

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Bonners Ferry City Hall  
7232 Main Street  
267-3105  
June 16, 2020  
6:00 pm**

Mayor Dick Staples called the Council meeting of June 2, 2020 to order at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting were: 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: Jerry Higgs, Carolyn Testa, Denise Crichton, Steve Tanner, Julie Williams, Ralph Lotspeich, Loretta Hunsaker, Faye Almond and Maurine Morrow.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**GUESTS** Michael Keith and Laura McAloon - Presentation Regarding the Hydroelectric Bond Schedule

1. Electric – Consider Authorizing Drafting of the Bond Parameter Ordinance (attachment) {action item}  
Laura McAloon said it is necessary to name a designated representative, which will be able to make decisions regarding the financing. The designated representative can establish the maximum interest rate and the maximum repayment term. Mayor Staples asked if there should be a special council meeting to approve the parameter ordinance. Laura said that is a question for Michael Keith.

Michael Keith said his role is as a placement agent not a financial advisor. Benefits of a parameters ordinance means the City can be reactive and flexible, instead of waiting for a Council meeting to approve the interest rate and the term of the placement. Valerie Thompson asked if there is a benefit to having three people designated to sign off. Michael said it is comfort level of the Council. Laura said it is also for flexibility, in case one of the designees is out of the office that day. Michael discussed the schedule. Michael said the term sheet will be sent to local banks as well as national banks. When the term sheet has been sent to 30 banks usually receive four-eight responses. Then a bank is selected and the paperwork is completed, then it comes before Council for signature, then the placement closes.

Valerie Thompson moved to authorize the drafting of the bond parameters ordinance with the designated representatives for the City being the Mayor, the Clerk/Treasurer and the City Administrator, with a maximum interest rate of 3.25% and the maximum repayment term of 20 years. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Ron Smith - yes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ralph Lotspeich said the Friends of Mirror Lake requested he present a list of projects that he will be overseeing this year. Friend of Mirror Lake fundraiser tournament is scheduled for August 7, 2020. Mayor Staples said it is a good idea to have a written list of the projects in case there is other work that needs to be done at the same time as one of the projects, then it can be scheduled with the City. Lisa recommends having this on a future agenda. Ralph said these projects will have to wait until the course conditions are favorable to having equipment on the course. Valerie Thompson thanked Ralph for his professionalism regarding the COVID.

Jerry Higgs feels there are things that have to be done for the overall good and safety of the public.

Carolyn Testa said everything looks great except the runaway truck ramp and is wondering if someone can spray the weeds. Mike Klaus said he will call George from Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) since that is ITD's property.

Steve Tanner said he is again asking for the removal of the last sentence in the vision statement. He said this is a proactive statement not a vision statement and he doesn't feel the City should be involved with it.

**REPORTS**

Valerie Thompson asked about the bicycle warning system near the City limits near the waterways building. Lisa said it is part of a pilot program for the County required by the Western Federal Lands. This is a warning for drivers to know there is a bicyclist between the signs. Valerie asked if it is just for bicyclists and not pedestrians. Lisa said she is unsure.

Mayor Staples said that everything that was provided to the public regarding the bond election was done by City staff and he thanked the staff for all the hard work.

City Engineer Mike Klaus said the Wilson Street – Solomon Street corridor project will be completed by the July 7, 2020 Council meeting. The well house project is going well. The Street Department has been working hard to finish the splash pad and is doing a great job. Ron asked when the Wilson – Solomon corridor has been completed will it be available for public use. Mike said there is still some work that needs to be done and that will come before Council.

## **CONSENT AGENDA – {action item}**

2. Call to Order/Roll Call
3. Approval of Bills and Payroll
4. Approval of the May 28, 2020 Special Council meeting minutes, June 2, 2020 Council meeting minutes
5. Treasurer's Report

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

6. Discuss 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade {action item} Andrakay said Mr. Leonard requested to be on the agenda and did not request to be removed, that's why it is still on the agenda. Andrakay said if a completed parade permit with a general comprehensive liability insurance policy, Brian Zimmerman and Dave Winey will review it and if everything is acceptable, it will be approved. Ron asked if a million-dollar insurance policy costs \$300 - \$500. Andrakay said that is the range she has heard. Valerie said she feels Andrakay has done a professional job and did not deserve the attacks she received. Mayor Staples said there is no action needed on this item at this point.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

7. Electric/Water/Sewer – Discuss Consumer Price Index Regarding Rate Increases (attachment) {action item} Mike said Council asked staff to look at inflation rates regarding utility rates. Mike said if rates are not incrementally increased then a large increase has to happen at once and customers do not like large increases. A 20-year rolling average of the CPI was considered and the recommended increase is 2.2% for all utilities. Adam asked if the increases we have taken are in line with the CPI. Lisa said they didn't study that. Valerie wants to see the paperwork for the CPI and the increases before making a decision. Mayor Staples wants to see the rate increases since 2000. Mayor Staples tabled this item for the next agenda.

8. Street – Consider Authorizing the Purchase of a Zero Turn Lawn Mower (attachment) {action item} Lisa said this item is needed, but was not budgeted. The Urban Renewal rebate can be used to purchase this lawn mower. Valerie asked if there is a way to track the expenses. Christine said we can create a line item to track them if that is what Council wants. Valerie said she thinks it is a good idea to have a specific way to track the expenses. Valerie Thompson moved to purchase the zero-turn mower from Boundary Tractor for \$5,200. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Ron Smith – yes

9. Electric – Consider Accepting the Bid from General Pacific for the Electric Vehicle Charging Station and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Contract with General Pacific Purchase (attachment) {action item} Lisa said several bids were sent out and only received one bid from General Pacific. Ron asked if the consumer has to pay a fee to use the vehicle charging station. Lisa said yes. Ron asked where the funds will go. Lisa said the electric department. Valerie Thompson moved to accept the bid from General Pacific for the electric vehicle charging station and authorized staff to move forward with the purchase of the station in the amount of \$62,498.00. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Ron Smith – yes

10. City – Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Master Service Agreement with Exbabyon for IT Assistance (attachment) {action item} Lisa said the City is buying a sonic firewall which requires a micro tick that allows for programming. This will save significant costs for subscription fees. Adam asked if this is additional funds. Lisa said she thinks it is in the budget. Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the master service agreement with Exbabyon for IT assistance. Valerie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Ron Smith – yes

11. Electric – Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Contract with Three Amigos Underground for Electric Line Work (attachment) {action item} Lisa said the electric department budgeted \$75,000 to convert overhead lines to underground lines. Lisa said this is for the Tannenbaum Lane area. Ron asked if we have plans to have everything underground. Mike said it is expensive and difficult to have everything underground. This is a problem area and has had several faults. Ron Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Three Amigos Underground for electric line work. Adam Arthur seconded the motion. The motion passed. Adam Arthur – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Ron Smith – yes

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm