Mayor Darrell Kerby called the regularly scheduled council meeting of August 7, 2007 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Kerby, Council President Russ Docherty, Council Members John Langs and Dave Gray, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Police Chief Dave Kramer, and Fire Chief Larry Owsley. Also present for the meeting were Dave Sims, Jay Cohn, Elaine Sandman, Denise Woodbury, Gini Woodward, Tina Wilson, Dave Anderson, Dave Turner, and Kate Turner. Rhonda Hammerslough joined the meeting in progress. Mick Mellett was gone on personal business.

The first order of business was a public hearing for the room rental rate for the visitors’ center meeting room. Mayor Kerby said city staff has suggested community non-profit groups be free of charge, private functions pay a rental fee of $35.00, and for-profit businesses pay $100. Tina Wilson said she thinks a grade scale is good and liked the way the school district charged fees for rentals. She also likes the way the fire department charged but thinks $100 fee is too much for the room rental. Stephen said the fire hall is rented only to non-profit organization and charges $35 but the fire hall includes a kitchen. Tina does not think $35 is too high for a private event but thinks people may take advantage of it. She also said there is no kitchen and bathroom facilities are downstairs. The hearing was recessed at 7:12 p.m.

Dave Kramer said for some time the Police and Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency have been working to find common ground to benefit the animals and the public. A contract is being looked at by the city and the county where Second Chance would take care of the animals for a fee. Dave said a partnership with them is being considered but law enforcement will still take the animals to the pound to see if the animal is suited for adoption or if it is too vicious or sick. Dave said it will keep the public out of the city yard. Rhonda from Second Chance spoke to Council and asked what happens to animals for people who are incarcerated. Dave said family members are contacted and if there is no one to take care of the animal then it is considered abandoned. Dave said it happens only about three times per year. Rhonda said there is not the ability to take care of and house 15 animals at a time if for instance the owner of a dog fighting ring were to be arrested. Mayor Kerby said Second Chance would like to help the city out by helping house the animals but they don’t know if they can handle the legal end of the responsibilities. Rhonda said Second Chance is privately funded but they don’t have the funding or the training to handle all animal control. Mayor Kerby said the county pays for the food for the animals in an amount of about $300 per year and the city budgets about $6,700 for animal control. Mayor Kerby said the county has set aside about $9,000 to work toward this agreement. He said the city would need to increase their budget to accommodate Second Chance. He said rather than duplicate services it makes sense to do one facility and do it right. Rhonda said they are looking at phasing in an increase in kennels. She said if they could have some assistance to build additional kennels they could be set aside only for housing law enforcement picked up animals. John Langs asked Dave if he thinks our pound could be phased out. Dave thinks it could be and said with some ordinance changes it could be a possibility. He said about half of the animal control budget is for utilities and the rest is for the caretaker. Rhonda said there was the idea of a few kennels being built behind the Sheriff's Office so the inmates could take care
of the animals. Kate Turner asked if the fee would be guaranteed to be paid. Mayor Kerby said Second Chance would not have to worry about collections because we would still owe Second Chance whether the fees were collected or not.

Larry Owsley said there have been two incidents. One on Wildhorse Lane that was actually in North Bench’s jurisdiction but the fire department was protecting the city. The other call was for a vehicle fire near the Hawkins House.

Dave said the yard sales and canine caper were successful events. On August 25, 2007 there will be a full scale exercise event planned for invitation only participants but the Council is invited to review the exercise.

Dave Gray moved to approve the consent agenda. Russ Docherty seconded the motion and it passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of August 7, 2007 accounts payable; approval of the Treasurer’s Report; approval of July 3 and July 17, 2007 regular council meeting minutes; and approval for Dave Kramer to attend the FBI Academy Conference in West Yellowstone from September 23-25, 2007 and Idaho Chiefs Association Training in Boise from September 27-28, 2007.

Stephen has noted the changes that were discussed concerning the planning and zoning ordinance. He is struggling with the sign ordinance section and also the parking section of the ordinances. He said he took the table of the definitions and table of uses and moved them to appendices. The group briefly discussed special uses.

Mayor Kerby said there is a punch list authored by Association of Idaho Cities concerning annexation included in the packets. He said Tim Wilson is supposed to start the process. He said annexation is being looked to for the areas the city is serving water or sewer services that are currently out of the city limits.

Stephen said a larger drain field is required for the number of people that use the golf clubhouse. John Langs moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Wil Brimhall for the drain field replacement. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Jay Cohn reported on the clock tower. Jay said a man from Canada said Bonners Ferry keeps getting better and better. Jay said the clock tower has become a project and it will be something to be proud of. Jay asked council to consider contracting with Kevin Dirks to paint the tower and said there are donations available for the costs. He thinks it is important to paint the tower so citizens can see the progress. The Idaho Foundation wants Jay to submit an application for funding and he will speak to the Better Boundary County Education Committee. John Langs moved to approve the contract with Kevin Dirks for painting the tower. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The cost is $1,600. The motion passed, all in favor – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Mike Sloan joined the meeting. Jay Cohn left the meeting.
Mayor Kerby closed the hearing for the visitor center use fees at 7:52 p.m. John Langs moved to adopt the proposed three tier fee schedule. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Stephen commented that insurance requirements should be looked at because private individuals do not usually have insurance. Mayor Kerby said a private individual will have to hold the city harmless and provide a mechanism to protect the taxpayers from their acts of negligence.

Russ Docherty moved to approve the Fair parade permit and waive the fees if it is cleaned up. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Denise Woodbury spoke to Council regarding the petition to vacate property for the museum. Gini Woodward showed Council a colored map that already had property vacated that was dedicated to the plat. Denise said there is a city street, Riverside Street, which has not been used since 1916. Denise said it was a designated street in the plat. Mayor Kerby asked if all of this was dedicated right of way. Denise said it is all a street from the 1916 plat. Gini showed drawings of the museum and the entrance that would be on the back of the museum as proposed. She also said there would be a park like setting near the back of the museum. Denise also commented that she gave a copy to Tim Wilson. Mayor Kerby said with no objections Council will direct staff to come to the next meeting with the property vacation recommendation and paperwork. Stephen said there are utilities in this area and they need to be identified.

Mayor Kerby said there is always information that remains in employee’s brains after they leave city employment no matter how much they try to let their predecessors know. Mike Woodward has made a proposal to the city to come in as a volunteer employee where the city would pay for his insurance and he has the option to buy his spouse’s insurance and the city would pay him an hourly rate of $11.22 per hour. Mike can only work less than 20 hours per week because he is retired. Stephen will be Mike’s supervisor. John Langs moved to accept Mike Woodward’s proposal for employment. Dave Gray seconded the motion. Mayor Kerby said the city will receive just compensation from this endeavor. The motion passed, all in favor.

Stephen spoke regarding the change orders for the visitor center. One is for irrigation and another for landscape border and adding an additional landscape border and another is for a sign. B.F. Builders would like to have the sign under another contract so they can close out the visitor center project. Mayor Kerby said there has been some talk about having a sign that is lit on the ground level so the trees would not need to be removed. Dave Gray would like this revisited at a later date. Stephen said he could take the proposals back to the visitor center committee for their consideration. John Langs moved to approve change orders for item #1- modification of the irrigation system in the amount of $427 and #2 – change the landscape border deleting the crushed rock under the concrete edging and adding additional length to border plantings along the retaining wall and delete #3 – another visitor center sign. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

08/07/07 Council Meeting
Mayor Kerby said B.F. Builders is donating all the sod for the visitor center rather than hydro seeding the area. He said the city will have to install the sod.

Russ Docherty moved to authorize Mayor Kerby to sign pay request #8 for the water tank project. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor – John Langs “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Mayor Kerby said there are pumps designed to pump water into the new tank. Right now they are not functioning properly and the pumps are being modified. He said these modifications will delay the completion of the project.

Dave Gray moved to approve the purchase of a dump box for the electric department. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

John Langs moved to publish the proposed 2008 budget. Dave Gray seconded the motion and it passed, all in favor.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

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Darrell Kerby, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk