
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:00PM BY AUSTIN W. ROBINSON, MAYOR.

ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:        AUSTIN W. ROBINSON, MAYOR
MITH HART, PRES. via telephone                      JON D. GOODE
ROBERT M. LAU                                       SCOTT K. GAMBLES

EXCUSED:                                               

ALSO PRESENT:                                         ALAN SKINNER, DIRECTOR
Mark Steele                                           TAUSA VORWALLER, CLERK
Laura Lind                                             CLYDE NELSON, ATTORNEY via telephone
Georgia Brown                                          
Austin E. & Jacklyne Robinson                         
Galen & Joy Wilson                                    
Jessey Erickson                                       
Brenda Erickson                                       
Danielle & Brooke Stoor                                

The invocation was given by Galen Wilson, Mayor Robinson then led everyone in the 'Pledge of Allegiance'.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode noted no changes to the current draft form and moved to dispense with the reading and approve the March 21st, 2018 minutes as presented. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable and payroll for March, 2018 were reviewed. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the accounts payable for March 20th through March 31st and the payroll for March, 2018, seconded by Councilmember Lau. Councilmember Goode mentioned that the payroll amount is high due to three pay periods in the month. Councilmember Gambles asked about the $23,000 payment to MR&E which Clerk Vorwaller explained was the monthly contract payment for garbage collection. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Galen Wilson, President of the Caribou Historical Society addressed the Mayor and Council regarding their desire to find a location to gather, take ownership of and store historical items held by community members around the County. Eventually they would like to be able to display items in a museum type setting. The Society members are also interested in pursuing ownership and restoration of the old Stoor’s Grocer building that has recently been vacated. The building would require a lot of work and another possibility would be the old Police Department/Teen Center building. Mr. Wilson asked if the Teen Center was
still being used and if there was still a safe in the building that could be used for fire proof storage of documents. The Council discussed the Historical Society’s needs and expressed support mentioning the possibility of grants and help from the LDS Church due to it being a ZCMI building. Clerk Vorwaller will reach out to the Teen Center organizers on the current use and plans for the Teen Center.

Jessey Erickson, representing the Caribou Mud Racers requested approval to hold the annual mud race at Kelly Park on Saturday, August 18th. He explained that they may use sand instead of mud but everything else would be the same as in the past. He will let the City know for sure when the decision is made. Councilmember Goode expressed his support for the long established event. The Council and Staff briefly discussed past concerns regarding straw clean-up but it was addressed last year. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the annual mud races utilizing the same terms and conditions as has been required in past. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Austin E. Robinson, representing the Soda Springs Lions Club requested the City’s sponsorship of the Distinguished Young Women’s Program. He explained that all sponsorship dollars go into scholarships. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the City’s customary sponsorship amount of $400 for the 2018 program. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Robinson mentioned the number of participants has been down from past years and there are six girls competing this year.

Director Skinner presented the Bonneville Power Administration energy services renewal and a new customer portal agreement for the Council’s review. The customer portal will provide access to billings, usage details and rebate submittals. The Idaho Energy Authority (IDEA) Group still manages the energy efficiency programs and each individual City has access to their portion of the funds. Councilmember Goode expressed concerns about the City’s responsibility regarding personal information available on the customer portal. Director Skinner did not think it should be a problem because it will only be the City’s billing and usage information not individual customers. Councilmember Hart stated he reviewed the agreements and felt okay with them. Attorney Nelson will review and report back at the next meeting.

The utility and improvement projects were reviewed. The Hooper Park cover design is being worked on and Atlas Polar will be shipping the trash rake on Friday with delivery by the end of next week. The South 1st East project has been put out for bid but no plans have been picked up yet and we may have an issue getting contractors this year. Mayor Robinson asked about the engineering for lift station #2 which Director Skinner stated he needed to get it moving quicker. The Mayor asked if the $90,000 cost would also apply to the rest of the lift stations if we wanted to try and get them upgraded to above ground for the safety of the operators. Director Skinner stated he thinks it would cost less for lift stations # 1 & 3 but the issue with them is the lift height which will require more equipment. The Mayor expressed his desire to strongly pursue the lift station upgrades.
There was no citizen input at the designated time.

Director Skinner presented the draft All Hazard Mitigation Plan (AHMP) and explained that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will officially adopt the County’s plan after the cities have approved. Director Skinner wanted to review items in the AHMP with the City Council but was unable to finish and had to step away from the meeting.

Clerk Vorwaller requested approval for herself and staff to volunteer during work hours for the playground build currently scheduled for May 29th through June 1st. The Mayor and Council discussed the request. Councilmember Lau moved to approve all City employees to participate in the playground build at the discretion of the Department Heads. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The upcoming budget calendar was reviewed. Clerk Vorwaller pointed out the budget hearing is scheduled for August 15th. Councilmember Goode suggested rescheduling the July 4th meeting to the 3rd or the 5th instead of canceling due to being in the middle of working on the budget. The Council agreed.

Clerk Vorwaller presented a training request for staff member, JoAnna Ashley and asked the Mayor and Council if they wanted her to continue to pursue grants for pedestrian safety and sidewalk improvements. The Mayor expressed his support stating that he feels it would benefit the City greatly especially after funds were spent with Bengal Solutions on the economic study that pointed out the need for sidewalk improvements. Councilmember Goode agreed and mentioned that it is a good deal with the costs paid for. Councilmember Lau suggested that it might make sense to also send someone from the Street Department if they have someone available. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the training for JoAnna Ashley and a Street Department employee, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

Georgia Brown and Laura Lind of the Friends of the Soda Springs City Park continued the review and discussion on moving forward with the new playground. Options to proceed based on available funds and possible additional funding was reviewed. Mrs. Lind mentioned that there are $40,000 in grants they are waiting to hear on and she also clarified that she received four quotes for the pour-in-place surfacing and the least expensive estimate was $95,000 with warranty. The Friends Committee does not feel there is a lot of cost saving with moving the playground to the existing basketball court because the excavation and fill was all donated anyway. The Committee did agree that if the City preferred to move the location they would agree as long as the City takes ownership for the decision and makes sure the hoops are relocated as soon as possible. Councilmember Hart supported the alternate location if it will make the project be more successful.

Mayor Robinson reviewed the information on available funds to help with the playground project. Clerk Vorwaller provided history on the $1 HUD Home that the City netted just over $30,000 to be used to benefit the low to moderate income community. The Mayor noted it had been close to 20 years since the City invested any major funds in playground
equipment and asked the Council to consider using a percentage of the HUD Home funds to donate to the playground. Councilmember Hart stated as long as the funds weren’t already committed to another project he could support donating up to $10,000 of those funds to the playground project. Councilmember Goode supported the $10,000 donation and felt it was in line with the requirements of the HUD Home program. Councilmember Goode moved to approve a donation of $10,000 from the 2003 $1 HUD Home program proceeds to go to The Friends of the Soda Springs City Park for the new playground project subject to Attorney Nelson’s review. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Goode stepped away from the meeting.

The Council moved on to review the amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Attorney Nelson went over the changes requested allowing younger ages to volunteer if with a parent. He pointed out that Director Skinner asked that the under 14 years of age youth not be allowed in the construction area. The Council and Friends of the Park members discussed at length the rules that will be in place for younger children. All youth will have a name and age tag and if they are found to not be with their parent they will be immediately removed from the site. Councilmember Hart stated he was comfortable with Leathers & Associates experience with other projects and will rely on the leaders to strictly follow the guidelines to avoid any issues. Councilmember Lau suggested that a 2 to 1 ratio be set requiring two adults to every child be on site. Mrs. Lind shared that there will be two safety captains, one is from Monsanto, a total of 18 captains, 2 consultants and 2 general coordinators watching at all times. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the MOU amendment allowing volunteers 10 – 13 years old to be accompanied by parent and 14 – 17 year olds to have parental permission along with requiring a ratio of 2 adults to every child on the construction site. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Attorney Nelson mentioned that he had also redrafted the release waiver form for parents and participants to sign. The form was given to the Friends of the Park representatives.

The conversation continued regarding approval for the Friends of the City Park to move forward with the construction of the playground. Councilmember Hart offered he was comfortable with approving the Friends of the Park to move forward with either location including utilizing the basketball court area if it will help make the project more successful but a decision needs to be made. Attorney Nelson mentioned that a survey of the location was required showing the 9000 square feet area for the project. Councilmember Lau reiterated the Friends of the Park had agreed to move the project to the basketball court area if the City wanted to and he suggested that some assurances on the City’s part needed to be made that the hoops would be moved and reestablished at the alternate location before Memorial Day along with getting one of the local electricians out there to install lighting for the court. Councilmember Lau also suggested pointing a light toward the concrete pad used by the Lions Club and the Salmon Feed to make that area more useable. The Mayor agreed that it should be able to be done very quickly. Councilmember Lau moved to approve accepting the decision by the Friends of the Soda Springs City Park to
move the playground project to the existing basketball court area and specified that the City was accepting responsibility to move the hoops and provide lighting at the location where the old tennis courts were. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(c) to acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye:  Mitch Hart
                  Robert Lau
                  Scott Gambles

Those voting nay:  none

Absent:  Jon Goode

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Goode rejoined the meeting at the beginning of the executive session.

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

Councilmember Lau moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm, seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 18TH DAY OF APRIL, 2018.

_____________________________________
Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____________________________________
Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk