

Mayor Darrell Kerby called the regularly scheduled council meeting of November 1, 2005 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Kerby, Council Members Mick Mellett, Russ Docherty, and Leslie Falcon, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Fire Chief Larry Owsley, Economic Development Coordinator Robin Ponsness, City Attorney Tim Wilson, Electric Department Foreman Steve Guthrie, and Planning and Zoning Coordinator Gary Falcon.

Larry Owsley gave the fire report. He said the grant for the fire truck was denied and the equipment grant was also denied. The State of Idaho has come through with grant funding for needed equipment in the amount of \$20,000. Larry said another grant application will be submitted for a fire truck. He said the FEMA funding is declining for equipment and a used piece of equipment may be looked at in the interim until grant funding comes through.

Larry said there was a fire call at the hospital. Alan Hamilton returned from New Orleans and will be going back in early December. He asked that Council recognize Alan Hamilton and Randi Rogers for their work in New Orleans. Randi is an EMT and works well on the fire calls taking vital signs.

Mick Mellett moved to approve the consent agenda. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of November 1, 2005 accounts payable; approval of October 18, 2005 council meeting minutes.

Mick Mellett moved to approve the contract with AMCO Water Metering Systems, Inc. for the purchase of water meters. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”.

Mick Mellett asked that the area of impact ordinance be put on next meetings agenda.

Tim Wilson joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Health insurance was the next subject discussed. Mayor Kerby briefly went over the differences in coverage between Regence Blue Shield and Blue Cross of Idaho. The Blue Cross option is a \$1,000 deductible with an out of pocket maximum of \$1,500 rather than \$2,000 with Regence. The prescription drug program is different with Blue Cross than Regence with co-pays being \$10, \$25, or \$50. There would be set co-pays for formulary and non-formulary drugs rather than percentages of the cost of the drugs. Out of network care would have a \$3,000 out of pocket maximum and the coinsurance is 60/40 rather than in network coinsurance of 80/20. Mick Mellett moved to enter into an agreement with Blue Cross of Idaho Blue Value Option 1. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”. Mayor Kerby said Greg Helbling will come to Bonners Ferry to inform the employees and their spouses of the changes with the new insurance.

Life insurance was discussed. The City currently has life insurance through Standard Life Insurance Company. Alternate quotes were sought by the insurance agent. United Heritage Insurance Company came in at higher coverage for the employees for about \$850 more per year. Russ Docherty moved to accept option two from United Heritage Life Insurance, giving the employees \$25,000 coverage. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”.

Russ Docherty moved to purchase a pickup for the electric department and another for the water department from surplus property. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The DeVore contract was deferred to executive session.

Russ Docherty moved to advertise for bidding a bucket truck for the electric department. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. Mick asked if this will replace the smaller truck. Stephen said it will. Stephen would like to trade in the truck to a certified dealer. The motion passed, all in favor.

The road standards policy was discussed. Russ asked if all streets and alleys have to be hard surfaced with asphalt or concrete. Stephen explained that this would be a requirement for new roads to be accepted into the City. Russ Docherty moved to accept the road standards policy. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”.

The building use policy was discussed. Russ Docherty moved to approve the building use policy for the City. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. Leslie inquired about the cleaning cost of the fire hall. The City pays \$40 per month for cleaning the fire hall. Stephen said the rental for the fire hall is \$35 per day. Mick would like to see the wording in the policy to say governmental or nonprofit organizations rather than just nonprofit organizations. Leslie expressed concern about the building use policy. The motion was withdrawn. Mayor Kerby appointed Mick and Leslie to work on the fire hall building use policy. Larry Owsley asked Council to look at the way the fire hall is being used. He said sometimes law enforcement training includes night sticks being struck against the floor causing damage. Leslie Falcon moved to bring the issue back on the agenda in two weeks. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Mastre Backhoe for miscellaneous work throughout the year. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”.

The visitor’s center was the next agenda item. Russ Docherty inquired if there was a possibility of bidding the project with two floors versus one floor. Stephen and Robin said Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) will not allow it. Russ asked if there is anything the City can do to not change the parking lot the way ITD recommends it.

Mayor Kerby said much has been spent on determining ownership of the parking lot and right of way in the parking lot. The project cost is about \$1,000,000 and the city's share will be about \$160,000 if we want the building built as a two story building. The ownership of the building and parking lot will belong to the City. The group briefly discussed the use policy of the new visitor's center. Mick asked what the cushion is in the project. Robin said there is a 10 percent contingency. Russ is concerned about overruns. Robin expressed concern about the estimates being dated in June prior to the hurricanes. Stephen said there will be updated cost estimates as we go through the project. Mick read the cost saving items that we could consider as outlined on the engineer's opinion of probable costs. Mick said the City will own the building and parking lot. Mick moved to proceed with the visitor's center and parking lot with the original two story proposal showing City involvement of \$160,600 as outlined today. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. Leslie said the project numbers are Key 9150 and Key 9336. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”. Robin said she has researched funding with other agencies but has not found anything for the visitor's center project.

Russ Docherty moved to accept the personnel policy change (Clerk's note: amendment to Section 17E removing the 10 year clause). Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The group discussed the Christmas party. Council is leaving the arrangements up to the Clerk's Office to figure out.

Stephen Boorman informed Council about the meeting with three contractors to discuss the water meter installation project. He said all contractors thought this was a good idea. Mick Mellett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the equipment contracts as per the approval of the City Attorney for the metering installation project. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. Leslie inquired about the list of employees that may be hired temporarily. Stephen said the workers will install meters as their schedules allow. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”.

The Westway Construction change order was the next agenda item. Mick said he does not see the base penalty of \$5,000. Mick Mellett moved subject to the correction of the change order to authorize the Mayor to sign the change order. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”.

The Taft Subdivision, Kootenai Hills Estates, was deferred to executive session.

At 8:10 p.m. Mick Mellett moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 for the purpose of discussion of legal issues and negotiations. Russ Docherty seconded the motion. The motion passed – Mick Mellett “yes”, Russ Docherty “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”. At 8:47 p.m. Russ Docherty moved to go out of executive session. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. No action was taken.

Russ Docherty moved to table the issue with the Devore contract until the next meeting. Mick Mellett seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Darrell Kerby, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk