



more concerned about the health and welfare of the officers if they are working too much. Chief Shaw assured him he was monitoring that. A vote on the motion to approve the December 2020 payroll was called. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Engineer Skinner, on behalf of the Rotary Club discussed the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July event with the Mayor and City Council. As a Club they would like to get some direction from the City on whether to proceed with planning the annual event as normal and as long as it is allowed per COVID guidelines. He reported the Club has all the funds needed to cover the fireworks and event. Councilmember Goode enthusiastically recommended the Rotary Club proceed full speed ahead with planning for the event. His hope and opinion is that 80% of the population will be vaccinated by then and if there are still concerns when it gets closer it can be revisited to see if we need to make adjustments. Engineer Skinner mentioned the Club still hasn't decided for sure on the day of the celebration due to it falling on a Sunday but most likely all events will be held on Saturday. The schedule of events and the liability coverage was discussed. Councilmember Goode pointed out this year will be the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City. Engineer Skinner stated the Rotary Club may consider using it as the theme for the 4<sup>th</sup>. Rotary President, Ben Goode addressed the Council via conference call and wanted to make sure on the location of the fireworks. The Council all agreed they would like to keep it at Kelly Park unless something prevents it. The Mayor thanked Mr. Goode for his service in the Rotary Club and to the City. The Council instructed the Clerk to reserve the bounce houses and Engineer Skinner will report back on the final decision of what day the events will be held after the next Rotary Club meeting.

Councilmember Goode gave an update on the property tax reduction and funds received from the CARES Act. The City received the \$235,053 to offset the property tax reduction given to City residents. Councilmember Goode reminded everyone this is a onetime reduction in property taxes and property taxes next year will go back up. He also explained how in the beginning the CARES Act funds were set aside and allocated to Cities and Counties based on population. The funds were to be used to reimburse the local governments for costs associated with handling the COVID crisis. The City's actual expenses totaled less than \$20,000 but the State made it possible to request the full allocation of \$104,400. \$5600 of this was set aside to cover the construction costs of running fiber optic internet to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Councilmember Goode suggested thinking about how to spend the funds and if the City wants to reopen the budget or let it just sit and budget to use it next year. Councilmember Hart again pointed out it would have been a good benefit to the industry and all County residents if the County would have taken advantage of the Governor's Property Tax Reduction program. Councilmember's Goode and Hart also expressed some concern about legislation being pursued limiting fund balances. Councilmember Lau also expressed disagreement with the State separating the ecommerce sales tax from all other sales tax and not sharing with local governments.

There was no Citizen input at the designated time but Mayor Robinson expressed his desire

for the community to start out the New Year by supporting local businesses. He stressed the importance for everyone to shop as much as possible at local businesses that also support the local sports programs and community events.

Engineer Skinner reviewed in detail a summary of the costs and the process taken to complete the Formation Well project. Councilmember Hart noted the engineering costs exceeded the customary 15% for this type of project but with the construction management provided by the engineers he is comfortable with the final costs. The Council reviewed the letter from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) terminating the consent order. Engineer Skinner explained this will eliminate 14 hours in overtime per week along with reducing the weekend duty overtime. Councilmember Lau pointed out based on the total cost of the project and the Formation Well fee being collected to offset the project it will take five more years to build the fund balance back up. Councilmember Hart noted the need to be able to build and carry fund balances and pointed out the City was able to do this project without the expense of a bond election or judicial confirmation because of the City's fund balances.

An update on the recent Wastewater Treatment Plant inspection was given by Engineer Skinner. The inspection was followed up with a letter from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) detailing the items of concern. The two main issues both have to do with submitting of reports through the correct electronic processes and using the correct coding. These processes were not made clear with recent reporting changes but they are now being addressed and corrected. Engineer Skinner also reviewed and explained the issue requiring a flow meter be installed to monitor effluent at a location specified in the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) Permit. He presented a letter from Forsgren Engineers explaining what their recommendation and design of the plant was based on and why they didn't feel the additional flow meter was needed. The Council agreed this should be pointed out to DEQ and a letter sent explaining why the flow meter was not installed. Engineer Skinner mentioned the cost will be approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000 including electrical if they have to be installed and funds were included in the budget. Councilmember Hart asked about the time left on the sewer bond loans. The Clerk mentioned one loan was for 20 years and the other for 30 years. She will report back with updated information.

The project list was reviewed. Engineer Skinner informed the Council of the need to update the fire system in the Ender's building. The current system is not operational and he has not been able to reach the service provider. Quotes to update the system were reviewed along with a quote to install the security cameras for the playground and City Park. Engineer Skinner also reported on finding someone with knowledge of the hydro plants who is reviewing the prints and manuals for Plant #4. Options may include repairs or a full replacement of the switch gear. The #4 Hydro Plant has all original parts constructed 60 years ago. An initial estimate to get the Plant up and running is \$250,000.

Councilmember Hart suggested getting meetings scheduled to revisit the Enders Building contract with the current lessees. The current contract includes a 15 month reopener

period. He suggested an assessment of how they performed and what their plans are and a self-assessment of how we performed per the contract. He would like to know what their plans are for the hotel and reopening the museum along with being able to review financials in order to consider future lease amounts. Attorney Haney mentioned he talked to Mrs. Lancaster and they plan to continue but the pandemic has been a hindrance and affected their progress. Engineer Skinner reported he had a few minor concerns but nothing major really sticks out that was required by contract. A repair cost for a water leak in the boiler room was reviewed and discussed. Attorney Haney will review the contract closer and determine the cost share agreement.

Councilmember Hart mentioned a conversation he had with a current tenant of the Industrial Park who expressed some concerns about the City's efforts to control dust and weeds along with other tenants not being compliant with the lease requirements. Councilmember Hart suggested a more comprehensive weed control plan and coordination with other surrounding land owners. The lease held by Associated Towing was discussed along with Ridge Top Construction and whether they are in compliance with their lease agreements. The Mayor, Council and Staff discussed the concerns and the past beautification ordinance that was put in place which they would like to see enforced. Councilmember Hart explained he knows its makes the City be the bad guys but feels it needs to be done. All agreed the City needs to do a better job of enforcing the code. Mayor Robinson pointed out the City also has to have its own house in order if we are going to push it on the residents. Everyone agreed and supported the Mayor's assessment.

The Mayor mentioned he may have a company interested in coming in with a new RV dealership with the intention to provide employment. Councilmember Hart applauded all efforts to bring in new business and also John Adams for proceeding with additional development of his property. Councilmember Goode suggested including in future leases a requirement to employ a certain number of full time equivalent (FTE) employees. Otherwise there is no reason to rent it. Councilmember Lau agreed. He mentioned most economic development packages have an FTE and wage requirement and the stipulation to report back which the City has the right to require because it is his opinion that taxpayer funds are subsidizing the businesses in the Industrial Park.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(f) to communicate with legal counsel regarding probable litigation.  
Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye:	Mitch Hart	Those voting nay:	none
	Jon Goode		
	Robert Lau	Absent:	none
	Scott Gambles		

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Lau moved to exit executive session, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021.

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Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk