MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO HELD AUGUST 21ST, 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 ROBERT M. LAU SCOTT K. GAMBLES

EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Steele

Carol Alworth Jason Maughan

Jackie & Austin Robinson

Laura Lind Galen Wilson Bill Horsley Alan Skinner, Director Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk Gregg Haney, Attorney

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

The Mayor gave a shout out for the Main Street Cruisers who thanked the City and the community at large for supporting the annual car show.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode stated he had reviewed and didn't notice any changes needed, he then moved to dispense with the reading and approve the August 7th, 2019 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve the accounts payable for August 1st through August 19th, 2019, seconded by Councilmember Goode. Councilmember Hart asked about the term of the Department of Environmental Quality loans for the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. Clerk Vorwaller stated one loan was for 20 years and the other 30 years. This is the 4th year on the payment schedule. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER FOR DETAIL)

Mayor Robinson administered the oath of office to Galen Wilson who will continue to serve on the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee for another four years. The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Wilson for continuing to serve and noted the City is very grateful for volunteers and always looking for new members.

The Lovers Delight Bridge project was reviewed. Director Skinner noted the estimated cost of \$150,000 was previously approved. The three bids received came in at \$197,985,

CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 21, 2019 PAGE **2** OF **6**

\$208,325 and \$225,507. He would still like to proceed and get it done out of this year's budget if possible. The road is currently closed and the family has to travel the maintenance road by the #5 Hydro Plant. The Mayor recommended proceeding. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the low bid submitted by Vaughn Smith Construction in the amount of \$197,985 for the rehabilitation of the Lovers Delight Bridge crossing, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner reported an employee resignation in the Streets and Electric Department which he will be seeking a replacement for. The position has been advertised and the job description reviewed.

Director Skinner shared a follow up letter received from the Idaho Consumer Owned Utility Association (ICUA) Safety Audit Team. The program is a partnership of the ICUA members to help each other recognize safety best practices. This year's audit was completed by a representative of the United Electric Coop. The letter pointed out positives and a few things that could be improved on including a barrier around a transformer and a missing fire extinguisher. Councilmember Hart asked when the Hydro Plant repair would be completed. Director Skinner was not sure of an exact date. The last he knew the plans should be out of the print shop and sent to molding. Once the mold is ready the impellor can then be cast. He hopes it will be done in the next couple of weeks.

A letter from the Department of Environmental Quality was briefly reviewed which suggested some items that could be discussed during the upcoming Capital for a Day in Grace.

Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing open at 5:15pm to take public comment on the proposed 2020 fiscal year budget. The Mayor read the public notice title. The Clerk reported that no written comments were received. Resident Austin E. Robinson of 235 West 4th South commented that he was good with the budget. There were no other comments from those in attendance. The public hearing was closed at 5:20pm. Councilmember Hart noted the proposed budget was a 7% reduction over last years. The Mayor stated he felt the Departments would be able to function well within the budget. The Mayor suggested finalizing the budget after the executive session at the end of the meeting was held.

An update on the Formation Well project was given. Director Skinner presented the amendment document to the Water Facilities Planning Study for the Formation Springs Improvements that spell out the options, alternatives, budgets and original timelines. The consent order deadline has passed and the Department of Environmental Quality is willing to give the City a 6 month extension. The pump test of the last well was done on Friday. It produced 360 gallons a minute at 120 feet and 450 gallons at 220 feet. The new well caused the first to drop about ten feet. Councilmember Hart reviewed that the first well produced 460 gallons, the second well was dry and the third well produced 425 gallons, similar to the first. In theory if pumped both at the same time we could get 900 gallons a minute. The City's water right is for 2460 gallons and the City's usage requires at least 1000 to 1500

CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 21, 2019 PAGE **3** OF **6**

gallons during high usage. Director Skinner recommended trying to attain the City's full water right. A hydrologist out of Colorado has been contacted that is willing to look at our situation before the next step is considered. Councilmember Hart stated it is wise to request the extension to give more time to evaluate and consider alternatives.

The ongoing infrastructure list was reviewed. Director Skinner mentioned he is looking at getting a bid on crack seal and seal coating for the basketball court. He reported the sidewalk grant project had started and there is one more Friday of chip-n-seal.

Galen Wilson of the Caribou Historical Society along with Bill Horsley presented a proposal to place a plaque, picture collage and history on the City Hall building recognizing and telling the story of the Largilliere's. The Largilliere's originally established a general store and then the bank that was in the current City Hall building. Mr. Wilson explained Al Kackley and Linda Johnson who was a Largilliere will cover the costs and solicit help from US Bank. They hope to put it up next year and have a presentation. The Council expressed their support. Councilmember Goode asked who the Enright name belonged to that was pictured on the original store. Mr. Wilson stated they did not know for sure but he thinks it was a partner in the beginning that later dissolved. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the request from the Caribou Historical Society to place a plaque on the north side and pictorial history sign on south side near the entrance of the City Hall Building recognizing the Largillieres. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Horsley commented that a draft of the displays will be brought in for the City's review before they are finalized.

During the designated time for citizen input Galen Wilson asked about the "Arthur Kelly Park" sign that had been taken down from the entrance of the park. He suggested that he and Kirk Young would be interested in helping make sure it gets repaired and put back up. Director Skinner explained the need to find a pole long enough or a metal frame would have to replace it. Bill Horsley also asked about the Hooper Spring roof replacement. Director Skinner reported the frame was complete just looking for a contractor to do the job. Mr. Horsley suggested some of the wooden poles may need to take come down before they fall down.

Laura Lind, representing the Friends of the Park mentioned they have passed up on fundraisers for the splash pad not knowing if the project is going to be approved. She would really like a decision from the City and hopes the City will contribute to the project. She noted they have a lot of in-kind work for the concrete that will help with grants.

Director Skinner presented an updated splash pad budget and the cost estimate from Silver Star for the proposed security camera system for the playground. He pointed out the proposed placement of the cameras on top of the canopy is not high enough for the best visibility and suggested a pole may need to be installed. The total estimated cost for cameras, electrical service and fiber optic connection is \$11,500 and there is still the question of the ongoing internet fee. Mrs. Lind reported she had submitted for a \$10,000 grant from the Idaho Community Foundation who has been very supportive of the project.

CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 21, 2019 PAGE **4** OF **6**

The Mayor and Council continued the discussion of the proposed splash pad. Director Skinner and Councilmember Hart felt the updated budget of \$176,500 was sound. Councilmember Goode stated there was still unsatisfactory information regarding the on ongoing costs of yearly maintenance. He pointed out the need to build in repairs and control panel replacement. He feels the annual costs need to be under \$5000 for the two to two and half month annual operation period. Councilmember Lau reiterated his concern regarding access to the pipe structure for repairs. Options including sleeving the pipes and a steel frame version with cement slabs were discussed. Mrs. Lind mentioned winterizing the system with antifreeze would prevent the problems other facilities are having. The location south of the playground was discussed and the need to relocate or eliminate the volleyball pit. Mayor Robinson expressed his strong support for the project and feels it would be used a lot but understands the maintenance is important to work through. The Director mentioned that the manpower time and cost and water testing costs also needed to be addressed. Mrs. Lind feels that grants and fundraising available are possible to meet the budget.

The Mayor and City Council reviewed and discussed the Area of Impact applications for rezoning and a conditional use submitted to Caribou County by P4 Production, LLC (Bayer). Councilmember Goode reported on the City Planning and Zoning (P & Z) Commission's review and discussion of the applications. He pointed out that Jason Maughan, Bayer/P4 Sr. Environmental Specialist clarified the area requested for rezone which is approximately 66 acres directly south of Government Dam Rd. and west of North 3rd East Street and only 1/3 of the parcel shown in the public notice. The City P & Z's recommendation to the City Council was to recommend to the County Commissioners approval of the P4 Production applications. Director Skinner reported attending the County Planning and Zoning meeting. Director Skinner stated the County's P & Z recommendation to the County Commissioners included prohibiting a zone change of the remaining parcel/buffer zone area. Councilmember Hart moved to concur with the City P&Z Commission and as a City Council pledge support for the approval of the applications as requested by P4 Production, LLC. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. Councilmember Hart clarified that his motion did not include a recommendation to limit further rezones of the P4 property. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried.

The utility rate increases were reviewed. The Clerk presented rate resolutions for Water, Power and Sewer all including a 3% increase. She noted the Formation Well rate and the Sewer Bond rate did not increase. Councilmember Goode moved to approve Resolution 2019-3 increasing Water rates 3%, Resolution 2019-4 increasing Power rates 3% and Resolution 2019-5 increasing Sewer rates 3%. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Hart moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(f) to consider the evaluation of city employees. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye: Mitch Hart Those voting nay: none

Scott Gambles

CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 21, 2019 PAGE **5** OF **6**

Robert Lau Absent:

none

Jon Goode

Motion Carried.

Director Skinner, Clerk Vorwaller and Attorney Haney were excused from executive session.

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

Councilmember Lau introduced Ordinance #676 entitled 'AN ORDINANCE TERMED THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL, APPROPRIATING MONEY IN SUCH SUM AND SUMS AS IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO DEFRAY ALL PROPER EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, IDAHO NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 50-1002, IDAHO CODE. A motion was then made by Councilmember Hart and seconded by Councilmember Lau that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three separate occasions be dispensed with and that the ordinance be read once by title only. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye: Robert Lau Those voting nay: none

Mitch Hart Jon Goode

Scott Gambles Absent: none

Motion Carried.

Clerk Vorwaller read Ordinance #676 by title. Councilmember Goode then moved to approve the adoption of Ordinance #676 the annual appropriation ordinance for the 2020 fiscal year budget. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion for adoption.

The Council discussed and agreed to utilize the included 3% wage increase to provide all employees a 2% cost of living allowance (COLA) and allocate the remaining 1% discretionally based on an employee wage review by the Mayor, Department Heads and the HR Committee. The COLA and discretional amounts may come in the form of a percentage increase, a bonus, or a combination of both with the goal of fitting the employees' wages within the new payscale. The wage, grade and step scale, previously used will have a new simplified structure based on a wage survey of several other cities and counties. The Formation Well costs and reserve funds were briefly discussed.

A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye: Jon Goode Those voting nay: none

Scott Gambles

Robert Lau

Mitch Hart Absent: none

Motion Carried.

(SEE ATTACHED COPY OF ORDINANCE #676 - ORIGINAL ON FILE)

CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 21, 2019 PAGE **6** OF **6**

Councilmember Lau moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYO SEPTEMBER, 2019.	OR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 3RD DAY OF
	Austin W. Robinson, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk	