

CITY OF MOYIE SPRINGS MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 17th, 2016

City Council met in special session February 17th, 2016 at 6:00 PM at the Moyie Springs City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Doug Evans. Present were Councilmen, Steve Economu, Terry Johnson, Tim Narvaez, Public Works Supervisor John Nelson and City Engineer Mike Woodward.

Jimmy Ball, Ginger Perrenoud, Kermit Kiebert from DEQ and Susan Kiebert from LHTAC were also present.

Mayor Evans asked for a motion to waive approval of the minutes. A motion to waive the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting from February 3rd, 2016 was made by Terry Johnson and seconded by Steve Economu. Motion carried.

Mayor Evans welcomed Kermit and Susan Kiebert. Discussion began on the sewer discharge violation the City was been working on to remedy. Mayor Evans explained the DEQ sewer violation with the discharge from the sewer lagoon and the City's dilemma with the ITD property the City is in the process of acquiring and DEQ's decision of not giving any additional grant monies for the testing of the land. DEQ had prepared a hydro geologic survey of the local area and decided that the land was not deemed to pass the nutrient pathogen testing. Mayor Evans said that DEQ wanted the City to sign off on a compliance agreement but the City Council had postpone any action until the ITD land was ruled out as a viable option for the sewer discharge disposal. He said that Matt Plaisted had attended the last meeting to inform the Council of DEQ's decision. John Nelson added that Matt Plaisted was trying to help the City in their decision to move forward to resolve the violation. Mayor Evans told the Kieberts about the four options that Welch Comer Engineering had presented to the Council A) using a membrane system, B) to pipe to the City of Bonners Ferry, C) aerated lagoons, and D) to sand filter. He showed the location of the City's lagoon on the map and the ITD property the City was pursuing. Kermit Kiebert asked about the other wells in the area. John Nelson showed Kermit Kiebert the report from DEQ that DEQ had used in determining the land not to be a feasible location for the sewer discharge. Tim Narvaez told of the cloth media filters that John Nelson had researched and was testing out, and the need for an engineer to be opened to other alternatives for the discharge such as these filters. Mayor Evans explained the discharge of the lagoon was the violation and not with the sewage. Kermit Kiebert asked how many sewer hook-ups the sewer system was serving. John Nelson said about 60 residential and the IFG mill. John Nelson added that John Tindal from DEQ had shown him a report that showed the discharge from the lagoon to be cleaner than septic tank discharge. John Nelson talked about the cloth media filters that he was testing and that the City of Bonners Ferry was looking at the same filters for their system. John Nelson added that system produced about 35,000 gallons of discharge per day. Jimmy Ball talked about his 15 connections to the City's sewer system and also the septic systems that he had with Panhandle Health District. Jimmy Ball said the cost of installing septic tank systems to his current City hookups would be at an approximately \$2,500.00 each and that the City should be looking at private septic tanks

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for the current users as the affordable solution to the City's discharge violation. He added his concerns of the over two million dollar projected cost to redo the current sewer system and his future expense if the City forced him to hookup with the City's sewer system if the City expanded their system. John Nelson said that the City needed to be looking at the future when determining a solution to the discharge. Tim Narvaez added that the land and the pumping were not included in the two million dollar purposed option presented by Welch Comer Engineering. Jimmy Ball thought the IFG mill could change to a private septic tank system and that he was willing to put in private septic tanks to his hookups with the City and that should reduce the discharge from the lagoon. He added that a legal document could be written for residents to sign and agree to opt off the City's sewer system. Terry Johnson said that if private septic tanks were permitted that DEQ could later test and require a sewer system. The sewer system was created because of ground contamination from septic tanks. Kermit Kiebert said that there are grants and funding available to help the City pay for the sewer project. Tim Narvaez said that the City would need to make a plan, and put it to a vote before applying for grant funding. Steve Economu said that the City had increased the sewer monthly fees to be in the favorable range for applying for grants and funding. Mike Woodward added that the Council would be putting debt on future councils and residents with the long term debt. Mayor Evans said that for the Council to proceed the sewer residents would vote on the chosen option and if they voted no, a judge would have to give a ruling to allow the City to proceed with the resolving the DEQ violation. Mayor Evans said that the city had been in violation since 1982 when the Clean Water Act came in to place. Tim Narvaez asked if the City should present their financials and customer base; and surrender it to DEQ, and ask the direction that they think should be taken. Jimmy Ball asked if Panhandle Health District could work with the current City's infrastructure for resolution. Mayor Evans reinstated that private septic tanks could not be used with the City's infrastructure. Kermit Kiebert asked about the outflow from the lagoon. John Nelson explained the purchase of a flow meter to monitor the flow was in the process of being installed and working to give accurate data regarding the flow. He said he was unsure of what the mill was producing but that they had over 100 employees that were washing their hands and flushing into the City's system, and that the flow meter would show the actual flow being processed thru the system. John Nelson said he did not think the lagoon had any leak issues and had not seen any standing water that would probably exist if there was a problem. John Nelson pointed out the location on the area map of the ITD land, State pit, and the USFS grounds to Kermit Kiebert. John Nelson said that the State's gravel pit had gravel and rock that went 40 feet deep, and that the ITD property adjoining the State land was similar to it. Terry Johnson stated that the County pit went 50 feet down with gravel and rock and then hit sand. Kermit Kiebert talked about a private system that he had setup. Jimmy Ball suggested that the City talk to Gail from Panhandle Health District on the possibility of private septic tanks. Kermit Kiebert said the rules were different from what is allowed with a private system to what is regulated in a public system. . Kermit Kiebert asked if any other engineers had been consulted. He asked if the City was under contract with Welch Comer Engineering. Mayor Evans said that Dan Remmick from Century West Engineering had reviewed the options presented by Welch Comer Engineering and had given cost saving alternatives to each option. Mayor Evans said that they were under contract until the Council signed off on the facility that Welch

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Comer Engineering had presented. Susan Kiebert asked what the original plan was for sewer system. Mayor Evans read a letter from the sewer analysis book regarding the present treatment in the sewer system. Kermit Kiebert liked the idea the City had on making the existing plant work. Tim Narvaez asked if Kermit Kiebert could look at our sewer system and see if he had any suggestions to help the Council with their sewer discharge remedy. Tim Narvaez said the price is right on the ITD property and that he believes that the City should pursue testing the land for the sewer discharge disposal area. Kermit Kiebert said that he would review what the City has and talk with an engineer friend he has, Brent Converse, who is a sewer guy and might have alternative suggestions for the Council. Kermit Kiebert said that he realized that the small amount of residents on the system and that their income being lower or on a fixed income needed to be considered when a sewer option is chosen. Jimmy Ball stated that 25% of the rental fee of his rentals went towards utilities. Steve Economu commented on the City's resident's reaction when the City considered having a monthly \$8.00 fee for garbage collection. Mike Woodward asked if the geologist report that DEQ had used for their determination not to grant any additional monies towards the nutrient pathogen testing on the ITD land, should be sent back to DEQ with the flaws stated and questions to be reviewed again. Susan Kiebert asked what DEQ is going to do to move forward. Mayor Evans said that Matt Plaisted had brought the Compliance Agreement Schedule agreement to the last meeting and the Council had asked for additional time due to the news that Matt Plaisted shared of DEQ's concerns with the ITD property not passing the needed testing and unwilling to grant monies towards the testing. Kermit Kiebert asked how much land was available from ITD. John Nelson said the first letter to ITD requested 65 acres and a second letter requested 80 acres. John Nelson said the LSAS system only required 10 acres in option D presented by Welch Comer Engineering and any additional land acquired could be used for land application. Susan Kiebert said that the City really wants to use the current system. John Nelson said the system works effectively, and the discharge is the only thing that would need to be change, and he thought that a LSAS system to disperse the outflow from the lagoon is the direction the City should take. Susan Kiebert asked if ITD would be giving the land to the City. John Nelson said that ITD wanted to do a land swap with the USFS before giving land to the City. Kermit Kiebert said that he would take the City's information to review and talk to some people and see if he could come up with other alternatives for the City to pursue. Kermit Kiebert said he was on the DEQ board to help the people. John Nelson said that he was doing a bench test of the cloth media filter. John Nelson said that it was from a Fluidyne Filtration System and that they had been in business for over 60 years. John Nelson said that the cost of a filter would be around \$12.00 each and is cost efficient.

Steve Economu asked Susan Kiebert about getting a turning lane on Highway 2, at the North Division intersection. Susan Kiebert said she would check into the possibilities of that. Susan Kiebert said the grant applicants had not been notified of who the grants would be awarded to. Kermit Kiebert asked if the mill helped with the road expenses. Mayor Evans said that IFG paid for half of all the water system expenses. Susan Kiebert commented on the truck traffic on Roosevelt Street due to the mill.

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Mayor Evans thanked Kermit and Susan Kiebert for their interest and input in the City of Moyie Springs.

Mayor Evans asked about the time certificate renewal at Potlatch Bank. Potlatch Bank allows the best interest rate at this time. A motion was made by Terry Johnson and seconded by Tim Narvaez to allow the time certificate at Potlatch Bank to rollover for another cycle. Motion carried.

John Nelson reported on the water well pump not working. He called Jamon Ensz with Ensz Pump and Water and they had attempted to fix it. They tried to fix and agreed that it was time to replace the pump. The pump was eight years old. John Nelson said that there are two other water pumps from the same time frame. Jamon Ensz and John Nelson had tried to fix on Thursday and had replaced the pump on the following Friday. The invoice for the new pump and labor came to \$8874.00. The mill will be billed for half the amount. John Nelson said that it would cost \$1500.00 to \$2500.00 to rebuild the water pump. John Nelson thought the City should look at planning to purchase a new pump in planning for the new subdivision.

Mayor Evans asked Mike Woodward about DEQ recommendation for a new water tank. Mayor Evans said the Mill helped with the last water tank with a block grant they received for their employment of new employees.

A motion was made by Steve Economu and seconded by Terry Johnson to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Attest: City Clerk