Mayor Darrell Kerby opened the regularly scheduled council meeting of May 1, 2007. Present for the meeting were Mayor Kerby, Council Members Mick Mellett and Dave Gray, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, City Engineer Mike Klaus, Police Chief Dave Kramer, Fire Chief Larry Owsley, Economic Development Coordinator Mike Sloan, and City Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Ralph Byquist, Tina Carson, Robert Parker, David Sims, Marcia Cossette, Jeff Mellinger, Fred Henderson, Jason Thomas, Tina Wilson, and Jack Douglas. Council President Russ Docherty was gone due to illness.

Dave Kramer gave the police report. He said the prom went well. There were no problems. There was a roll over at the fairgrounds but there were no injuries.

Fire Chief Larry Owsley gave the fire report. He said burn permits would be required on May 10th. He said the city was put on standby for the wild land fire near District 5 by the Department of Lands but we were not required to respond. No homes were lost. Some of the firemen have taken classes. The tanks and hose reels have arrived. Larry has an item for executive session.

Mike Klaus said the meeting attended today was very informative. Mike said Tim completed the planning and zoning ordinance review. The water tank project is going well but is a little behind schedule. Quotes for the Jackson Street waterline are being sought. Mike said a formal response from B.F. Builders is what the city needs for completion of the water project.

Councilman John Langs arrived and the meeting was called to order at 7:21 p.m.

Robert Parker spoke to council. He said he is constructing a home on Comanche Court and has been denied water and sewer service. There are two dead-end water mains. The sewer permit was denied first and then a month later the water and sewer permits were denied. In order to get a water tap the city told Robert he needed to connect the two water mains. He said the city would not agree to pay part of the fees. He has requested flow tests on why the loop is necessary but has not received any information. He wants a technical reason why this loop is required. Pine Street has a two-inch main serving three residents. At his house there are 65 pounds of pressure. He has been told there are pressure problems and his connection would compromise customers in that area. Leroy Timm’s property is connected to Comanche Court and Robert asked to connect to Leroy’s tap and then give him the Pine Street tap but this was denied. Robert said he wants to know why he has the brunt of fixing this waterline. He does not feel it is fair. He said there are two vacant lots on Comanche Court that will benefit from this endeavor.

Mike Klaus said there could be a good static flow but in warmer months the 65-pound pressure can drop significantly. When North Water and Sewer District were operating they informed Mr. Parker that new mains would need to be done before connecting to the system. Mike said the city does not want to sacrifice current infrastructure for new infrastructure. Robert wants to know why he has to have sewer and water service from the city. Mike said it is standard policy and there is risk that someone could run a service
over top of another. Mick said he would not make a decision tonight because he needs to review the documentation and have legal review of the issue. Dave Gray agrees with Mick and wants to have more information to review. Mr. Parker is frustrated. He asked for guidance for next meeting. Mayor Kerby told Mr. Parker to give his information to the clerk so she can copy the documents for council to review. Stephen Boorman said a two-inch line with the number of people on it is not up to standard. Stephen said Mr. Parker was aware of the issue before he purchased the property. Stephen said the city’s position is the same as what North Water had. John Langs inquired if Mr. Parker will live in the home being built. Mr. Parker said he would not live in the home. Mayor Kerby asked Mr. Parker to put the information he is requesting in writing and council will review the data.

Mr. Parker said there are street issues in this area also. He had previously requested that Pine Street be abandoned but was denied. He said there are drainage issues near the current home he has. He said he is on the schedule for maintenance and chip sealing. Stephen said he was with John Youngwirth when he responded to Mr. Parker and John told him he would ditch the road and crown it and it would be chip sealed when he was in the area doing chip sealing but no definite schedule was committed to. Mr. Parker asked why Pine Street and Comanche Street are not up to specs. Mayor Kerby explained the substandard streets are from the past. Stephen expanded on the issue. Mayor Kerby said the council is dealing with the issues today but Mr. Parker is caught between the old and the new. Mr. Parker said he is trying to build affordable housing in Bonners Ferry and wants to use city services.

Ralph Byquist spoke on behalf of the Farmers Market. He said the first weekend of the market went very well and asked council if they had any concerns. He said he would be at council the first meeting of the month for questions. There were 22 vendors at the first market. Mick asked if the tents were secured in the asphalt. Concrete blocks according to Marcia Cossette were used to secure the tents.

John Langs moved to approve the consent agenda. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of May 1, 2007 accounts payable; approval of April 24, 2007 council meeting minutes; approval for Don Moore to attend Critical Incident response to School Violence Training in Post Falls on June 14-25, 2007; approval for Don Moore to attend Basic School resource Officer Training in Meridian on June 18-22, 2007.

John Langs moved to approve the remodel project that B. F. Quick Lube has proposed. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Mick clarified that the sidewalk width would be five feet rather than six feet and that the driveway is narrower due to the telephone pole being in the way of the 28-foot width. John Langs incorporated the drawing submitted by Mr. Mellinger last meeting into his motion. Dave Gray agreed to the incorporation of the amendment. Jeff Mellinger inquired if the state comes in to rebuild the street if a six-foot sidewalk will then be required. He also said if he goes to a six-foot sidewalk it would run into a curb. Mick said the renovation could be changed if the highway is rebuilt. The motion passed, all in favor.
Tim Wilson said a meeting can open with a quorum and then someone can leave and action can still be taken.

The operation of the visitor’s center was the next agenda item. Mayor Kerby said the first year he would like to set up an advisory committee to work with council regarding operation of the visitor’s center. Then he would like to see a request for proposal from various entities for operation past the first year. Tina Wilson inquired about how the committee would be selected. Darrell said the Mayor would appoint the committee and it would be confirmed by council. Tina inquired if suggestions would be taken. Darrell said they would. Tina offered to be a part of the committee. Mayor Kerby would like to have a special council meeting to appoint the committee. Mick thinks it is wise to maintain control over the operation but would like to see the Chamber, downtown businesses, and Selkirk Loop as members. John Langs moved to set up a committee for operation of the visitor’s center. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. Tina Wilson and Jack Douglas left the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Memorial Day Parade and waive the fees with review of the police and fire. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mayor Kerby told Jason Thomas that the city is in favor of a 4th of July celebration and would sponsor the fireworks and authorize Skip O’Fallon to perform the fireworks portion of the program. Jason was given the fireworks permit application that he tried to give to Skip O’Fallon but Skip said the city will be in charge of the fireworks display.

Mayor Kerby explained that Jason Thomas volunteered to put together a 4th of July celebration and said council wanted to know ahead of time the events that were planned. Tim Wilson said if the city is insuring the events then they must be the sponsor. Jason asked that the city sponsor the parade and separate the 4th of July events and keep the events under the 4th of July committee. The city can sponsor the parade and provide insurance for the parade. Mayor Kerby explained ICRMP to the group. He said the city could authorize functions and volunteers for events if the city remains in control. Mick Mellett moved to sponsor the 4th of July parade. John Langs seconded the motion. Mayor Kerby told Jason to coordinate with the Police Chief. The motion passed, all in favor.

Jason asked if the fireworks could be separated from the fairground events. Mick Mellett moved that the city sponsor the 4th of July fireworks and waive the permit fees subject to approval of police and fire concerning storage and execution. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Jason spoke to council regarding the events at the fairgrounds that he wants separated from the fireworks and the city. Jason said the 4th of July committee would be responsible. Dave Kramer said the special event fee is for cleanup of posters or flyers that the city has to take care of. Jason said there would be two talent shows, a musical
revue, kid’s events such as face painting and pie eating contests. Mayor Kerby asked for a list of events. Jason thought he had submitted that to the city. Mayor Kerby told Jason that the events not falling under the city still need insurance. Mick added that the city needs to be indemnified. Fred Henderson inquired about the fairgrounds being county. Mayor Kerby said it is county property in the city limits so city ordinances apply.

Jason and Fred left the meeting.

John Langs moved to authorize the use of the city parking lot for the National Guard to display the NASCAR racecar on May 28, 2007. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen spoke to council regarding WPPSS. He said there is an oversight board and the city has the opportunity to vote for board members. Mick would like to know who is on the board. Stephen will find out more for council. The NWPPA annual meeting will be in Spokane this year. Mick Mellett moved to authorize Stephen Boorman to be the voting member for the City of Bonners Ferry. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

John Langs moved to approve hiring Jasmine Robertson as head lifeguard for the 2007 summer season. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen spoke to council regarding locates for utilities. He is recommending the city enter into an agreement with Pass Word for one-call locates for utilities. The number now called is 811 for utility locates. Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the one-call contract for utility locates with Pass Word. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

The agenda item of sidewalk for the Meeker parking lot was tabled.

John Langs moved to approve the grant submittal and funding for the BEDC. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Dave Kramer spoke to council regarding police memorial week activities. It will be scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on May 15, 2007 in the Library Veterans Memorial Park.

John Langs spoke regarding meter reader identification. He said some residents have been concerned because the meter readers don’t have clear identification. He would like the meter reader to have a vest that clearly states meter reader on the front and the back. He also wants a magnetic sign on the door of the vehicle he is driving because the new meter reader was driving an out of state vehicle. He also wants him to carry identification for protection of the meter reader as well as the citizens. John Langs requested to have the meter reader have clear identification, have magnetic signs on his vehicle, and carry identification. Stephen said a contract revision will be needed to require this and he has spoken to the contractor. Mayor Kerby said this issue was
discussed at the foreman meeting and city vests will be purchased for employees to wear and also for identification cards to be carried by employees. Dave Gray said safety is a big concern of his.

John Langs is concerned about residents being notified about water pressure and that it may increase with the new construction at the water plant. He would like notice to be in the paper as an ad as well as an article in the paper and a notice put in the utility billings as an insert. Stephen said pressure reduction valves will be installed near Alderson Lane but there are hoses and fittings that may not be sufficient. John Langs would like this information to be put out as soon as possible and as often as possible.

Larry Owsley commented that the water tie in will be on May 8th and there will be little pressure that day. The south hill will have little pressure on May 8th beginning at 8:00 a.m. Stephen said the concern is if there would be a fire.

Mayor Kerby spoke about the Inland Pacific Hub. He has requested Latisha from Avista to come to Bonners Ferry to speak to Council and the Commissioners about the project. The project is a HUB for transportation. The Union Pacific Railroad is the only railway between U.S. and Canada and is in Eastport. Council will take action at the next meeting.

Dave Sims inquired about the land purchase the city is contemplating. Mayor Kerby said it will be discussed in executive session.

At 8:43 p.m. Mick Mellett moved to go into executive session for discussion of legal issues and property acquisition. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Mick Mellett “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. At 9:27 p.m. executive session ended. No action was taken.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

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Darrell Kerby, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk