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

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

EXCUSED: Mark Steele
Gina Guthmiller
Austin & Jackie Robinson
Cindy Erickson
Dan Squires
Katie Bergholm

ALSO PRESENT: Alan Skinner, Director Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk Clyde Nelson, Attorney via telephone

Taralee Jenkins Gina Guthmiller

The invocation was given by Cindy Erickson, Mayor Robinson then led everyone in the ‘Pledge of Allegiance’.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode stated he had reviewed and noted no changes he then moved to dispense with the reading and approve the May 2nd, 2018 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The pre-paid accounts payable for May, 2018 were reviewed. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the accounts payable for May 1st through May 14th, 2018 seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER FOR DETAIL)

Fire Chief Dan Squires thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of the Fire Department. He reported that it was the first time since 2001 that the Department was fully staffed with 15 firemen. He mentioned the brush truck, received at no cost through a military program, was put in service and all improvements to the truck were done in house. The new training recently attended by two of the Firemen was a very positive experience Chief Squires reported. He said the training is more geared toward residential and commercial fire fighting. The Firemen came back with good ideas to share and the training cost about half as much as the Texas A&M School they used to attend. He plans to send two Firemen each year along with the training in Burley which five Firemen were able to attend this year. The Chief reviewed the upcoming budget stating no increase to the Department’s operating was needed but requested to replace a thermal imaging camera that is 6 years old and not working. Due to technical changes and cost, it is not worth fixing. He explained that they use the imager a lot and it is a valuable piece of equipment. The new imager
comes with a 5 year warranty compared to only 1 year on the old one. The Chief also requested to purchase new helmets for the Firemen to meet the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) requirement. The department’s helmets are currently 15 years old and are supposed to be replaced every 10 years. The Chief mentioned he doesn’t necessarily agree with the requirement but insurance and training venues look at this. The cost to replace the helmets is $5500. Chief Squires reviewed with the Mayor and Council the Department’s building needs. He explained they have outgrown the station with a full crew of 16 firemen making trainings really tight. He also mentioned because the city doesn’t own half the building no alterations can be made. He explained how the new truck was ordered with a custom cab to fit in the building that has been used for 50 + years and was built to house smaller trucks. His goal would be to set aside funds over the next few years and have the new truck paid off and then consider building options. The Chief shared that the department’s average response time is excellent being 6 minutes from page to on scene which is amazing and he feels he has 15 of the best guys there is and they are a really strong group. Councilmember Gamble commended Chief Squires for being a good leader and doing a really good job. The Mayor and Council agreed and thanked Chief Squires.

Head Librarian, Cindy Erickson reviewed with the Mayor and Council the upcoming Library budget, needs and programs. She reported that she has submitted a grant to replace the sign in front of the Library and the Friends of the Library continue to raise funds needed to help finish and beautify the historical portion of the building. She detailed some of the exterior building maintenance items. She explained her current budget is sufficient and the Library can function within that budget thanking the Council for supporting and valuing the Library. She commended her staff who she feels is a strong team and works well together. She explained the late book forgiveness policy and mentioned that she is actively looking for other ways to make money which could include book binding services. She also explained how she is learning to weed out the collections to make room for new relevant materials. She mentioned how they now have a better ability to track Wi-Fi users outside of the library and noted the remarkable use of the library with 50,000 + check outs annually. Mayor Robinson asked if she felt the Library was keeping up with technology. Librarian Erickson stated due to the City’s support and utilizing grants she feels they have been able to keep up. The Mayor and Council expressed their appreciation to Librarian Erickson.

There was no citizen input at the designated time.

Director Skinner gave a brief update on the playground project. There are four holes left to drill and then the surveyor will check the locations before the concrete is poured next week. He mentioned that it has been a lot of work for the ladies and the schedule is tight. The Leather & Associates representatives will show up on Memorial Day and the build starts on May 29th.

The Industrial Park proposal for a sawmill was reviewed in further detail. The M-1 Zone code permitting this type of business was reviewed along with the layout proposal. The lighting and noise concerns were discussed. The owner plans to operate only during
daylight hours and to install a solid wooden fence between the trailer court and the Industrial Park. Department of Environmental Quality regulations are being checked on. The lease agreement was reviewed and Attorney Nelson recommended adding specific requirements including operation time restrictions, fence installation and dust, smoke, and noise control. The environmental regulations in the agreement were reviewed and Councilmember Hart expressed concerns about housekeeping around the business. Also discussed was the need to maintain the borrow pit along the trailer court for water control. The annual lease amount is approximately $900 increasing slightly each year based on the City tax levy rate. Councilmember Lau moved to approve the lease agreement with Frank McAlister to place a sawmill in the Industrial Park on lots 17 and 18 of the 1st Addition including the specific language as recommended by Attorney Nelson. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner presented the signed Building Inspector Agreement with Caribou County. The County approved the agreement with one change to the revenue split changing the 60/40 split to 70/30. This will require the City to pay the County 70% of building inspection fees collected. The Council discussed if payments would be made annually or quarterly. Councilmember Hart moved to approve authorizing the Mayor’s signature on the agreement. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The ongoing projects were reviewed. Director Skinner presented the Formation Spring water right transfer application for review. The Idaho Department of Water Resources application requests a transfer of the City’s Formation water right designation from surface to ground water. The application will include data showing proof that the water is from the same aquifer. Director Skinner mentioned that he had met with the Pantings and reviewed details of the easement agreement and hopes it will be completed by the end of the week. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the Mayor’s signature and submittal of the water rights transfer application for Formation Spring. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Lau explained the recent situation of the Learning Tree Daycare owned and operated by Taralee Christensen. The owners of the home, Greg and Katy Bergholm, where the daycare is currently at has asked the daycare to relocate within in the next 45 days and they are having trouble finding a location zoned correctly. A letter from Mrs. Christensen was reviewed. It requested a temporary use permit to move the daycare to 285 West 4th South where a preschool has operated for many years. The house is in an R-1 Single-family Residential Zone which allows schools but not larger daycares. The Learning Tree has 100 registered children and cares for as many as 45 children a day. Councilmember Lau suggested in an effort to keep the daycare going that the City give them a 120 day waiver to allow them to move and pursue the necessary zoning change and conditional use. Attorney Nelson pointed out there is no provision in the code allowing a waiver. The Mayor and Council were sympathetic to the situation and the communities need for the daycare. They discussed at length options for code amendments and the time frame required for the process. Mrs. Bergholm commented on the quality and cleanliness of the daycare expressing support for Mrs. Christensen who she feels runs a very good
business that is needed in the community. She expressed her regret for asking them to move but their needs have changed and they need the space and the building. The Council agreed to allow Mrs. Christensen to make application for the zoning amendment and the conditional use at the same time with the public hearings scheduled simultaneously.

Councilmember Goode excused himself from the meeting.

The Clerk reviewed recent trainings she had attended and presented information on a new credit card processing company. OrbiPay an affiliate of Municode would allow customers to view their bill online, set up email notifications and recurring payments. The Clerk explained certain costs that are not allowed to be passed on to the customers compared to savings the City may see if customers signed up for e-bills. The Clerk and Council agreed they would like Councilmember Goode to review and provide his input before a decision was made.

The General Fund transfers to the Recreation Fund were reviewed. Clerk Vorwaller explained that since the creation of the Recreation Fund the budgeted transfers have created a higher fund balance than is needed. She requested approval to suspend the current year’s transfers for the second half of the year and evaluate and readjust the transfers in next year’s budget. Councilmember Gambles, seconded by Councilmember Lau moved to approve the request to suspend the current year’s transfers. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Hart also suggested moving some of the funds back to the General Fund if that seemed appropriate.

A brief discussion of the upcoming year’s health insurance options was held. Clerk Vorwaller explained the City’s plan with Select Health will have to be replaced with a new plan due to Select Health no longer providing plans in Idaho. The City’s agent is pursuing other options which currently look favorable. The Clerk presented information regarding supplemental plans available on a voluntary basis through Washington National. The Mayor and Council were agreeable to allowing representatives to provide information to the employees.

Councilmember Lau, seconded by Councilmember Gambles moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2018.

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Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk