

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Bonners Ferry City Hall  
7232 Main Street  
267-3105  
March 24, 2020  
5:30 pm**

Mayor Dick Staples called the Special Council meeting of March 24, 2020 to order at 5:30 pm. Present for the meeting were: Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Adam Arthur, Valerie Thompson and Ron Smith. Also present were: City Clerk/Treasurer Christine McNair, City Administrator Lisa Ailport, City Engineer Mike Klaus, City Police Chief Brian Zimmerman and City Attorney Andrakay Pluid. Members of the public present were: Gemma Puddy, Ron Sukenik, John Youngwirth, Jerry Higgs

**Rick Alonzo moved to add agenda items #2, #3 and #4. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes**

1. **City – Affirm the Mayoral Proclamation Declaring a State of Emergency (attachment) {action item}**  
Rick Alonzo moved to affirm the Mayoral Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency on March 20, 2020. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

2. **City – Consider Adopting Ordinance 591 Creating a New Chapter 6 to Title 4 of the Bonners Ferry City Code, entitled Emergency Powers; setting forth authority, purpose, and intent of emergency powers to address the threat of COVID-19, including the closure of bars, taverns, restaurants and like establishments at 5:00 pm on March 26, 2020 and Have the First Reading by Title Only {action item}**  
Ron Smith moved to adopt Ordinance 591 Creating a New Chapter 6 to Title 4 of the Bonners Ferry City Code, entitled Emergency Powers; setting forth authority, purpose, and intent of emergency powers to address the threat of COVID-19, including the closure of bars, taverns, restaurants and like establishments at 5:00 pm on March 26, 2020 and Have the First Reading by Title Only. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes. Andrakay read the ordinance by title only

3. **City – Suspend the Reading Rules and Adopt Ordinance 591 {action item}**  
Ron Smith moved to suspend the reading rules and adopt Ordinance 591. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

4. **City – Consider the Public Health Order Declaration by Mayor Staples {action item}**  
Andrakay said this is in accord with Ordinance 591. Andrakay said Council does not have to vote on this, the Mayor has the authority to make this declaration on his own. Adam asked how this is different than the ordinance. Andrakay said the ordinance allows this declaration. Ron asked if a bar only serves alcohol. Andrakay said yes. Mayor Staples said he wants to change the date to April 17, 2020. Valerie said we need to keep the public safe and away from one another. Adam asked if we are waiting to do the essential business proclamation. Adam said we need to work with the County. Mayor Staples said he has spoken with the County, the Kootenai River Inn and the City of Moyie. Adam wants staff to draft a declaration for essential businesses. All of Council agreed.

5. **Electric – Workshop Regarding the Moyie Hydro Improvements Bond**  
Gemma Puddy from the Langdon Group asked if Council wants to continue with the May 19, 2020 election with the uncertainty of the world right now. Rick said he is concerned with people voting. Andrakay said the County is being proactive regarding absentee voting. Mike said it is very important that the public knows the difference between a yes and a no vote and what the ramifications are. Mayor Staples asked what the

ramifications will be if the election is not May 19, 2020. Mike said we will have to contact FERC. Mayor Staples said we need to talk to FERC to find out if a later election is possible. All Councilmembers agreed. Valerie asked when FERC will be here for the next inspection. Mike said it is not scheduled yet. Mayor Staples said it makes sense to repeal the ordinance and look at an August election. Valerie asked if there will be more damage to the dam if the bond election is not until later. Mike said the construction period isn't scheduled until July 2021. Mayor Staples said we need to table this item and gather more information and possibly schedule a special meeting next week.

6. City – Consider Amending the Interim Employee Leave Policy Relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic (attachment) {action item}

Lisa said there have been mandated changes and those changes have been made to the current version. Lisa reviewed the changes. Adam said he thinks this is good. Valerie agrees. Rick Alonzo moved to amend the interim employee leave policy relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

7. Electric – Consider Authorizing the Purchase of a D4 Dozer (attachment) {action item}

Lisa said there is a unique opportunity to purchase a D4 Dozer from a local person, which is a needed piece of equipment. The split is 50% Electric, 20% Water, 20% Sewer and 10% General Fund. Mayor Staples asked about the split. Lisa said the departments came up with the split. Mike said the used prices have been around \$80,000. The mechanic looked at the dozer and feels it is a good deal. Valerie Thompson moved to purchase the 2004 D4 dozer for \$44,000. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

8. Water – Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Contract Addendum with Century West for Construction, Engineering and Inspection Services for the Wilson – Solomon Corridor Project (attachment) {action item}

Mike said Century West did the design on the Wilson – Solomon Corridor Project. The biggest part of this project is the construction observation. The total estimated cost for this project is \$54,000 with a management reserve of \$10,000. Mike asked if the City is able to take on the construction observation is that possible. Ryan said it is. Mayor Staples asked if there is a rate base for this. Mike said there is, but Century West did not send the spreadsheet for the addendum. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract addendum with Century West for construction, engineering and inspection services for the Wilson – Solomon Corridor Project for \$44,000 with a \$10,000 buffer. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm

**“Pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Declaration regarding COVID-19 and accompanying Proclamation suspending the “in-person” attendance requirement of the Idaho Public Meetings laws, the City will be providing an electronic telecommunications method to allow the public to view the workshop remotely. Public attendance in person at the workshop will not be allowed in order to help prevent the potential spread of COVID-19. More details about this electronic viewing method is forthcoming.”**