

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Bonners Ferry City Hall
7232 Main Street
267-3105
January 4, 2022
6:00 pm**

Mayor Dick Staples called the Council meeting of January 4, 2022, to order at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting were: Council Members Adam Arthur, Valerie Thompson, Rick Alonzo, Ron Smith and Brion Poston. Also, present were: City Administrator Lisa Ailport, City Clerk/Treasurer Christine McNair, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid and Assistant Police Chief Marty Ryan. Members of the public present were: Jerry Higgs, David Clark, Dave Gray, Denise Crichton Fay Almond and Glenda Poston.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jerry Higgs spoke regarding a Facebook post.

REPORTS

No reports were given.

CONSENT AGENDA – {action item}

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approval of Bills and Payroll
3. Approval of the December 21, 2021 Council meeting minutes
4. **Electric** – Consider Task Order #1 with Ripplinger Engineering Laboratories for the Generator Protection Relays at the Moyie Hydro (attachment)

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

Mayor Staples thanked Adam for his years of service.

Swear in Ron Smith and Brion Poston as Council Members

Christine swore in Ron Smith and Brion Poston as Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

5. **City** – Elect a Council President {action item}

Ron Smith moved to elect Rick Alonzo as Council President. Valerie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Brion Poston – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Ron Smith – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes

6. **Planning and Zoning** – Have the first reading by title only and authorize the publication of Ordinance #601 for Title 2 Chapter 1, Section 3 (A) (attachment) {action item}

Lisa said this ordinance is to allow Planning and Zoning (P&Z) members to reside in the County while serving on the P&Z board. The current ordinance requires the P&Z members to reside in the city limits. This ordinance will reference the state code. Rick Alonzo moved to have the first reading by title only and authorize the publication of Ordinance #601 for Title 2 Chapter 1, Section 3 (A). Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes, Brion Poston – yes. Lisa read Ordinance #601 by title only.

7. **Planning and Zoning** – Suspend the reading rules and adopt Ordinance #601 {action item}

Valerie Thompson moved to suspend the reading rules and adopt Ordinance #601. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. Valerie Thompson – yes, Brion Poston – yes, Ron Smith – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes

8. **Planning and Zoning** – Consider affirming the Mayoral appointments of Andy Howe (pending passage and publication of Ordinance #601), Dave Gray and Darci Price to the Planning and Zoning Committee {action item}

Rick Alonzo moved to affirm the Mayoral appointments of Andy Howe (pending passage and publication of Ordinance #601), Dave Gray and Darci Price to the Planning and Zoning Committee. Valerie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ron Smith – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Brion Poston – yes

9. **Pool** – Consider funding from the Innovia Foundation for pool operations and shower improvements (attachment) {action item}

Lisa said Dennis Weed encouraged the City to apply for funding from Innovia. Lisa met with Kyle Harris, who recommended improvements for the pool showers to bring them into ADA compliance. Mayor Staples asked if the amount of the grant will cover the improvements. Lisa said there is no guarantee we will receive the full amount. She will also request money to help pay for swim lessons for children. Valerie Thompson moved to authorize staff to apply for the Innovia Foundation grant for pool operations and shower improvements including payment for swim lessons. Brion Poston seconded the motion. The motion passed. Brion Poston – yes, Valerie Thompson – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes, Ron Smith – yes

10. **City** – Discuss increased pay in lieu of health insurance {action item}

Ron said he is concerned that there will be problems in the future when the person wants health insurance. Mayor Staples said it will be hard to determine the rate of pay for the health insurance. Rick asked if our rates are based on how many people we have taking insurance. Christine said that was mentioned prior to the City signing up with III-A. Mayor Staples asked if III-A requires all of the employees take the health insurance. Christine said they do unless the employee has primary coverage somewhere else. Brion asked if there are other cities that offer increased pay in lieu of health insurance. Christine said she is not sure if other cities offer this. Valerie asked if this is the Mayor's suggestion. Mayor Staples said it came up as a potential hire of an employee. Brion asked if this is because of one person. Mayor Staples said it has come up before. Ron said it needs to be looked into more. Brion is not in favor of it. Lisa said if this is something that happens there may be more than 10 employees that go with this. Rick Alonzo moved to table this, until we can look into this. Ron Smith seconded the motion. Valerie Thompson – yes, Brion Poston – yes, Ron Smith – yes, Rick Alonzo – yes

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.