

Mayor David Anderson called the regularly scheduled meeting of December 4, 2012 to order at 7:00 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, Police Chief Steve Benkula, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Water/Sewer Department Superintendents Jim Fritzsche and John Griffin, and City Attorney Will Herrington. Also present were Leonard Wilson and Matt Corwin from Computer Arts, Inc., Laura Roady from the Bonners Ferry Herald, Phillip Sweet, Phil Lowman, Robert Karlac, Dale Simpson, Ruth Sutton, Carolyn Testa, Marcia Cossette, Doug Ladely, Sr., Loretta Hunsaker, Jerry Higgs, Dave Gray, Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Aaron Dunham, Ralph and Julie Lotspeich, Brion Poston, Dick Staples, Louise Carter, and Mike Sloan.

Mayor Anderson told the group that there could not be any testimony or comments on annexation this evening due to the hearing next week.

Marcia Cossette expressed to city council and city staff that she appreciated them very much.

Jerry Higgs spoke regarding the letter he presented on November 21, 2012 to the city. He clarified that there was not an executive session but stands by all comments and claims made in the letter and thinks the conflict of interest still stands regardless of the attorney's opinion.

Brion Poston, Chairman of the Golf Committee, said the equipment at the golf course needs to be addressed. He said Ralph is professional at operating the course but he needs proper equipment, and the equipment is lacking. Brion would like to invite city council to the golf course to make their assessment. Brion gave council profit/loss history of the golf course for the past ten years and said over the past ten years there has been a profit of \$164,000. He spoke of the repair costs in recent years and said it does not make sense putting money into old equipment rather than purchasing new equipment. Much of the equipment at the golf course is past its life expectancy.

Dick Staples spoke about the golf course being an asset of the city and thinks the money made at the course should be put back into the course. He said new equipment pays for itself rather than investing in repairs to the old equipment. The group briefly discussed the capital improvements made at the golf course in recent years. Mayor Anderson said there is netting needed for the driving range as well as sprinkler heads. He asked if this trim mower is the consensus of the golf committee as being most needed. Brion said it would be but a fairway mower is also needed as both are in the same state of disrepair. Mike Klaus asked if there is a capital improvement plan for the golf course. Brion said there is not, but if council wants one they will put it together. Mike spoke of using the profits for the golf course for needed equipment. Ralph said the basics are in the handout given to council this evening. Dick said the priorities are there for council to review. The group briefly discussed surveys that were completed at the course, and Ralph said the main complaint was the tee boxes. Stephen informed council that there has been a decision from the city outside auditor that the golf course can be operated as an enterprise fund. Ralph thinks this would be good and gave examples of expectations of the public.

Leonard Wilson and Matt Corwin from Computer Arts introduced themselves and spoke to council. Leonard gave a brief history of Computer Arts. He told council that he would like to come back before council in a couple months to let them know what the needs of the city are. Leonard said Matt has been doing the ground work and he knows more of the city needs.

Leonard asked what IT means to the council. Mayor Anderson said he was excited to sign up with Computer Arts because they have worked all over the State. Mike Klaus said if computers are down the work stops so he would like them to work with the department heads to find out the needs of the city. Leonard encouraged council to be proactive and not fall behind because that can be cost prohibitive. Matt Corwin said he has spent a lot of time with Stephen and the police chief the past few months, and getting an understanding from council in a technical standpoint as well as a monetary standpoint would be helpful. Stephen said there are some decision points coming up and gave the example of the server and storage for data, and said the mapping program takes a lot of space as well as the video data from the police department. Matt said there are a lot of decisions coming forth, and he did not want to scare the council with the upcoming expenses for needs of the city. Leonard and Matt left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Phillip Sweet spoke regarding the work order for lifting the electric lines so he could move his building two and a half miles. He said he was not aware there would be a charge and did not get the bill for eleven months. Phillip said he called and spoke with Stephen Boorman. He thinks he should have been told there was a charge when he requested the service, because Bonners Ferry used to do this in the past. Phillip said he has been postponed three times from coming to speak to council and having the item on the agenda. Phillip thinks he should have been told there was a charge and this whole issue has been handled badly. Phillip said Stephen said he would have to pay the bill. He said it is not fair to him to be treated like pay it and shut up. It has been a year since he got the bill, actually two years. He thinks the bill is excessive, and said four linemen came out, and two stayed in the trucks.

Police Chief Steve Benkula said the January through September crime stats are in and the police department is doing quite well. We are at 84 offenses, up three percent from last year. There have been 142 arrests, and that is up approximately three percent as well. The clearance rate is 89.3 percent up from 81.5 percent last year for this period. He said there have been a number of burglaries on the south hill and the police are working on this to come to a resolution.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said there have been 65 calls this year so far. There was one emergency services assist in the past two weeks. There was a call at the Alternative School for a fire and smoke in the building and it was due to a heater motor in the ceiling that was overheating and causing smoke in the building. Pat said Paradise Valley Fire Department and Bonners Ferry Fire Department will start training together once a month. They share four firefighters. Pat showed council some of the parts from the fire department equipment that have been replaced. The parts were quite rusty.

Stephen Boorman gave the administrator report. Solar panels were installed at the monitoring station up Myrtle Creek. The draft sewer master plan has been completed and is being reviewed. The Idaho Consumer Utilities meeting is coming up in Boise in early January. The substation repairs at the north bench sub are complete. Christmas decorations at city hall were done by Jean Diel and the girls in the office. Stephen introduced John Griffin.

David Sims said the Bonner/Boundary Priority Planning Group has shrunk to a steering committee, and he is on it as well as Melanie Staples from the School District. The priorities are education and economic development. North Idaho Essentials has received the pilot equipment, and there should be people coming over from China in February to install the equipment. Potlatch Credit Union has purchased the Teddy Bear Daycare building. They plan to be open

late winter and finish a drive thru in the spring. David invited council to come to North Idaho College (NIC) to meet the new NIC President on Monday and asked for council support.

Mike Klaus said there will probably be an urban renewal agency meeting in January. Mike asked for help defining the terms of the members from the Mayor and city attorney.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the motion and it passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of November 20, 2012 council meeting minutes.

Mayor Anderson said there will be a hearing on annexation at the Becker Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. on December 11, 2012.

Mayor Anderson spoke regarding council having a tour of the golf course next spring. Mike Klaus thanked Ralph, the golf course manager, for the comprehensive plan that was developed. Ralph said the golf course is a huge asset for the city, and they get rave reviews from those using it. Mayor Anderson said council will be working on the golf contract, the enterprise system for the golf course, and equipment needs will be looked at. He said the city is in a tight budget crunch but understands the equipment needs at the golf course. He is supportive of the mower needed at the golf course. Mike asked what date the golf course needs the equipment ordered by. Ralph said the first of April. He said the mower he demonstrated at the golf course was great, and the cost is about \$32,000. Ralph said our golf course is hard on equipment. The golf course needs to be in good shape to attract more play and make money. He thinks our golf course has great potential, and he loves working there. Ralph invited council to contact him anytime. Tom Mayo said Ralph and the committee have done a great job putting this together, but he is concerned about the costs in this fiscal year. Ralph said there are leases available. Dick said there are leases available for eight months of the year rather than twelve months of lease payments to match the golf season. Mayor Anderson said he does not feel we need a fee increase. Ralph said he thinks the fees are where they should be. Stephen said the recommendation of keeping the contract has been okayed by the committee, but the attorney has not had an opportunity to look it over. Ralph said he will be gone on December 18 so the Mayor said we will amend it but not take any action until January.

Connie Wells excused herself from the discussion on the Phillip Sweet issue. Mayor Anderson said we should not have been delinquent in billing for the electric work order, and he should have been told there was a charge. Rick Alonzo said if someone is receiving services they should be given an idea what the charge may be. Rick said Phillip would be satisfied in cutting the bill in half, and he may make this motion. Mike agreed. Tom said there have been other issues with billing, and those people have paid their bill in full. Rick Alonzo moved to cut the bill in half for Phillip Sweet’s work order. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”, Connie Wells “abstained”.

Pat Warkentin spoke regarding the appointment of Cody Pulis to the fire department. He would be replacing Randy Tremble who resigned. Pat said it is difficult to replace firemen on the volunteer department. Mike Klaus moved to appoint Cody Pulis as volunteer fireman. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

John Griffin spoke to council regarding the discharge monitoring reports. Mike Klaus moved to authorize John Griffin to sign the discharge monitoring reports as stated in the attachment. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the USDA control sheet. Mike Klaus seconded the motion. The motion passed - Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mike Klaus moved to authorize advertisement for a 2012 line truck as attached. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. Rick asked about the year of the truck. Stephen said there are quite a few emission controls now required so we are not sure what year the truck will be. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mayor Anderson spoke regarding the flower baskets and said we only received one bid but it is a local business. He said from the downtown meeting a few months ago, it was noted that the flower baskets were very important. The group discussed the new baskets being looked at this year and discussed the mildew or mold that has caused a problem the past two years. Stephen said we used a fiber basket the first two years and we did not have a mold problem with them. David said we should possibly look at a fertilizer injection system for the flower baskets. Connie Wells moved to approve purchasing the flower baskets for 2013 from Sugarplum Floral. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed - Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”, Mike Klaus “no”.

Police Chief Steve Benkula spoke regarding parking on Riverside Street west of First Street to the railroad tracks. He said it has been recommended by the Traffic Safety Committee for no parking signs in this area on both sides of Riverside Street from First Street to the railroad tracks. People are parking on the bike path on the north side of Riverside Street making the street one lane. Steve said there is a problem when people are parked along the south side of Riverside Street for visibility of the stop sign as it is in an odd spot. Jerry Higgs said the issue reviewed by the Traffic Safety Committee was due to Vance Warden parking his truck on Riverside and having lunch at the Kootenai River Brewery. He said he spoke to Mike Naumann about this issue as well as handicapped parking and on-site parking below his building. Jerry spoke about the building permit that was issued, and said there was nothing mentioned in the permit about on-site premise parking. Jerry said council is getting ready to make a motion that affects Kootenai River Brewing Company and Riverside Auto without consulting the businesses about the issue, and they should have comment. Jerry suggested going back 100 feet from the stop sign and put a stop a head sign. Rick Alonzo thinks the no parking signs are a good idea and made a motion for no parking signs on Riverside Street west of First Street to the railroad tracks. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Mayor Anderson spoke regarding the orange flags for pedestrian crossings on highway 95. Police Chief Steve Benkula said he thinks this will help visibility on highway 95 at Eisenhower, Augusta, and Fry Streets when pedestrians cross the road. He said we are still waiting for approval from Idaho Transportation Department about this. A bulk of three hundred flags will cost approximately \$130. Connie Wells moved to accept Traffic Safety Committee

recommendation for orange flags. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed - Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Steve Benkula spoke to council regarding volunteers. He said he has had retired people offer to volunteer for the city police department, and tonight Steve asked that Dean Satchwell be approved as a volunteer for the police department. Rick Alonzo moved to allow Dean Satchwell to be a volunteer for the police department and to get a program started for other volunteers. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Steve Benkula said Silas Thompson has been highly recommended as a member for the traffic safety committee. Connie Wells moved to appoint Silas Thompson to the traffic safety committee. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

At 8:24 pm Connie Wells moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (1) (b) (f). Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. At 9:12 executive session ended. No action was taken.

Connie Wells moved to adopt the 207K agreement for a two week pay period for the police officers but pay overtime after 80 hours. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed - Mike Klaus “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk