be erected this week. The problem with the soft start on the Fodge Mill was identified and the system is now working properly. He said the fall rush is on in the electric department. Stephen spoke regarding the energy conservation grant paperwork that is in the back of the packet. He said the county is looking at recycle bins through this grant process. The Riverside project has been paved. He gave kudos to the street
department, electric department, and David Sims for their work on the Riverside project. The water department is having problems lately. Stephen said many organics are coming down Myrtle Creek probably due to the early frost. The condition of the river is similar to that of Myrtle Creek. We are using Cabinet Mountains Water District intertie quite a bit due to the organics in the river and Myrtle Creek. David Sims said if the water does not meet turbidity limits that it is being dumped prior to chlorination. Stephen said there was a grant that paid for the intertie between the City of Bonners Ferry and Cabinet Water District. He said there is the ability for Cabinet Mountain to also connect to the City system if they choose. The golf course sprinkler system wire has been installed. We used the vibratory plow and this worked well.

John Langs 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 Treasurer’s report; and approval of October 20, 2009 council meeting minutes.

Connie Wells moved at 7:19 p.m. to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 subsection 1(e). Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. Executive session ended at 7:41 p.m. No action was taken.

Connie Wells moved to set the large industrial rates as per the proposal from the rate hearing on October 8, 2009. Chris Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. (Clerk’s note: The new rate is considered large industrial if the customer has over 2.5 megawatts of installed capacity. The base rate is $12,000 per month, the kilowatt per hour energy charge is 2.6 cents, and the demand rate is $4.37 per kilowatt.)

Stephen said the surplus property issues are whether or not the surplus property sale amounts are public and how we will sell the property. Mayor Anderson asked if the council wants to sell all three parcels and how they want to sell them. (Clerk’s note: properties being considered are: Parcel 1: Lots 15 – 18, Block 1 of the Riverside Addition, less the southerly eight (8) feet. This is a 105’ by 82’ parcel accessed from the alley south of Riverside Street, with frontage on Riverside Street; Parcel 2: Lot 10, Block 1 of the Riverside Addition, less the southerly eight (8) feet. This is a 25’ by 82’ parcel accessed from the alley south of Riverside Street, with frontage on Riverside Street. Parcel 3: Lot 8 Block 20 of the Eaton Addition. This is a 30’ by 140’ lot accessed from Maple Street). Mayor Anderson said the proceeds from the sale of the properties are one-time revenue so how it will be spent will be another issue. Mayor would like to sell the property with the starting price of the minimum bid amounts appraised plus the appraisal costs and to put out the properties for two tiered sealed bids. Mayor Anderson explained where the three parcels are located. Connie agreed with the Mayor that the properties should be sold and the money put in a fund for other property purchases. Chris asked if the bids would be disclosed after the first bid. Stephen said they would be. John Langs said it is difficult to get a bid bond and he would like to see more time allotted for the payment of the property sale costs. David Sims said we could ask for a cashier check. Mayor Anderson said this would be similar to earnest money.

Chris Clark moved to sell the property for the minimum of the appraised value of the property plus appraisal costs as minimum bid. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Chris Clark “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.
Pat Warkentin explained that the International Fire Code is currently from 2006 but the 2009 edition is being worked on and will be available around 2011. He said it is a standard fire code and used to be called the universal fire code. It covers everything from liquid petroleum gases to access and egress. He said it is a variety of topics regarding safety. Pat said there is one inspector on the Fire Department that is certified as a fire investigator. He said the State has adopted the fire code. Fire Chiefs are representatives of the State Fire Marshal in charge of fire investigations in their jurisdictions. Pat gave the example of the adoption of the fire code giving the fire department the authority to have some teeth behind a warning issued that needs to be addressed. Stephen said once the fire code is adopted by the city it gives the city more responsibility to enforce it. Mayor Anderson said it gives the city fire department more authority but it may also generate more work for the fire department. Pat said all commercial establishments must be inspected semi-annually and our fire department does not have the manpower to do all the inspections. Chris Clark asked what standards are used for fire inspections. Pat said he uses the International Fire Code. Pat said any teeth for enforcement would be held within city ordinances. Stephen said we have happier citizens if the city speaks with the customer in an easy going manner to let them know the reasons for a ruling. John Langs asked if the city building code includes the fire code. Stephen said there are similarities and overlap. Dave Gray said he has been asked for the city to adopt the International Fire Code by several businesses and citizens and that is the reason the issue is on the agenda. Chris Clark asked if adopting the fire code makes us a safer community. Pat said the fire code is a guide for inspections and normally commercial businesses are inspected but private homes are not inspected unless the fire department is invited. Dave Gray moved to adopt the International Fire Code. There was no second so the motion died.


Stephen said Frederickson’s purchased a garbage recycling truck primarily due to him having a contract with the School District for recycling. Chris said the county has not spoken about what they will offer to help out the city with recycling. Stephen said we need to put a proposal together and request what we expect from the county. He said the county is applying for a grant for recycle bins through the Idaho Office of Energy Resources. David said there are quite a few other things the city can apply for through the energy grant.

John Langs said there is a memo from the county describing what they are doing for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Eve holidays. John made a motion to match what the county is doing for their employees for the city employees. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.  (Clerk’s note: The County is giving the day after Thanksgiving as a paid day off,
closing at noon on Christmas Eve as well as New Years Eve. For essential employees required to work on Friday, November 27th, the afternoon of December 24th or the afternoon of December 31st or whose normal day off falls on those days, they can take another day off as compensation. Overtime or compensatory time at time and a half will not be given for those days. Those days are not holidays, but regular paid days off.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

_____________________________________________________
David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk