

Mayor David Sims called the council meeting of July 17, 2018 to order at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting were: Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Adam Arthur, Valerie Thompson, and Ron Smith. Also present were: City Administrator Lisa Ailport, City Engineer Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Chief Brian Zimmerman, Fire Chief Dave Winey and Clerk/Treasurer Christine McNair. Members of the public present were: Craig Kelson, Marciavee Cossette, Jerry Higgs, Denise Crichton, Marty Martinez, Carolyn Testa and Dick Staples.

Jerry Higgs spoke about three boating accidents involving people from Bonners Ferry. He also complimented the police department on the response he received on the fourth of July regarding fireworks.

Police Chief Zimmerman and officer Martinez met with the superintendent of the schools to discuss areas where the schools are vulnerable. They will provide some training to the teachers before school starts.

Fire Chief Winey said the department is gearing up for wildland fires. There were two calls over the last two weeks. The lightning strike by Super 1 damaged a tree, there was one gas call and a report of a bon fire.

City Administrator Lisa Ailport gave an update. The transportation advisory committee will meet on July 26 to discuss the transportation plan as well as the bike/pedestrian plan. Idaho Department of Building Safety is now doing the building permits and online information is available. Lisa presented the bike/ped plan to KVRI at the recent meeting. The golf committee met last Friday and are working hard and looking to the future. High 5 steering committee met today and are working on a number of projects. Mayor Sims, Lisa Ailport and Mike Klaus met with Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) yesterday and discussed several items.

Mayor Sims said the controller for the traffic light at Alderson Lane was ruined due to lightning strikes. ITD is hoping to have a new cabinet within the next week. ITD is willing to alter the programming for the light during school time. Mayor Sims said a round-about was discussed. ITD is not currently considering a round-about at this time. The Ash Street drainage was discussed. The sidewalk on the East side of the highway is temporary and will only be there during the construction phase. July 23rd is the approximate date when traffic will switch to the other lanes.

City Engineer Mike Klaus said we received approved water right for the new well. Once approval is received from DEQ, we can move forward with the project. Dave Kramer & Caleb Watts cleaned the screen at the dam and part of the penstock. They said the screen is in good shape. The slide gate valve will be inspected on Thursday.

Ron Smith said there is a temporary fix with the Spot bus issue and they are working on a permanent solution.

Valerie moved to approve consent agenda. Adam seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ron Smith– yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Adam Arthur – yes.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign amendment #1 for the sewer force main bridge project. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ron Smith – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Adam Arthur – yes.

Craig Kelson said the Boundary County Human Rights is requesting the memorial for Grace Siler be placed approximately where the garbage can is on the bridge, across from the gazebo. Lisa and John Youngwirth will work on the project. Adam asked about memorial placement around the City. Valerie moved to authorize the placement of the memorial for Grace Siler. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Sims said Randy Galloway called about standards for a memorial bench. The Galloway family wants a memorial for their parents. Lisa presented four options to the Galloway family. The family said it can be placed anywhere in the City. The Veteran's Memorial Park is the planned placement. The bridge abutment is also an option. Adam said there should be a criteria about what will be allowed for memorials. Valerie moved to authorize the acceptance of the memorial bench donation for Mr. and Mrs. Galloway to be placed at a later date, with the approval of and collaboration of the staff. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passes with all in favor.

Mayor Sims said he received a PTO policy in his mailbox and thought it was something the City should consider. Ron asked why three days of PTO has to be used prior to using sick leave. Lisa gave her presentation. Current benefits are: primary medical, persi, vacation, personal, sick. Secondary: bereavement, leave of absence, FMLA, misc. benefits. PTO does not have the restrictions that the current policy has. PTO allows the employee to use their leave as they want, they do not have to designate between vacation, sick or personal leave. Each employee has to authorize the creation of a sick leave bank. An employee can transfer as much sick time as allowed into the sick leave bank but time cannot be transferred from the sick leave back back to PTO. Qualifying event or illness has to occur prior to using the sick leave ban. An employee must use three days of PTO or have three days without pay prior to using their sick leave bank. An employee must use at least eight hours from their sick leave bank, after that it can be used in one hour increments. Ron asked about the employees being paid for excess time (cash out option). Lisa said the draft policy allows for an employee, upon separation from the City, to be paid out at 25% up to \$5,000, whichever is less. Valerie asked if there is an option to donate sick leave time. Lisa said at this time there is not.

Dick Staples, representing the golf committee, presented an accounting prior to the Friends of Mirror Lake golf tournament. The golf committee is requesting the City donate the green fees to the Friends of Mirror Lake account. The green fees for the tournament were \$1,080. Rick said it was the committee that built the new bathroom at the golf course. Dick said the Friends of Mirror Lake's intent is to do the smaller things to enhance the golf course, above and beyond what the City has to do. Rick moved to waive the green fees and commissions for the Friends of Mirror Lake golf tournament allowing that money to go to the Friends of Mirror Lake account. Adam seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ron – yes, Rick – yes, Valerie – yes, Adam – yes.

Lisa discussed the golf course deck. The deck was deemed structurally unsafe, earlier this month. It is recommended that the new deck be rebuilt to meet the new building codes. The estimated costs for the new deck materials are \$13,000 – \$15,000. Dick said there are many options, but it is highly recommended to be rebuilt. The committee understands that it may be rebuilt later this year. Mayor Sims agrees that it makes sense to consider options and not rush into rebuilding the deck. Mike said there are some ways to save money (\$1,000 – \$1,500) by using steel rails on the deck. Adam asked if there has been any discussion to rebuild it at ground level instead of elevated. Mayor Sims asked if the prefabricated panels have been considered. Mike said they have not. Valerie said the budget needs to be considered before this is replaced. Dick said this happened just prior to the budget discussion, so this is not in the proposed budget. Adam moved to direct staff to bring options on the golf course deck. Valerie seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Lisa said the proposed golf course budget is \$150,500, the revenue expectations are approximately \$148,738, so there is a small difference. The golf committee is hoping to raise some of the fees. Mayor Sims asked if an increase in rates for the season passes is being considered. Dick said it is not for the coming year. The green fees and the golf shed leases were the ones being considered for an increase. The season passes will possibly be considered next year. Mayor Sims asked about reducing or eliminating the fees for children for season passes. Adam also asked about a family pass (family of four). Mayor Sims said it is important to get children playing golf. Dick said there has been an increase in kids playing golf, but the average age of golfers is retirement age. Adam asked if it made sense to switch the weekday and weekend rates. Dick said with the closure of courses in Sandpoint it has increased play here, on our course. Rick asked if there has been a decrease in Canadians playing golf here. Dick said there has been. The exchange rate has had a big influence on play. Valerie recommended a mid-season pass. Council thanked Dick and the golf committee for all the work the golf committee has done on the budget.

Mike showed the plans and specifications for the pool. There have been two contractors that have paid for a set of plans. The bid date is August 17, 2018. Valerie moved to approve the plans and specifications for the pool reconstruction and if necessary make addendums. Adam seconded the motion. The motion passes. Ron – yes, Rick – yes, Valerie – yes, Adam – yes.

Eric Lederhos joined the meeting at 7:43pm.

Mayor Sims said someone wants to display art in the Georgia Mae Plaza. People have asked about the tunnel and a graffiti wall. Valerie said art is more than just visual art. There is also art that creates music. Mayor Sims thinks it is a good idea to create an art committee. Carolyn Testa said an art committee is a great idea. Mayor Sims thinks it is a good idea to make it a permanent committee. Valerie moved to have staff bring forward the formation of an arts committee ordinance. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Sims said a south hill property owner has been working with ITD regarding the right of way and the issue of snow removal. The property owner is not happy about the snow

being blown onto his property. ITD asked what the City is going to do in front of the commercial businesses. ITD said it is possible to designate areas that will not receive snow removal. ITD also said it is the City's responsibility to maintain the sidewalks. Mayor Sims said there is a state statute that enables the City to require property owners to remove snow in front of their property, he does not think that is a viable option. Mayor Sims thinks it is a good idea to incorporate it into the bike/ped plan and task that group with creating winter routes for snow removal and make it part of the bike/ped plan. Valerie said there should be a clear route to the grocery store and school for people that do not drive. Adam said the West side of the highway should be the one that is cleared. Rick said once the new highway and sidewalk system is completed, it will be easier to establish a snow removal route. Valerie moved to ask the bike and pedestrian committee along with staff to create a special purpose meeting to consider the critical routes for walking during the winter months as part of the bike/ped plan. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor

There being no further business. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm