Mayor David Sims called the Council meeting of January 15, 2019 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 Engineer Mike Klaus, City Administrator Lisa Ailport, Fire Chief Dave Winey, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Economic Director Dennis Weed, Clerk/Treasurer Christine McNair and Contract Planner Clare Marley. Members of the public present were: Jessica Tingley, Marciavee Cossette, and Denise Crichton.

Mayor Sims opened the public hearing to amend the future land use map, file number #AM02-18, at 6:01pm.

Contract Planner Clare Marley gave her presentation. Clare said Boundary County will retain jurisdiction over the land included in the future land use map. This process will help reduce a step when people are applying for annexation. There are three designations on the future land use map: industrial, commercial and residential. Notice was given as required by law. Planning & Zoning (P & Z) has made a recommendation to City Council. Received comment from City Administrator. Received comment from Terry Howe objecting to the inclusion of farm lands. Terry feels the land south of Mission Road is farm land and should not be considered residential. P & Z decided to remove the designation for the area south of Mission Road and the area by Sisters Road.

Mayor Sims asked if any member of the public wanted to address the Council. No members of the public did.

Adam asked if Council changed the undesignated areas as residential, what happens then. Clare said another hearing will have to happen prior to changing the recommendation from P & Z. Mayor Sims said the parcels can still be annexed. Ron asked if the areas in the Area of City Impact (ACI) can be annexed. Mayor Sims said there are rules that have to be followed. Lisa said it has to be contiguous and planned for in the comprehensive plan. Adam asked if there is any downfall to leaving it as undesignated. Lisa said the applicants will have to request a change to the comp plan and the zoning map. Rick Alonzo moved to approve this file #AM02-18 as recommended by the Bonners Ferry Planning and Zoning Commission, amending the City of Bonners Ferry future land use map to designate as residential those areas within the area of city impact that have not been previously designate and exclude those lands identified by the commission. Finding that is in accordance with the general and specific goals and standards of the City of Bonners Ferry Comprehensive Plan as numerated in the findings and reasoned statement below and based upon testimony received at this hearing. I further move to adopt the following reasoned statement as written. The amendment is supported by the City of Bonners Ferry Comprehensive Plan. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes. Mayor Sims closed the public hearing at 6:23 pm.

City Administrator Lisa Ailport gave an update for the logging project saying the net funds will be approximately $116,000. The High 5 Steering committee met and discussed the splash pad. Lisa is hoping to apply for the Annovia grant to help fund the splash pad. Lisa will be drafting an updated safety policy she will present at a future meeting.
City Engineer Mike Klaus gave an update on the pool project. The next step is installing the skimmer system, that should happen in February. The sidewalks should be poured in March. Electric department is installing poles for the Fat Beam project. Ron asked about the area where the railing has not been installed at the top of the bypass. Mayor Sims said the plans called for that area not to have any railing.

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

Mayor Sims asked if it is necessary to adopt a resolution to be able to amend the map. Clare said it is a requirement of Idaho Code. Valerie Thompson moved to adopt resolution 2019-01-15 amending the Bonners Ferry Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map, titled City of Bonners Ferry Future Land Use Map January 2019. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes.

Lisa said the right of way dedication for Garden Lane extension was approved by the school board. If Council approves this dedication, it will be recorded and will become the City’s property. Adam Arthur moved to accept the 50 foot public right of way dedication from the Boundary County School District for the Garden Lane extension up to Fry Street. Valerie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes.

The proposed policy for highly-skilled and essential personnel was discussed. Lisa said the policy is to make sure the critical facilities will remain in operation during an employee absence. Andrakay said this is for unplanned absences, where the employee gives less than 24 hours’ notice. If an employee has more than 12 days per year, then the employee may be moved to a non-essential position. Ron asked how you can predict if you are going to be sick. Andrakay said you cannot, but if an employee in these critical areas are habitually absent, then it may be necessary to transfer that employee. Valerie said cross training needs to happen to make sure that the facilities are always operational. Mayor Sims said it takes a long time to train someone and there may be specific schooling that is required. Andrakay said we do as much cross training as possible. Adam Arthur moved to adopt the policy as outlined in the memo that was provided to Council for highly-skilled and essential personnel. Valerie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Eric Lederhos and Craig Kelson joined the meeting at 6:42 pm.

Mayor Sims said he wants to get Council’s thoughts on payroll deductions. Mayor Sims has been approached by a couple of salesmen that are interested in offering their products and having a payroll deduction to pay for product. Andrakay said some cities do not allow any optional payroll deductions, some offer a certain number. Andrakay said there can be a liability if the deduction is not processed on time. Rick asked if employees are asking for the products or if the sales people are contacting the City. Mayor Sims said there is one of
each. Adam does not want employees to assume that the Council is endorsing certain products over other products. Rick wants to take some time to think about it and have more information.

Mike said our Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license states that in order to remove silt behind the dam, the water must be lowered 15 feet, can only be removed between July 1st and September 15th, and must be suction dredged and pumped to a basin upstream. Mike said that method has been tried in the past and was unsuccessful. Mike has been working with CH2M Hill to revise the sediment removal plan that will allow silt removal to take place from February to April using a clam shell. The main problem was the lack of comments received during the comment period. FERC requires a 90 day period to review the plan. Mike is hoping to shorten the 90 day timeline. Mike is asking for approval to advertise the project. There are approximately 5,000-10,000 yards of silt to be removed. Adam asked where the sediment will be taken. Mike said a basin was built especially for this. Mayor Sims said it makes sense to start the process and hope FERC will shorten the timeline. Valerie asked how long the project will take. Mike said it depends on the size of the equipment and crew. Ron asked when we will know the cost. Mike said we will know the cost when the bids are received. Valerie Thompson moved to authorize advertisement for the silt removal project at the Moyie dam. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Craig Kelson said the Human Rights Taskforce is having a Marting Luther King event at 3:00 pm at the Pearl Theater on Saturday.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.