

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO HELD JULY 17TH, 2019.

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  
SCOTT K. GAMBLES

EXCUSED: ROBERT M. LAU

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Steele Alan Skinner, Director  
Galen Wilson Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk  
Jeanne Varilone Gregg Haney, Attorney  
Heidi Thompson  
Chris Gonzalez & Family Austin & Jackie Robinson  
Aaron & Jenny Lott Paige & Brock Byram  
Jon Winmill & Family Drew Erickson

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

The Mayor noted that Councilmember Goode was on the phone and Councilmember Lau may be able to join the meeting later.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode stated he had reviewed and felt they accurately portrayed the meeting he then moved to dispense with the reading and approve the June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable for June and the pre-paid accounts payable for July were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve the accounts payable for June 15<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> along with July 1<sup>st</sup> through July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Hart then moved to approve the payroll for June, 2019 seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS & PAYROLL FOR DETAIL)

Director Skinner and Councilmember Hart gave an update on the Formation well project. The third test well was unsuccessful in producing the results needed. Based on the consultant's studies they recommend drilling a 4<sup>th</sup> test well, directly south of hole #2, which will be in the current easement. Director Skinner has applied for the drilling permit and Councilmember Hart pointed out the need to give this our best shot before considering plan B which will be a much higher cost option. Councilmember Goode agreed and stated

the project still fell within the current budget and approvals to continue to pursue additional wells.

Director Skinner reported that one bid was received on the Child Pedestrian Safety Grant/sidewalk project from A+ Contractors in the amount of \$276,191. The grant funds will cover \$250,000. The Council discussed and supported proceeding with the project. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the notice of award and notice to proceed for the project, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner mentioned the engineers are working on the final prints for the Lovers Delight Bridge/culvert replacement project and he has three contractors willing to bid on it. He hopes to be able to get started by the middle of August.

The Mayor, Council and Staff presented positive reports on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Director Skinner stated the Rotary Club did well on the Road Apple sales and the Circus and raised enough funds to pre-purchase the fireworks for next year. He mentioned there may be some safety recommendations for the parade and at Kelly Park for next year.

Chris Gonzalez of 235 River Drive and a new member of the Soda Springs Parks and Recreation Commission presented a bike park proposal to the Mayor and Council. He introduced several supporters and families that enjoy outdoor use and biking. They support his efforts to encourage and establish more mountain biking opportunities and life time sports in the area. Mr. Gonzalez presented a basic plan to use 3 acres at Kelly Park, west of the tracks between Kelly Park Road and Little Spring Creek, to develop a bike park and noted he had reviewed the plan with Director Skinner. He stated he had never done this before but has spoken with others who have that are willing to help with planning and construction. The estimated cost is \$10,000 and he will be looking for donations of funds, labor and construction and the City could provide funds and in-kind work. He noted how busy the skate park is all summer and expects the bike park would be very successful, including attracting tourists and providing economic benefits to the community. The Carriboo Development Foundation has agreed to accept the donations on behalf of the project. Mr. Gonzalez stated he is looking for input and permission to move forward with the proposed location at Kelly Park. Mayor Robinson stated he is totally supportive of these types of projects. Mr. Gonzalez suggested organizing volunteers for spring and fall maintenance and clean up and mentioned the City would probably need to provide trash containers. Councilmember Goode supported the project and discussed potential liabilities. Attorney Haney stated there is always a chance of being sued but is not overly concerned but he will double check with the City's liability insurance carrier. Mr. Gonzalez noted that other cities have similar facilities and probably have the same insurance coverage. Councilmember Hart moved to authorize Mr. Gonzalez and his team to continue to pursue the development of the bike park by firming up the design, scope, schedule and budget. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Jeanne Varilone and Heidi Thompson expressed concerns about the trees along North Hooper Avenue that were planted with grant funds attained by Tony Varilone as part of a

State Highway project several years ago. Mrs. Varilone stated she counted at least 16 trees either dead or dying and pointed out the need to trim the new growth at the base of the trees along with keeping the grass controlled around the tree and making sure they are getting sufficient water. She explained how the new growth at the base takes the energy from the main growth if not trimmed off. She mentioned that it was very important to Tony to maintain these trees and her and Mrs. Thompson asked who was responsible to care for the trees and offered to help if they needed to. The water system was discussed and some are in front of private residences. The Council clarified that it is the City's responsibility to care for them and Councilmember Hart expressed appreciation for the work Tony did to make the project happen. The Mayor stated the City would follow-up on the issue.

During citizen input Mr. Dan Lau mentioned that the Southeast Idaho High Country Travel Council recently photographed the Sheep Rock Historical Site and it is very impressive. He pointed out that it really is a monument to Tony who pushed to make it possible and Mr. Lau expressed support for Mrs. Varilone and Mrs. Thompson's request to have the trees better taken care of.

The ongoing infrastructure projects were briefly reviewed. Director Skinner presented a list of the streets to be chip-n-sealed on three Fridays in a row starting August 2nd. First West Street in front of the new dentist office may be postponed if the building construction interferes. Councilmember Hart suggested reconsidering the need to do Pioneer Road. Director Skinner clarified that he thought it was 7<sup>th</sup> East Street and not Pioneer Road. He also mentioned they would be trying the new type of road chips on Main Street.

Clerk Vorwaller presented a proposal to purchase a new government software module to process credit card payments and allow Orbipay to provide the additional online and bill payment services previously approved. The Council briefly discussed. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the new module for \$2,160 contingent on the online bill presentment option being available to all customers even if they don't pay online. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee (GSSCDC) recommended sponsoring the Project Warmth Golf Tournament for \$300 as had been done in the past. Councilmember Hart moved to approve expending \$300 from the GSSCDC funds as recommended, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor and Council considered a proposal from the Friends of the Park to install security cameras at the new playground to help control vandalism. The video would be transmitted to the Police Department. The Friends of the Park would cover the upfront costs and they are working with Silver Star on the connection. The Mayor and Council supported the idea but needed to know the ongoing cost of the internet connection. Approval of the proposal was deferred until more information was available.

Councilmember Goode asked if the first September meeting could be moved to Tuesday instead of Wednesday which would be the day after Labor Day. All agreed to change the meeting date to September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The proposed FY2020 budget was reviewed. Councilmember Hart clarified that the requested increases for the police officers were included in the proposed budget and also the 3% cola for all employees. It was noted that the School District is also doing the full 3%. Councilmember Gambles moved to adopt the tentative budget as presented and schedule the budget hearing for August 21<sup>st</sup>. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Hart moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(a) & (c) to consider hiring a public officer and acquire an interest in real property. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

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

Motion Carried.

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

Councilmember Hart moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2019.

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Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk