

approved the projects will then be put out for bid. The Mayor and Council agreed this was great news.

The Mayor expressed how fantastic it was to be able to administer the oath of office to two new police officers for the City. The oaths were read and repeated aloud by new officers Chance Jensen and Dale Jade Evans. Jade Evans was honored to have his badge presented to him by his Uncle, Bingham County Sheriff, Craig Rowland.

Director Skinner showed pictures of the fence and “no parking” signs behind the Enders Building along with a plat showing how the Enders property runs behind the other businesses. He explained that the business owner next to the Enders Building has requested an access through the back fence be allowed to her business and also that the “no parking” signs be taken down. Director Skinner also suggested the City may want to keep ownership of the parking property for public and Geysers parking. The Council discussed and shared some reservations regarding separating the parking lot property from the building if it brings value to a prospective buyer. The Council agreed to remove the signs but not alter the fence yet.

A request for a merit wage increase for Water/Sewer Department employee Larry Smith was presented by Director Skinner. Mr. Smith has successfully completed a Class I Water Distribution Certification and will start to work toward the Class II. Larry also holds a Class I in Sewer Collection. Director Skinner mentioned this sends a good message to other employees that if they want to advance they need to work toward certifications. The City is required to have a Class II Water Operator and a Class III Wastewater Operator with a back-up employee for each. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the merit increase for Larry Smith from a PW4-10 to a PW4-12 based on the supervisor’s recommendation. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Hart reviewed the current status of the Enders property. The Council previously motioned setting a time limit to explore options to dispose of the building. There are a couple of interested parties and in order to sell the property the City has a process to follow. The Council must declare the value and schedule a public hearing to put the property up for auction. The value could be set by the Council or an appraisal could be done to help determine the value. Councilmember Hart explained he has only been able to locate one commercial appraiser with time and it could cost up to \$5000. Councilmember Goode suggested a gentleman out of Preston that has been used by the County Assessor. The Council agreed to pursue proposals and proceed with an appraisal. Attorney Nelson recommended having the parking area surveyed and appraised separately along with the contents of the building. Councilmember Lau warned that current appraisals are very conservative. Councilmember Goode moved to approve authorizing up to \$5000 for the appraisal of the building and the contents with Councilmember Hart and Director Skinner reviewing the proposals and making the appropriate selection. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The Council asked about perishable items at the Enders Building. Director Skinner mentioned there are a few items in the fridge he is watching but mostly everything is in the freezer.

During citizen input Lori Anne Lau of 241 East Hooper Avenue announced that Farm Bureau will be hosting a seminar on January 10th regarding the forming of Fire Protection Associations. She explained that there are nine groups formed in the state and there may be interest in forming one in our area.

Councilmember Goode offered a friendly reminder of the Planning & Zoning meeting soliciting public input on the comprehensive plan that will be held January 8th at 6:00pm. He suggested it would be good for the Mayor and Council to attend because they will make the final adoption of the plan.

Councilmember Gambles commended the City Crew for the excellent job they have done with the snow plowing.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 16TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.

Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk