
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. GAMBLES

EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Steele
Galen Wilson
Jim & Vicki Daly
Austin & Jackie Robinson
Duayne Sims
Kevin Shupperd
Brian Wood
Bryce Griffiths
Justin Hansen
Nikita Wilde

Alan Skinner, Director
Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk
Clyde Nelson, Attorney
Celeste Billman
JoAnna Ashley
Jon Bunderson
Scott Shaw
Kelly Hill

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

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode moved to dispense with the reading and approve the May 16th, 2018 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable and payroll were reviewed. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the accounts payable for May 15th through May 31st, 2018 and the payroll for May 2018, seconded by Councilmember Goode. Councilmember Goode asked about the cost for tree and stump removal and some vehicle repairs. Director Skinner explained three large trees in City Park were removed and a windshield and fender repaired on a parks and a street department truck. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Hart made an observation regarding the high amount of overtime hours as a result of the consent order for Formation Spring which requires sampling 4 times a day. He made the point that the Regulatory Agency states we are guilty forcing us to prove we are innocent.

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Department Supervisors addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the upcoming year’s budget needs. Parks Supervisor, Nikita Wilde explained that her biggest need was to replace the older trucks that cannot pull trailers. The Parks Department has 5 trucks including one used by multiple departments and one used by recreation when needed. Mrs. Wilde feels the operating and supplies budget is good and usually covers what is needed. She detailed repairs and improvements needed at Hooper, Kelly and City including...
sidewalk repairs and requested ideas for clean up under the trees near the skate park. The most repairs are probably needed at Hooper Park on the spring, the pavilion, the bridge, sidewalks and curbing. She also mentioned the continued damage done at each park during snow removal. The Council discussed the vehicle needs for the department and Mayor Robinson suggested a service truck. Director Skinner mentioned the trucks are mostly used for doing rounds, cleaning bathrooms, emptying garbage, watering and dropping off workers. Councilmember Hart mentioned that a priority list of improvements with cost estimates would be helpful.

Celeste Billman, Recreation Director, mentioned that she would like to include funds in her budget to attend the State Parks & Recreation Association training. She explained how the different programs needed updated equipment and she had begun to replace some and plans to keep it updated annually. She also mentioned that participation is increasing partly due to her efforts to get the word out about the programs. Mrs. Billman expressed her concern about losing use of the church facilities which would be devastating to the City’s programs and presented a proposal to pursue the construction of a multi-use recreation facility. The proposal included local individuals willing to provide time and equipment and pursuing grants. She detailed the type of building, the flooring and costs associated with the construction for an estimated cost of $677,000. Councilmember Hart suggested that we not panic yet over use of the church facilities but encouraged Mrs. Billman to find funding options for the proposal. Mayor Robinson and Councilmember Gambles commended Mrs. Billman for providing a good proposal and doing the homework. The Mayor suggested using the same model with the idea of adding onto the building for the Fire Department. Mrs. Billman mentioned that she also looked at a local building that is for sale but does not feel it would be the best option.

New Public Works Supervisor, Justin Hansen reported to the Mayor and Council that overall, there is a good feeling among his crew and they have a good attitude. In the five months on the job he feels they have accomplished a lot of good things. He explained that he has been reviewing what is needed versus what is wanted. He suggested retrofitting the flusher truck, received through a grant program and only used once or twice a year and turn it into a sanding truck/dump bed. The estimated cost for the retrofit is $60,000. He agreed with the Mayor that a service truck would be useful and would lessen trips back and forth to the shop. Mr. Hansen stated he does not feel a new backhoe or sweeper is needed at this time but just need to do more extensive maintenance on the equipment annually. Mr. Hansen explained that he is still learning about the power system and what may be needed to improve and maintain it. He suggested maintaining the existing budgets for meter and lighting upgrades. Director Skinner mentioned the Osmose pole testing is scheduled to be done in 2021 at an approximate cost of $100,000 and could be split into two years. He also suggested redoing the inspection on the transmission line and using the $20,000 annually budgeted for meters to work on a priority list of meter upgrades and removals.

Kelly Hill, Water & Sewer Department Supervisor, thanked the Mayor and Council for approval over the last few years of the needed upgrades at Ledge Creek to the automatic pump controls which seem to be working well. Mr. Hill stressed the need to have funds readily available to purchase a motor for the Ledge Creek pumps in case of an emergency.
outage. He also discussed at length the water pressure issues on the north side of town and the need for a properly placed pressure reducing valve (PRV). He suggested an engineer’s review to help consider the proper placement noting the 4th N PRV is not in an efficient location. Director Skinner supported an engineer’s study to make sure future PRV’s are put in the correct locations. Mr. Hill also pointed out the need to plan for replacement of the Formation transmission line which could be done in sections. He explained the line has some pretty bad issues from Government Dam Road to 4th North Street. Mr. Hill then reviewed the needs of the wastewater treatment plant. He explained that the UV lamps used for disinfecting will reach their life expectancy by the end of the year and will need to be replaced; he also recommended replacing the six mixers with better quality submersible mixers which will cost approximately $11,200 each. The need for a traveling crane was discussed which would be critical if the STM-Aerotor needed repairs or removed for replacement. An extension to the monorail currently in place may cost up to $150,000. The other option would be to take the roof off in order to get a crane in the building. Mr. Hill also mentioned that an effluent meter may be needed contingent on the requirements of a new pollutant discharge elimination system permit. Mr. Hill explained the existing sludge thickener unit was not sufficient and he suggested that building one like the current one only bigger may be the cheapest option. The estimated cost of a gravity belt type unit is $600,000. He mentioned that he now understands why the Keller’s design included such a big thickener unit. Other items requested in the upcoming budget included a special sewer cleaning nozzle which is supposed to prevent blow back into homes and Mr. Hill also stressed his desire to continue to upgrade the lift stations to above ground units for safety and ease of access. Councilmember Hart thanked Mr. Hill for his report and the Mayor thanked him for looking ahead for potential problems. The Staff and Council briefly discussed the high flows into the treatment plant which all feel is connected to the high ground water issues.

Chief Bunderson expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work for the City and for the Mayor and Council’s support. Due to his pending retirement at the end of June he presented his last budget and reviewed the cost savings he implemented over the last four years decreasing the department’s overall budget. He noted that he was able to decrease the budget but still offer higher salaries and better training and equipment due to the team he put together. Chief Bunderson shared his view of changes coming and the needs of law enforcement which will require additional training. He presented the department’s budget for the upcoming year which includes creating a $5000 line item for training and a replacement vehicle which would be a lease buy back at a maximum cost of $25,000 already equipped. The vehicle would be an SUV 4X4 package similar to the last few purchased which are holding up well. It will replace a 2009 vehicle that he suggests keeping as a back-up for emergency response. Chief Bunderson mentioned that in the past the prosecuting attorney through the seizure program has been able to provide training funds but the availability of funds is unpredictable and decreasing due to the criminals becoming wise to the seizure program. The Chief noted he was appreciative for Attorney Nelson who was instrumental in establishing the seizure program in the beginning which has been very beneficial to the department over the years. Mayor Robinson thanked Chief Bunderson for his service to the City.
Chief Bunderson also presented a request to approve Officer Jo Turner’s probationary period completion and increase her wage grade and step from a PS5-7 to a PS5-11. He explained that he has been withholding the increase until Officer Turner was permanently relocated to Soda Springs which he felt was important. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the pay increase for Officer Turner, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

Ryan Weaver representing the Dragon Fyre Faire thanked the Mayor and Council for the time and requested approval for the 6th annual event to be held at Hooper Park, July 13th through 15th. The request included permission for vendor camping, and he asked the City to mow the upper area for vendor parking. They may also need bleachers but not sure at this time. Mr. Weaver expressed a concern from last year regarding leaking water lines and asked if they had been repaired or if they needed to adjust placement of their booths and events. He also mentioned that they are considering a jousting event and will work with the City on a suitable location. The group will provide insurance and require waivers as done in the past. Councilmember Hart mentioned that he is not opposed to the jousting event but everyone needs to think it through and decide the best location. Councilmember Lau declared his conflict of interest due to his involvement in helping organize the event. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the Dragon Fyre Faire event at Hooper Park as detailed and requested for the 6th year, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor except Councilmember Lau who abstained from voting, motion carried. Mayor Robinson commended the group for organizing the awesome event.

Representatives of the Caribou Shooting Club, Brian Woods and Bryce Griffiths addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the ground water issue at the Soda Springs Shooting Complex. They pointed out that the Shooting Complex was submerged again for the second year in a row. They are concerned compared to last year that the range will not dry up for a long time and they have already canceled a major shooting event they had scheduled. They explained that the range gets an amazing amount of use and the events bring a lot of people to town. They proposed a plan to install a trench to get the water to drain off onto the City’s property previously used as a horse pasture and presented some cost estimates. Director Skinner pointed out some concerns regarding the ditch proposal and his cost estimate, the need to install a culvert across the Pacificorp right away and the Department of Environmental Quality and Army Corp. requirements. Councilmember Hart stated he didn’t feel this would be a long term solution and would just be an experiment. Councilmember Goode suggested approval was needed from Nu-West because the water may flow onto their property which is South of the City’s horse pasture. The Mayor, Council and Staff discussed at length. Director Skinner recommended pumping the water as a more cost effective plan and it may take up to a month to pump out what is currently there. Mr. Griffiths commented that the City has a multi-million dollar asset and he and doesn’t know why were not interested in investing in a solution. Councilmember Hart explained the gravel pit is not a multi-million dollar asset because the gravel can be purchased cheaper than produced. Caribou Shooting Club Member, Duwayne Sims mentioned that the Club has put $100,000 into the range and the City hasn’t contributed anything. Councilmember Hart disagreed with Mr. Sims stating the City has always supported the Club and helped improve and maintain the range and he commends the Club for their efforts and feels it has been a successful partnership. Mr. Wood added that he
commends the City for their support and all that have invested time and money in the facility and it is sad to see it become useless. Councilmember Hart moved to authorize Director Skinner to obtain the necessary approvals from regulatory agencies and Nu-West to proceed as quickly as possible with pumping the excess water out the gravel pit area and shooting range and contract for the needed pumping equipment not to exceed $2500. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Vicky & Jim Daley introduced themselves during the citizen input time. Mrs. Daley is organizing the Farmers Market this year and Mr. Daley is a member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars group. Mrs. Daley mentioned that they knew the City Council was going to discuss a request to allow additional vendors at the Farmers Market and wanted to be in attendance in case there were questions.

Also during citizen input Mr. Kevin Shupperd a local resident expressed concerns about the Library being closed during their regular hours and also requested the Council to consider requiring the Library to be open on Saturdays. Mr. Shupperd also mentioned that he felt the City’s Code regarding setbacks was archaic and the City should consider updating the code to make it easier to read and understand. Councilmember Hart suggested that Mr. Shupperd attend a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to share his suggestions.

The Mayor and Council revisited the Caribou Historical Society proposal for use of the Teen Center building. Mr. Galen Wilson reported on the Historical Society’s intentions to start storing archives and materials and work toward fixing up the building and turning it into a museum. He also mentioned their plan to pursue restoration of the old Stoor’s Grocer building which will probably be a 10 to 15 year project. Councilmember Hart suggested considering using the building jointly with the Fire Department who need more room for training. Chief Bunderson informed the Council and Mr. Wilson that the Police Department was still using half of the basement for records storage but has been working on cleaning it out. Councilmember Lau suggested the Historical Society contact Al Kackley who may be interested in helping with the historical preservation of the buildings. He also mentioned the Teen Center building may have been originally the post office based on an old photograph he has. The Council was in consensus and okay with the Historical Society’s plan to move forward with using the City’s building at 109 South Main, formerly the Teen Center for storage of historical items and developing it into a museum. Clerk Vorwaller stated the Teen Center needed clarification on when they needed to vacate the building. The Council agreed to ask them to clean out their stuff as soon as possible.

Director Skinner presented a request from the Farmers Market organizers to expand the weekly market to include additional vendors, specifically a BBQ truck. He explained in the past these types of vendors were only allowed for special events like the Car Show and the 4th of July. The Mayor and Councilmember Lau expressed their support to allow anything that would help expand these types of community programs. The Council agreed. Councilmember Lau moved to approve allowing the BBQ food vendor to set up weekly at the Farmers Market. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
A report on the re-bid of the South 1st East utility project was presented by Director Skinner. Though he had hoped to receive more, only one bid was received in the amount of $866,075 for the entire project with a breakdown of costs per schedule. He clarified that the bid from Bear Lake Construction, Inc. was responsive which means it met the requirements and the Council can accept, reject or just accept one of the schedules as bid. An option presented for consideration by Forsgren Engineers would be to accept the bid excluding the sewer portion of the project and budget for a slip lining of the sewer line as a separate project in the future. Director Skinner explained the downside to slip lining would be that service lines could not be upgraded if needed. The Council and Staff discussed videoing the line to verify it is appropriate to consider slip lining. It would cost $5000 to $7,000 to video the line. Director Skinner stated he should be able to have it done within a week. Councilmember Lau moved to approve deferring the decision on the bid award until the sewer line is viewed and a report received. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The ongoing project list was quickly reviewed. The efficiency options for the lift station pump upgrade provided by the supplier were reviewed. Director Skinner pointed out the above ground Smith & Loveless option is only 47% efficient which is low but not much lower than a submersible. The size of the facility was discussed. Director Skinner will have a cost quote for the next meeting.

The Sanitary Survey of the City’s water system conducted by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was reviewed. Director Skinner commended Kelly Hill for doing very well and answering all their questions. The preliminary report listed a few minor concerns. There were no major deficiencies. One item of concern included looking closely at the liner of the roof of the storage tank. It was noted that it hadn't changed in 5 years but will eventually need to be addressed.

Director Skinner presented a letter from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stating the authority over municipal pollutant discharge elimination systems will be officially turned over to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality on July 1st, 2018. Idaho municipalities will be charged a fee to fund the new Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems program (IPDES). The City’s estimated fee is $1976 and will be invoiced in July of 2019. Director Skinner noted that it is still unclear who will be writing the City’s new permit.

Director Skinner reported that an Airport inspection was conducted by two Idaho Aeronautics representatives who flew in from Boise. Their report that will come in 60 to 90 days will show deficiencies in our beacon, lighting system and asphalt but they mentioned they would try to find some funding to help us out. Bill Statham with Idaho Transportation Aeronautics, who the City has worked with in the past on grant funds, contacted Director Skinner stating he may have some grant funds available. Director Skinner will follow up with Mr. Statham.

The Greenfield Trust surplus building was revisited. Director Skinner presented a donation agreement prepared by Greenfield offering the building to the City. The agreement requires the City to remove the building after Greenfield’s contractor disassembles it. The
Council discussed the offer and the details of the agreement. Attorney Nelson expressed some concerns with the agreement and suggested that Director Skinner inspect the building in person before accepting it. He also pointed out that nothing in the agreement clarifies who will dismantle the building and the indemnity language has the City covering Greenfield’s negligence which is unacceptable. Attorney Nelson and Director Skinner will work to get the agreement amended for approval at the next meeting.

Councilmember Hart shared the available dates for a tour of the Greenfield site. The Council reviewed their schedules and all agreed June 19th would work best.

Councilmember Goode, seconded by Councilmember Lau moved to approve Mayor Robinson as the voting delegate and Council President Hart as the alternate for the upcoming Association of Idaho Cities annual business meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

The 2019 fiscal year budget was briefly reviewed and Clerk Vorwaller stated the numbers presented were preliminary. The Clerk also reviewed several budget items for her department including the need for a laptop computer, a new postage machine, and a new phone system. The Council recommended pursuing a quote from Silverstar regarding the phone system.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(a) to discuss hiring a public officer. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

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

Motion Carried.

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

Councilmember Hart moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

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

_______________________________________
Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk