

**Minutes  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Bonners Ferry City Hall  
7232 Main Street  
267-3105  
September 3, 2019  
6:00 pm**

Mayor David Sims called the Council meeting of September 3, 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 Attorney Andrakay Pluid, City Clerk/Treasurer Christine McNair, City Administrator Lisa Ailport, Police Chief Brian Zimmerman, Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed and Water/Sewer Superintendent John Delaney. Members of the public present were: Craig Kelson, Jan Bayer, Dave Gray, Eric Lederhos, Jayceen Swisher, Denise Crichton, Carolyn Testa, Marty Martinez and Ron MacDonald.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Hearing

Mayor Sims opened the public hearing at 6:01pm. There were no public comments on the budget. Mayor Sims closed the public hearing at 6:01pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Craig Kelson with the Boundary County Human Rights Task Force said they have been working with the school district to create a nine month program to promote human rights in the schools. September starts Hispanic Heritage Month. There will be displays in each of the school's libraries.

**REPORTS**

Police Chief Brian Zimmerman said officers responded to two suicide attempts in the last two weeks. Officers were able to talk both suicidal individuals into seeking medical treatment for their life threatening injuries.

City Administrator Lisa Ailport said this month is the end of the two year energy conservation cycle. We started with \$135,264.94, we have spent \$135,123.18. The money was used to convert 230 street lights to LED, upgrades to the Fire Hall, the golf course, the tunnel, the visitor's center, City Hall, the Sheriff's Office, the library and two lighting kits were distributed to City of Bonners Ferry electric customers.

City Engineer Mike Klaus said we received approval from DEQ for the well house.

Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed said the Shopko building lease agreement will be signed at the end of this week, by a national chain. Verizon will be upgrading the tower when approval from FCC is received. The signal should then be stronger and reach farther. Valerie asked when the upgrade will happen. Dennis said April or May 2020.

**CONSENT AGENDA – {action item}**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approval of Bills and Payroll
3. Approval of the August 13, 2019 Special Council meeting minutes, August 20, 2019 Council meeting minutes

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

4. City – First Reading of Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation Ordinance #583 by Title Only (attachment) {action item}

Rick Alonzo moved to have the first reading of the Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation Ordinance #583 by title only. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Andrakay read Ordinance #583. An ordinance entitled the annual appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year, beginning October 1, 2019, appropriating the sum of \$14,461,591

to defray the expenses and liabilities of the City of Bonners Ferry, for said fiscal year, authorizing a levy of sufficient tax upon the taxable property and specifying the object and purposes for which such appropriations are made.

5. City – Suspend the Reading Rules and Adopt Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation Ordinance #583 {action item}  
Valerie Thompson moved to suspend the reading rules and adopt Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation Ordinance #583. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

6. Police – Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Boundary County School District for the School Resource Officer for 2019-2020 (attachment) {action item}  
Andrakay said this is the same agreement as last year, the only changes are the dates and the superintendent. Jan Bayer said she appreciates the partnership. Adam Arthur moved to authorize the mayor to sign the memorandum of understanding with the Boundary County School District for the School Resource Officer for 2019-2020. Valerie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

7. City – Consider 2019 Beverage License for The Badger's Den Pending Payment and Receipt of Proper Documentation (attachment) {action item}  
Mayor Sims said there is a state statute 23-1011B that states “no license shall be issued for any place beer is sold or dispensed to be consumed on the premises, whether conducted for pleasure or profit, that is within three hundred feet of any public school, church or any other place of worship measured in a straight line to the nearest entrance to the licensed premises, except with the approval of the governing body of the municipality;” that is the reason this is on the agenda. Ron asked how bar or tavern is defined. Andrakay said it is any establishment that dispenses beer and wine by the drink. Jan Bayer said the school district opposes the selling of beer or wine at a convenience store where it can be easily shoplifted. As long as the items are kept where it will not be easily shoplifted, then the school is okay with it. Jayceen said the alcohol will be kept in a closed area. Rick Alonzo moved to approve the 2019 beverage license for the Badger's Den pending payment and receipt of proper documentation. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

8. City – Consider High 5 Expenditure for Mt. Hall Elementary School for a Trail System Around the School Property (attachment) {action item}  
Lisa said this funding is for a new trail. Mt. Hall has already received \$2,200. Adam asked what the difference is between option 1 and option 2. Jan Bayer said this is a request for \$600.00 to finish the project. Valerie asked who is doing the work. Jan Bayer said Jeremy Hill is providing most of the equipment. Valerie Thompson moved to approve the High 5 expenditure of Mt. Hall Elementary School for a trail system in the amount of \$600. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

9. Electric – Authorize the Mayor to Sign Exhibit D Relating to the New BPA-20 Rates for Fiscal Year 2020 (attachment) {action item}  
Lisa said this is a contract that is signed every year for the purchase of generation power. Last year the cost was \$809 per month, this year the cost is \$805 per month. Rick asked about scheduled repairs. Mike said he is hoping to take Unit 1 offline during the low water time to have the rotor and stator cleaned. Adam Arthur moved to authorize the mayor to sign exhibit D relating to the new BPA-20 rates for fiscal year 2020. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

10. Electric – Consider Authorization to Advertise for the Penstock Repair Project at the Moyie Hydro (attachment) {action item}  
Mike said we have a set of plans to repair the penstock valve and set seven screens/trash racks by the lower outlet valve. 60 yards of material need to be removed by the lower outlet valve. Mayor Sims asked when the work will take place. Mike wants to set a deadline of December 31, 2019. Rick asked how the silt will be removed. Mike said the divers can use a vacuum for the silt, but not for the rocks or logs. Valerie Thompson moved to approve the advertising for the penstock valve stem repairs and the trash rack at the lower outlet valve. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

11. Electric – Authorize the Mayor to Sign Easements Necessary for the Electric Re-route on Riverside Street (attachment) {action item}

Mike said the County is tentatively scheduled to rebuild Riverside Street in April 2020. Mike wants to replace the overhead lines to underground lines. The lines will be four feet deep at the edge of the crop line. Rick asked if a trencher will be used. Mike said yes. Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign easements necessary for the electric re-route on Riverside Street. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

12. Water – Update on Water Testing Results from the Department of Environmental Quality

Mike reviewed the lead and copper rule is to reduce the amount of lead and copper in the water. We were required to test 20 residences in 1993 and 1994. The results of those tests allowed us to reduce the number of residences to 10 for this round of testing. Common sources of lead and copper are faucets and pipes in the customers' houses, not the actual water. The City received a letter August 5, 2019 that required 10 samples to be taken. The results of those samples ranged from .004 to .029. Actions required are: customer notices, provide proof of customer notices to DEQ and public education, which will be a two page letter in the utility bills in November, 2019. Two rounds of testing must be completed by December 31, 2020. Mike has talked to DEQ about increasing the amount of soda ash that is added to the water for a target of 40 milligrams per liter. This will increase the Ph level. The higher Ph the less chance of lead and copper coming out of the customers' pipes. Mayor Sims said the current Ph range is 7.4-7.6. Mike said it will be increased to 8.0 or higher. Create a corrosion control plan. Mayor Sims asked how the testing sites are chosen. Mike said he is hoping to use original 20 residences, if possible. Rick said it is a misnomer to say there is lead and copper in the system, because it is actually in the homeowners system and it is the Ph and alkalinity that causes it to leech out. John Delaney said everyone should flush the water out of their pipes after not using it for a while. Valerie asked if Susanne, from DEQ, is aware of our plan. Mike said she is. Mayor Sims said Susanne knows our system very well.

13. City – Consider Declaring Pictures of Harold Buroker Surplus Property and Giving the Pictures to the Buroker Family (attachment) {action item}

Christine said Harold Buroker's son, Steve Buroker, would like to have the pictures for his family. Adam Arthur moved to declare the pictures of Harold Buroker surplus property and give the pictures to the Buroker family. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm