

Mayor David Sims called the Council meeting of March 19, 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 Administrator Lisa Ailport, Police Chief Brian Zimmerman, Fire Chief Dave Winey, Economic Director Dennis Weed, Contract Attorney Will Herrington and Clerk/Treasurer Christine McNair. Members of the public present were: Jessica Tingley, Marciavee Cossette, Denise Crichton, Valerie Surprenant, Matt Surprenant and Eric Lederhos.

Police Chief Brian Zimmerman said Thursday at the high school there was a threat that was solicited by other students in the classroom. The threat was not specific and there was not an actual list. The School Resource Officer went to the school and interviewed the student, with his parents present. It was decided that the student would go to counseling prior to returning to school. Sunday evening social media blew the issue out of proportion. Monday there were three Sheriff's Deputies and two City Officers at the school to make sure everyone felt safe. Due to social media there were 199 absences at the high school. Today was normal attendance. Mayor Sims asked if the student is back in school. Brian Zimmerman said the student will not be back in school until he has finished counseling. Valerie Thompson thanked the police department for the response on social media. Brian Zimmerman said Assistant Chief Marty Ryan did a masterful job when writing the response.

City Administrator Lisa Ailport gave her report. Lisa said the Highway 95 construction is related to the utility moves with Avista and Frontier. Lisa said she and the Mayor met with Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) today to discuss the construction project. Mayor Sims said there will be weekly construction meetings once the project starts. Valerie Thompson asked if updates will be reported on the City's website. Mayor Sims said ITD has a website just for this project. Lisa said there is a link to the ITD project website on the City's website. The Notice to Proceed was issued to Knight Construction for the silt removal project. We are working with ITD to get a special permit to allow the crane to be moved to the Moyie Dam. Lisa said it is in the final stages of getting the legal descriptions for the Solomon Street to Wilson Street project. It is possible that Lisa will bring a contract forward for this project with another engineering firm, since it is big project for this year. The Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) application for Riverside Street is still in process. Letters of support have been received from the Boundary County Commissioners, Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative, International Selkirk Loop, Rotary. Still waiting for letters from the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and Boundary Area Transportation Team. The High Five steering committee met today and will be bringing forward some new projects.

Economic Director Dennis Weed gave his report. Dennis has received comments about Verizon Wireless dropping calls. Dennis contacted Verizon Wireless. One issue may be people using 3G phones which are no longer supported. Bill Jhung, the director of small business development for North Idaho College, will be here March 20, 2019, to give a class. Urban Renewal Agency (URA) discussed adding two more districts. One district will be west of the highway near the former Pape property. The other district will be east of the highway near John Taft's house to Garden Court. It will also include the high school and the middle school. There are 13 years left on the original district. Mayor Sims said a feasibility study has to be done to make sure the districts allowed by law.

Lisa thanked Cody Reichart and Kevin Cossairt for their dedication with the electrical issues over the weekend. They were called out around 2am Saturday morning and continued working until the problem was resolved around 7pm on Sunday. The issue was a leak in the steam room at the Idaho Forest Group mill which was causing amperage surges.

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

Lisa Ailport said a splash pad has been discussed for approximately six months. The capital costs will most likely be available through grant funds, but the long term maintenance costs need to be considered. Ryan Lutman from Century West, gave an estimate of maintenance costs of approximately \$73,000. Lisa said it might be possible to reduce the costs to \$50,000 - \$65,000. The water costs are estimated at \$6,000 - \$7,000 per year. Mayor Sims said the gallons per minute can be adjusted. The wastewater can be emptied into storm sewer instead of the regular sewer. Rick asked why not use sewer. Mayor Sims said it would have to be treated if we use the sewer. Ron asked who pays for the water. Mayor Sims said the general fund will pay the water department. Mayor Sims said there is an opportunity have the capital costs paid at this time and that opportunity may not happen again. Adam asked what the pool costs are currently. Mayor Sims said \$40,000 - \$50,000 per year. Lisa said it is possible to plumb for all the available features, but cap some features off in the beginning. Valerie Thompson asked about lighting for night use. Lisa said the splash pad can be turned off at night. Rick asked if this is a non-slip surface. Lisa said it is. Ron Smith moved to direct staff to develop a cost estimate and go to High Five for the funding request. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Lisa said Panhandle Area Council (PAC) presented a contract for the sewer income survey. Will said his concern was that there were no parameters in the contract so he added #5 which requires PAC to conform to the Department of Commerce standards. Valerie Thompson moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Panhandle Area Council for the income survey pending the approval by legal counsel. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes.

Lisa said pay request #8 from PAC is in the amount of \$1030.00 for the pool project. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign pay request #8 with Panhandle Area Council for the pool project for \$1030.00 Ron Smith seconded. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes.

Mayor Sims said the 9B Trails asked the URA to fund the Kootenai River Trail. 9B Trails is a non-profit and the URA works on a reimbursement bases. That is why the Mayor thinks the City could pay for the initial costs and the URA can reimburse the City. Adam asked if this will only be a City project not an ongoing City maintenance item. Mayor Sims said there may be maintenance costs for the surface and the lighting. Lisa said there is quite a bit that needs to be developed. Lisa said the two areas that staff needs direction on are: if Council will allow this to be a City project and if Council will authorize staff to apply to the Union Pacific Railroad (UP) and ITD for permission to use their right of way for the trail. Lisa said staff has not had time to define specifics for the project. Mayor Sims said there is not any trail planned from Chinook Street to the bridge abutment, so that will have to be included. Mayor Sims said the trail surface is a lower cost than asphalt and Wood's is will to make the surface and install it. Dennis said it sets up like concrete, but there is less maintenance. Adam asked if it does get cracks if it is repairable. Dennis said it is. Mayor Sims said it is 850 feet long. Dennis said there has been 1400 projects in Pennsylvania with this same surface. Valerie Thompson said it make sense to ask UP for permission, but she finds it difficult to make any financial commitments. Valerie Thompson said there are other stakeholders that should be considered. Mayor Sims asked who the other stakeholders are. Valerie Thompson said the 9B Trail committee, UP and Boundary County. Adam said he is concerned with the on-going maintenance costs. Lisa said there may be a need for fencing near the railroad. Rick said sometimes the railroad will fund these projects. Mayor Sims said 9B Trails requested funds for the

project from UP and were denied funding. Dennis said 9B Trails did present this to the County Commissioners and the Commissioners were in full support. Mayor Sims said the first step is to apply to UP for permission to use their right of way. Adam asked if the plan is to have the City maintain the trail. Lisa said it will be a City trail. Adam is in favor of this being a City project. He is not in favor of the City maintaining it. Ron said since this will go to the county ball park, the County may help. Ron asked if Lisa thinks the City should commit to doing the maintenance. Lisa said it is fiscally more responsible to plan that way. Rick asked Dennis if he asked anyone with this type of trail what the costs are to maintain it. Dennis said did not ask but was told it was very low maintenance. Dennis said he can get the maintenance costs. Rick would like to know the maintenance schedule and costs. Valerie Thompson moved to authorize staff to apply to Union Pacific Railroad and Idaho Transportation Department for permission for the River Park Trail on their properties. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Sims said when Council was asked for approval to advertise for the billing clerk position the wage was not discussed. The position was advertised at a range of \$13.50 - \$15.00 per hour depending on experience. Rick Alonzo moved to start the candidate at \$14.50 per hour. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.