

was very exciting and he and the Council thanked Mrs. Bergholm for her and the Committee's efforts.

Director Skinner updated the Council on ongoing projects. The hydrologist is reviewing all the past data and will be here next week to provide some guidance on the Formation Well project. He is focused on the area east of the spring and the Council discussed the possibility of getting a permit to drill on Bureau of Land Management property.

Pictures of the Lovers Delight bridge replacement project were viewed. The Director detailed the work explaining the old culverts had to be removed but they did not have to excavate because they were on solid rock. They have 11 of 91 blocks set and extended the culverts 50 feet to the northeast to be able to put in the three to one slope. He was surprised it lasted as long as did because there was not a good base under the road. The cost is just under \$200,000.

Development of the new street behind Point S Tire was reviewed. The work is being done by the City crew. The old ball diamond back stop was removed easily because the ground was so saturated and really soft. The road should be complete and ready for curb, gutter & sidewalk along with paving next year if the City wants to complete the improvements. The estimated cost for curb & gutter is \$25,000. Councilmember Hart asked what the street name is. The Staff stated it is 220 South.

Pictures of the sidewalk grant project were also viewed. Director Skinner reported the contractor should finish up on 4th South in another week to 10 days and then they will move to 1st East Street. Substantial completion is due by mid-November. The Mayor asked about the Hooper Spring roof. The Director had no new report and is still looking for a contractor. He mentioned it will be a winter project where they put the structure in the shop and put the new roofing on it. He will inspect the current structure to see if it needs to come down before winter. The Council discussed ideas of Bayer or Zachary helping to install the new roof.

Councilmember Gambles asked for a report from the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee meeting that he was not able to attend. He asked Director Skinner about the bridge for the Hooper Pathway connection. The Director stated he is waiting on confirmation of when the concrete guy will be here and then he has an Eagle Scout that wants to do the assembly of the bridge which is probably a couple days work. The bridge is a kit that is all pre-cut and drilled with prints that show how to put it together. He is hoping to get it done by the end of October.

Director Skinner mentioned he will have the completed engineer's studies on the pressure reducing valve (PRV) system and the bridge crane for the Wastewater Treatment Plant by the end of the month and billed in this fiscal year. The goal of the PRV study is to stabilize water pressure through-out the town. Councilmember Hart asked about the hydro turbine. The Director stated he is waiting to hear back on the status.

There was no citizen input at the designated time but the Mayor shared that he had given State Representative, Chad Christensen a tour of our City and showed him the sidewalk project expressing our gratitude for the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) grant we received. The Mayor also mentioned he was interviewed for a "We are East Idaho" video story that was being done on small rural communities.

The Mayor and Council continued discussion of the splash pad proposal. Laura Lind of the Friends of the Soda Springs City Park was present and commented on an updated fundraising plan that if all were successful would bring in \$173,000. She also mentioned an Idaho Parks and Recreation grant available through the City that she could help apply for and the Friends of the Park funds could provide the match. The estimated operating costs of \$4,175 a year were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles shared the opinion of some residents he has spoken with that feel the City should hold off on the splash pad. Councilmember Goode stated he feels there is a greater desire for a community center. Mrs. Lind commented that they felt they could move forward with the splash pad without interfering with the community center project because it is not in the works at all yet. Councilmember Hart noted an idea from the survey that showed an interest in forming a recreation district to pursue a recreation center and or other improvements like the splash pad and he suggested taking a few weeks to explore that option. Councilmember Goode suggested a vote on a district would show the true commitment of the community. Mrs. Lind mentioned she feels some are against the splash pad because they think the City is paying for it and don't realize the Friends of the Park would provide the funds. Director Skinner offered to investigate the recreation district option. Councilmember Hart explained it would be just another taxing mechanism. Attorney Haney pointed out the City would have less influence over the funds and if no one runs for the board member positions they would be appointed by the County Commissioners.

Councilmember Hart gave an update on the progress made toward finding a lessee for the Ender's Building. The current prospective lessee is very interested in establishing a restaurant in the building along with providing security and being the care takers to allow visitors into the museum. Councilmembers Hart and Goode have worked together on some lease terms that they would like to make official in a "Letter of Intent to Lease". This would serve as a starting point to negotiate the terms of an operating lease. Councilmember Hart moved to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, to sign the letter of intent and continue negotiating with the interested party. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. Everyone agreed they would like to see it up and running with a nice upscale restaurant. Councilman Goode shared that the proposed business model is exactly what he thinks is appropriate and he is enthused about the prospect. The Mayor stated he is encouraged that it has come this far. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried.

The Council received the Deaton & Company audit engagement letter. Councilmember Hart moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter for Deaton & Company to perform the upcoming audit. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Clerk Vorwaller presented a cost estimate and discussed with the Mayor and Council a video system for the council room. The cost of projector bulbs and if they had a warranty was discussed along with considering televisions instead. The Clerk will investigate other options.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 2ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019.

Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk