
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  
ROBERT M. LAU

EXCUSED: SCOTT K. GAMBLES

ALSO PRESENT:  
Mark Steele  
Scott Shaw  
Donna Shaw  
Kristen Ralphs  
Dylan Ralphs  
Austin & Jacklyne Robinson  
Tracy & Brandon Cordon  
Jo Turner  
Alan Skinner, Director  
Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk  
Clyde Nelson, Attorney via telephone  
Ron & Jackie Hamp  
Cody & Kassey Loertscher & Boys  
T.J. Ward  
Sam Winward

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

Mayor Robinson presented his copies of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States as a loan to be displayed in the City Council room. He stated it was fitting just following his favorite holiday, the 4th of July.

Mayor Robinson stated he was extremely honored to swear in Cary Scott Shaw II as the City’s new Chief of Police. The Mayor administered the oath of office to Chief Shaw in front of several friends and family. The Council congratulated Chief Shaw.

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 June 18th, 2018 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable for June, 2018 were reviewed. Councilmember Lau moved to approve the accounts payable as presented for June 16th through June 30th, 2018, seconded by Councilmember Goode. Councilmember Lau asked about a payment to Sensus for maintenance. It was explained that the $1500 was an annual maintenance fee for the meter company to work with the government software company. Councilmember Goode also asked about the cost of a loader windshield replacement and asked the Clerk to check on submitting to the City’s insurance. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried.
Councilmember Hart moved to approve the payroll for the month of June, 2018, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Mayor Robinson excused himself from the meeting and Council President Hart presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Sam Winward, the City's insurance agent for employee benefits reviewed with the Council the changes expected with the upcoming renewals. There will be no increases to the life, vision or disability insurances and a 4 ½ % increase to the dental insurance. The biggest change will be to the health insurance due to Select Health not offering coverage in this area. Mr. Winward presented the details of a health plan through National General which offers similar coverage and cost and is considered partially self-funded but with no risk because of the stop loss backup policy. Mr. Winward explained the biggest change with this proposed plan would be the participation of the employees to work with the claims negotiating team. A voluntary long term care insurance option was also presented by Mr. Winward and the City Council was supportive of offering such a plan to the employees.

There was no citizen input at the designated time.

Director Skinner presented several Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee (GSSCDC) items for review and approval. The GSSCDC voted to approve the annual $300 sponsorship of the Project Warmth golf tournament. Councilmember Goode, seconded by Councilmember Lau moved to approve the $300 for the Project Warmth golf tournament out of the GSSCDC funds. All in favor, motion carried.

Maps of the Hooper pathway connector were reviewed in detail. Director Skinner explained how the donated silica sand would be hauled in and the 30 foot bridge installed. Several contractors are donating their time and equipment to haul the sand and the trail will be closed to the public during the next week. The bridge foundation will be installed by a contractor paid with Cariboo Development Funds (CDF).

Director Skinner and the Council discussed at length the Oregon Trail design entrance sign located west of the Golf Course and the lack of visibility and challenge with the solar lighting. The GSSCDC would like to relocate the sign to the Golf Association property. The Council reviewed options and agreed to pursue the lowest cost option to move the sign if there was no solution to leave it in place.

The Council reviewed the cost to install the sprinkler system around the new playground. The Council supported proceeding with the project. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the work up to the $4,464 as presented to finalize the sprinkler system around the playground. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Lau asked if a final walk through by the City of the new playground needed to be done before the ribbon cutting. Director Skinner explained the Friends of the Park
will be retaining insurance coverage until the final piece of equipment is installed. The Council was okay with allowing the opening of the playground under the Friends insurance. An open house and ribbon cutting is planned for July 16th at 2:15pm.

Director Skinner reported three contracts were signed for the South 1st East utility project and the performance bond is in place. The preconstruction meeting is set for next week to come up with the schedule to start the work.

The ongoing improvement projects were reviewed. The Hooper Spring cover design and estimated cost was further reviewed. Director Skinner expects the cost to be between $20,000 and $30,000 based on the price per pound for steel. He and the engineers are still considering materials to cover the structure to make it look natural and it appears the existing arch frame on top can be reused.

Cost estimates for a new storage shed for recreation equipment were reviewed. $6,000 is budgeted to replace a very old dilapidated building at the City shop. The proposal from the Recreation Director is to place the new shed at Kelly Park at the end of the South ball diamond next to the existing meter building. The shed would store all the recreation equipment for baseball and soccer along with the 4-wheeler. Director Skinner suggested the concrete slab work needed for the shed, if done by the City crew, would probably cost about $1000. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the purchase of the 20 x 25 x 8ft high storage shed for the recreation department at a total delivered and assembled cost of $5,250 and up to $1250 for the City installed concrete pad. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner presented cost estimates for above ground lift station pumps for lift station #2 located next to the JR Inn. The preferred Smith & Loveless system cost would be $75,000 including only one day of training and it would not include removal of the old equipment. Also, they cannot meet the City’s deadline to have the pump by the end of the fiscal year. The other option submitted by Ambiente H2O Inc., includes removal of existing pumps, well cover and installation of an American Marsh pump for $70,000 with delivery by the end of September. The Council asked about the reputation of Ambiente. Director Skinner will check around and come back with a formal quote for approval.

A letter from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was reviewed notifying the City that DEQ has officially assumed authority of the City’s Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit. The letter serves as a discharge authorization until DEQ has issued the new Idaho Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit (IPDES).

Clerk Vorwaller asked the Council if they would like Clerk Ashley to continue to pursue sidewalk/accessibility type grants. She mentioned that the last grant attempt which was an AARP grant was not successful but there is another grant opportunity upcoming. The Build Grant formerly known as the TIGER Grant requires zero match and is a $1 million grant for accessibility and connectivity infrastructure improvements that would have an economic impact on the community. Clerk Vorwaller explained that the 1st phase of the grant process would be to apply for a planning grant for the $1 million proposed project. The planning
grant application is due right away for a grant that would be utilized in 2019 and then the improvement project grant would be sought for 2020. Councilmember Hart requested that everyone involved be included in the process so there is a clear understanding of what the City’s responsibility and City Crew’s involvement would be going forward. Councilmember Lau suggested it would be good to know what grant opportunities are available over the next 12 to 18 months to prioritize which ones should be pursued and give the City Crew an idea of the time involved. The Council agreed to pursue the planning grant as long as it would provide new information needed and would not take a lot of time to submit.

A letter from Carl Toupin owner of M.R. & E. Inc., the City’s garbage contractor was reviewed by the Council. The letter requested a 5% increase in garbage rates and mentioned that the last increase requested was four years ago. Councilmember Lau stated he had reviewed the request and felt the 5% increase was reasonable due to general cost increases he then moved to approve the 5% garbage rate increase for M.R. & E. Inc., seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

Clerk Vorwaller presented a resolution designating the records custodian for the City as required by recent legislation. Councilmember Hart moved to approve Resolution 2018-2 designating records custodian and alternate for the City of Soda Springs. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. The Clerk read the resolution at length. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried.

(See attached copy of Resolution 2018-2 - Original on File)

Clerk Vorwaller reviewed changes to the FY2019 proposed budget since the last meeting. She explained that she included in the Equipment Repair budget the service truck as proposed by the Mayor and made an adjustment to the Police Department salaries to include some step increases the new Chief may propose within the next year. Director Skinner and the Council discussed how to prioritize upcoming utility projects and the goal of addressing infiltration. The Staff and Council also discussed rate increases. The Council agreed the City needed to continue to do annual utility projects making them hesitant to not increase rates which are needed to fund the continued improvements.

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

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

_____________________________________
Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk