

Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of August 1, 2017 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Ken Toline, and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Police Chief Vic Watson, and Fire Chief Dave Winey. Also present were Marcia Cossette, Jerry Higgs, Caleb Watts, Dave Gray, Bruce McCandless, and Luke McCandless.

Jerry Higgs said 10 digit dialing starts this Friday. He said if it is long distance a one is still necessary but if it is a local call the one is not necessary. Jerry said Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is working with residents on the highway project for land purchases. Jerry said there were irregularities that were discovered concerning operations of the Boundary County Translator District and some of its board members. He filed a complaint with the Boundary County Sheriff's Office who turned the issue over to the Attorney General's Office. One of these people is also an officer on the Chamber of Commerce. He said it is a possibility that some of the things that happened with the Translator District are also happening with the Chamber. Mayor Sims cautioned to keep comments to city business. Jerry said the Chamber lost their 501 c 6 status with the Treasury Department as it was revoked in August, 2015. The Chamber lost their status with the Secretary of State and they are currently in a state of dissolution. Jerry said the Chamber has a set of bylaws that they have not been following. He said someone who serves on the Board cannot enrich themselves as a result of their position. Again Mayor Sims asked Jerry to keep his comments to city business. Jerry said he thinks the background information is important. He is not against the Chamber of Commerce and he supports their mission. He said if the Chamber is not a legal entity right now. So when they come to the City for events or wanting to use our visitor center, the City needs to know this. Jerry hears the Chamber is taking steps to rectify the issues with the Secretary of State's Office. He thinks we should not do any type of business with the Chamber until their status is restored.

Police Chief Vic Watson said over the last two weeks there have been two felony controlled substance and paraphernalia cases, one intoxicated in public, one marijuana paraphernalia case, one DUI open container case, one bar fight/battery case, one driving without privileges, one agency assist, one child neglect/sheltering, two warrant arrests, two petit theft cases, one fraud, one alleged robbery/false information to law enforcement officer, one attempted suicide, one neighbor dispute with shots fired, two family disturbances, three domestics, and one attempted strangulation.

Fire Chief Dave Winey said there were three calls. There was a medical assist, a traffic control issue, and a false alarm at the hospital. Dave said the firemen continue to do training and they should be recognized for this.

City Administrator Mike Klaus said there will be interviews to select the engineering firm for the traffic safety plan preparation. He said grant funding was garnered for this plan and it will start after October this year.

Mayor Sims updated council on the highway project. He said ITD is doing another study on the Alderson Lane light. He heard the first phase of the project will be the Kootenai River Bridge to Madison Street and then from there to Alderson Lane.

Dennis Weed said the URD met and the cash account continues to increase. He will report on the unrestricted cash soon. There continues to be development and activity in the City, and Dennis will report this when he can. Northwest Community Development Institute was attended by Dennis and Ken Toline. Dennis said some of the federal funding is being cut. Dennis went to Curly, Washington to look at a trail material. He said it is like compact cement that would be feasible to use on the dikes or railroad beds. He said it is a dry material that is compacted. Dennis rode his bicycle on it and there was no friction. He said it is much cheaper than asphalt or other materials. He said it has a softer feel for people walking also. Dennis said the business center is now open and operating. He will have his new office located there. He thinks the business center will have a positive effect on downtown.

Rick Alonzo moved to add late agenda items including the consideration of a crosswalk from Search and Rescue boat launch parking lot across Riverside Street to private property and to discuss health insurance. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Adam Arthur moved to approve the consent agenda. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; and approval of July 18, 2017 council meeting minutes.

Eric Lederhos joined the meeting.

Mike Klaus spoke about the requested cross walk near the Search and Rescue building. He said the boat launch has gotten very busy with traffic for people using the parking lot and boat launch. He said this is an important safety issue so it has not gone before Traffic Safety Committee, just to Council for consideration. Mike showed a power point picture of the proposed crosswalk location. Caleb Watts said there is an issue of overcrowding of the parking lot so the Mill has offered space for the overflow. Caleb said the County will pay costs the City incurs for this crosswalk. Rick Alonzo moved to allow the crosswalk and signage to go in at the Waterways Building. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike Klaus said there is a parcel near the new property the City purchased near Dakota Street that is owned by Ron Sukenik. He has offered this to the City for the price of \$5,000. Mike recommends purchasing the parcel to give the City a better buffer for the well site. The purchase will be from the water fund. Adam Arthur moved to purchase the property in the amount of \$5,000. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

The proposed policy for firearms in the workplace was discussed. Andrakay Pluid said the council members are not required to follow the personnel policy as they are elected officials.

Ron asked if this is a violation of employee's rights, and Andrakay said no. Ron Smith moved to adopt the firearms in the workplace policy. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Andrakay Pluid said our taxi ordinance was out of date and did not meet today's technology. She said city or counties cannot regulate Uber per State Code. This ordinance does not apply to Uber drivers. She said taxis are a public safety issue so they need to be regulated. Rick Alonzo is glad to see the update. Adam asked about reciprocity as limousines from other places come to our City. There is no reciprocity in this ordinance but it can be added if council wishes to add it. Rick Alonzo moved to have the first reading of the taxicab and limousine ordinance by title only. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”. Attorney Pluid read the title of the ordinance.

Mike Klaus spoke regarding the purchase of a valve actuator for the Kootenai River pump station. He explained how an actuator works and said our actuator is broken and we need another one. Mike said we definitely need this right away. Ken Toline moved to purchase a new valve actuator for \$5,164.25. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike spoke to council regarding the streaming current monitor needed at the water treatment plant. It tells the optimum chemical dosage for coagulation. Coagulated particles in the water cling together making them easier to filter out. He said the streaming current monitor is critical to the operation of the water plant and recommended purchasing it for \$9,990. Ken asked about the PLC loop. Eric Lederhos explained a PLC loop to the group. Adam Arthur moved to purchase the streaming current monitor for \$9,990. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mike said FEMA is willing to fund a portion of the Golden Street repair where there was a mudslide. He said they are willing to cover only the portion of the repair of the exposed sewer line. The design will be done in house with outside consultation as needed and peer review from JUB Engineering. Mike thinks the cost will be about \$70,000 for the repair. Adam asked how much will be reimbursed. Mike thinks we will have to pay about ten percent. If there is an amount for match that is needed, it will be paid out of the sewer fund. Mayor Sims said it is important to look at the drainage to help keep the drainage from Ash Street. Rick asked about match being in kind. Mike said it is. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with JUB Engineers for Golden Street repair in the amount of \$5,000. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Sims said Idaho has received some money for block grants from HUD. They are accepting block grants for parks so we can apply for a block grant for the swimming pool. The High Five grant can be used for match for this project. We will work on a plan and come back to council for approval. Nancy Mabile and Wally Jacobsen from Panhandle Area Council are ready to work on this grant application for us. Ron Smith said we need to look at all options including pool replacement. Mayor Sims said we need to be competitive with the match. Ron Smith

moved to go forward with a possible block grant application for the pool. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor David Sims said there is signage from Panhandle Health District (PHD) for no smoking in city parks. He wanted to know if council would be interested in installing these signs at the pool and Veterans Park near the Library. Mayor Sims said we do not have an ordinance but the signs would be a first start to ask folks not to smoke. There is no charge for the signs from PHD. Ken Toline moved to go forward and put up no smoking signs at the pool and Veterans Park. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Mayor Sims said the proposed special meeting for August 8, 2017 would be to discuss the BPA Conservation Program and also go over the enterprise funds fiscal year 2018 budgets. Mike said the conservation program will be for \$100,000 over the next two years. The LED bulbs that have been replaced in the street lights were under this program. Mike said booster stations need upgraded. The special meeting will start at 6:00 p.m.

Health insurance was discussed. Ron Smith said he worked with the Gem Plan when he was at the County and chaired the committee for a time. He spoke with the person that administers the Gem Plan and asked if there would be consideration to add cities to their plan. Ron called Darrell Kerby and he said if council wants to authorize Darrell he will call and work with the Gem folks to see if cities can participate. Ron said the Gem Plan is good insurance. Mayor Sims said we will authorize Darrell to look into the Gem Plan.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk