Mayor Darrell Kerby called the regularly scheduled council meeting of March 6, 2007 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Kerby, Council President Russ Docherty, Council Members John Langs, Mick Mellett, and Dave Gray, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Police Chief Dave Kramer, Fire Chief Larry Owsley, and Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan. Also present were Don Bartling from Boundary County School District #101, Rick Alonzo representing the Rod Benders Car Club, Ralph and Beverly Byquist, John O’Connor, Ron and Cheryl Frederickson, Tina Carson, Jacob Cooper, and Dave Anderson.

Don Bartling spoke to Council and thanked the Mayor for having the all entity meeting at the Kootenai River Inn in January. He also spoke regarding the upcoming M&O levy of approximately $885,000. This equates to approximately a $6.00 increase on $100,000 value of property. A one cent sales tax was implemented by the State of Idaho. The M&O levy is the only way a school district can get more funding. Dave Gray inquired about the funding needed. Mr. Bartling said the Social Studies teacher is not included in the M&O levy. He said a rural counselor position was traded for keeping a fifth grade teacher. Mick Mellett asked if the School District receives Craig Wyden funding. Mr. Bartling said the School District currently receives about $376,000 in Craig Wyden funds. The county gets seventy percent of the funding and the school district receives 30 percent. Mayor Kerby inquired if the Craig Wyden funding is lost if the School District can run another M&O next year. Mr. Bartling was not sure if another M&O could be run but he said a facility levy is an option. There are 60 school districts in the State of Idaho that run M&O levies.

John Langs moved to support the M&O levy for the School District that funds a very bare bones operation. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. Mr. Bartling left the meeting.

Rick Alonzo spoke to Council regarding the Car Show to be held on June 2, 2007. It will be downtown on Main Street leaving Arizona, Kootenai, and Riverside open. Bonner Street would be closed. The registration booth is scheduled to be near the new visitor’s center. He asked Council to waive the permit fees and insurance requirements covering the event under the City’s insurance.

John Langs moved to grant Rod Benders June 2, 2007 Car Show program with waiver of the fees and to be covered by the City’s insurance. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Kramer gave the Police report. Multiple businesses have been broken into both on the south hill and downtown. One suspect is in custody and some property has been recovered. There were also four warrant arrests, a DUI, aggravated assault, a mental hold, failure to register as a sex offender, and several accidents and dog calls. One of the owners of the dogs that have been using the city pool area has agreed to clean up the area.

Larry Owsley gave the Fire Report. He said a minor hazmat spill in the hospital parking lot was responded to and cleaned up. The new truck ladders will be tested. Larry also
spoke regarding the firemen attending the North Idaho Fire Academy and the classes that they will register for.

Dave Gray moved to approve the consent agenda. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of March 6, 2007 accounts payable; approval of the Treasurer’s Report; approval of February 15, 2007 council meeting minutes and February 21, 2007 special council meeting minutes; approval for up to ten Firemen to attend North Idaho Fire Academy on April 1, 2007 in Coeur d’Alene.

Ralph Byquist asked that Council consider allowing the Farmers Market use of the city parking lot for the summer rather than Main Street. His next Farmers Market meeting is March 16th. The Farmers Market plans to open on May 5, 2007. Stephen said the sidewalks and landscaping in the parking lot will not be done by May 5, 2007. John Langs moved to allow the Farmers Market to use the city parking lot. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Dave said the storage of signage is an unknown and asking the Police to move people in the area is not allowed. Mr. Byquist said signage may be used to keep RVs out of the area that is used for the Farmers Market. John Langs inquired if overnight parking will be allowed. Stephen said the RV spaces are limited right across the street from Quality Farm and Garden. Dave Kramer said limited overnight parking will be allowed by permit and he does not see a problem. He suggested looking at an alternate location for RV overnight parking. Mr. Byquist said another request of the Farmers Market is the sign for the market. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”, Mick Mellett “no”.

The group discussed annexation. A preliminary map will be developed in March with a Council review in April.

Stephen said Ron Frederickson has come to speak to Council. Ron said the Garbage Company has been in a reactive mode for several years and now they are trying to be proactive. A new truck should be arriving soon and Ron said the City has been good about keeping the alleys open better. There are problems with consistency with the garbage regulations and there are safety issues for the employees from the large cans, trees and brush hitting the employees riding on the truck, and increase in traffic flow. The Garbage Company is considering automation of the garbage truck for pickup mostly for safety reasons. Mayor Kerby inquired about the cost of the new trash cans. Ron thinks they cost about $65 a piece and there are about 900 residences in the city. Mayor Kerby inquired about the way other entities handle the cans. Ron would like to own the containers and then charge the customer over time for the container. Ron said he would like to go into the recycling pickup at some point in time but that is another issue. Mick asked what the time frame is for the new containers. Ron said he wants to try out the new containers on some of the county residents first to see how they work. Dave asked how big the new containers would be. Ron said he would recommend the 95-gallon container as it equates to three standard garbage cans. Ron said they have big wheels but snow would be an issue. Mayor Kerby commented that the elderly may also have problems. Mayor Kerby said it has been some time since the City has met with the Garbage
Company to update proposals and review the rules that are followed. He wants to make sure the City policy is what Ron is recommending. Mayor Kerby also spoke about the financial end of the contract so the Garbage Company and the City can function better. John Langs commented that he was glad to hear that the Garbage Company is in favor of recycling. Dave Gray thanked them for updating the infrastructure and taking care of the City.

Stephen spoke to Council regarding the windows in the council room and in the kitchen. He is recommending they be replaced with picture windows that do not open for security reasons. The council room windows currently have big holes in them. Mick Mellett moved to approve the expenditure of $3,572.50 for the windows and to re-key city hall. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. Mick said the bad windows look bad for the City. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen recommended getting a laminated glass for the power house windows. He said the current windows date back to the 1940’s and some of them have bullet holes in them. The new windows have venting in them. John Langs moved based on the City Administrator’s recommendation to purchase the windows for the power houses. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen recommended replacing the two man doors, to repair the overhead doors and add an operator to one of the overhead doors in the street shop. John Langs moved to approve the recommendation of the City Administrator for replacing and repairing the doors at the street shop. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The addressing issue was briefly discussed. It is a matter of using a GPS system for addressing and more information will be submitted at the next meeting.

Stephen spoke to Council regarding the vacuum truck bid. The truck was built into the sewer rate structure two years ago. An outright lease purchase option is not an option at this time due to the Boise Airport case. Mayor Kerby inquired if the City Attorney has approved the financing scheme of borrowing from the electric fund. Stephen said it has been approved. Mayor Kerby said the interest paid by the sewer department will go to the electric department. Stephen explained how the hydro vacuum truck works to Council. John Langs moved to table the issue until the budget review in April. Mick Mellett inquired how long the bid is good. Stephen thought the bid was good only for 30 days. No second was made so the motion died. Russ Docherty moved to approve the purchase of the hydro vacuum truck. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “no”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

The dump box was removed from the agenda. Stephen said we will look at future State auctions for the purchase of the dump box.

Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign pay request #7 to Department of Commerce for engineering and administration on the water tank project. Russ Docherty

The KVRI bylaw revisions were discussed. Mayor Kerby said the primary reason for the bylaw revision was to make certain that the Tribe’s sovereignty was not eroded. John Langs asked for clarification. Mayor Kerby said the members of the KVRI are appointed by the City, County, and the Tribe and the new bylaws would also require alternates to be appointed by the City, County, and the Tribe. Members of the KVRI represent constituent groups but are not representing the specific constituency that they belong to. The Tribe’s concern is that the KVRI is an advisory group and this needs to be understood by all. Since the Tribe is a sovereign nation this bylaw change assures this is known. Mick commented that it would be true with the City as well because Darrell represents the City but he cannot make decisions for City Council. Russ Docherty moved that the City adopt the bylaw revisions of the KVRI. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Mick Mellett moved to approve the Alan Grove minor subdivision on Lincoln Street as recommended by Planning and Zoning’s findings and facts. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign pay request #4 for the visitors center/parking lot project subject to ITD approval. Russ seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Dave Gray moved to authorize the mayor to sign pay request #4 on the water tank project. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign change order #3 for the water tank project for the slope of the roof. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Mayor Kerby said there was an informal meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and Selkirk Loop who would like operate out of the visitor’s center. The Chamber still has little or no money but wants to man the visitor’s center for meet and greet and also have an office space and work with the Selkirk Loop folks possibly sharing an employee with the Selkirk Loop. Mayor Kerby told them they need to put together a business plan for Council to review. Mike Sloan said there was an article in the paper that said the operation of the visitor’s center would be managed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor pointed out that the City had not approved that so a business plan is needed for Council to review. Mayor Kerby said the City will make sure the visitor’s center will operate appropriately and fiscally responsibly. Mick inquired about funding from the State for gateway visitor’s centers. Mayor Kerby said the State will not relinquish
funding to Bonners Ferry for the operation of the visitor’s center due to it not being on an interstate. The City must operate the visitor’s center independently. John Langs asked about the completion date. Stephen said it will be April or May. Mayor Kerby said options are being reviewed. John Langs question is who will be in charge.

Stephen said the annual meeting of Northwest Public Power will be held in Spokane this year. He also spoke about the electric systems operation for the non-engineer courses being held in Pablo, Montana and said they would be good to attend.

Mayor Kerby spoke about the sewer lagoon and the response the City has received from the Corps of Engineers. The Corps cannot come up with the funding for us because there is no flood event looming and there is no advance measure money available at this time. The estimated cost according to the Corps is $190,000 for the sewer lagoon outfall armoring. The City had estimated the costs at about $114,000. Mayor Kerby said Senator Craig is looking at options for the City but he is not sure if any funding will be available. Mick inquired about how close the erosion is to damaging the facilities. Mayor Kerby said there is an undercut there that is cutting the bank away causing the erosion. Stephen said when the chlorine building was erected there was rock built out for the building to sit on. Dave Kramer spoke about the Homeland Security funding for the armoring of the bank. John Langs said the Corps put the City on notice of the need to protect the sewer lagoon outfall. He asked if there is private property in danger. Mayor Kerby said there is not private property threatened but there would be sewer effluent that would get in the river if the lagoon failed. Dave Kramer suggested contacting the National Guard for helping the City armor the bank. Dave suggested a disaster declaration so we could access the National Guard for the project. He will check on the issue tomorrow and get back to the Mayor.

John Langs inquired about the status of the engineering on the sewer lagoon study and the backwash project. Stephen said the land application of the sewer affluent is being looked at. He also spoke about up flow clarifiers to help remedy the backwash project. Welch Comer is working with DEQ on the issues. EPA is the entity that has put the City on notice of the need to fix the two problems. Stephen said there is urgency to have the backwash project complete because the funding will only be available through the Corps of Engineers until the end of September.

Dave Kramer said LEPC meeting is tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. and there is also a meeting with the Board of Directors of the Second Chance Animal Adoption Group as well as the Sheriff to discuss the dog pound.

The Drug Task Force was briefly discussed as well as the KVRI bylaws.

At 8:54 p.m. John Langs moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing legal issues. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. At 9:02 p.m. Russ Docherty moved to go out of executive session. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. No action was taken.
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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Darrell Kerby, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk