

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO HELD OCTOBER 16TH, 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 Alan Skinner, Director
 Austin & Jackie Robinson Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk
 Larry Weaver Gregg Haney, Attorney
 Laura Lind Chief Scott Shaw II
 Lisa & Ron Goede CeJay Golightly

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

The Mayor noted that Councilmembers Hart and Lau were in attendance via telephone.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode stated he had reviewed the October 2nd, 2019 minutes as drafted and noted no changes he then moved to accept in the current form and dispense with the reading. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The final accounts payable for September and the pre-paid October bills were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve the accounts payable for September 30th, 2019 and October 1st – 14th, 2019. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. Councilmember Goode asked Chief Shaw how many tires were replaced in regards to the Point S bill and also about the Intellicochoice billing. The Chief reported he used fiscal year end funds available to purchase extra tires for vehicles that will need them in the upcoming year. It was mentioned that they use a special tire that holds up better to their type of use and they receive the State Bid price. The Chief also explained Intellicochoice is the Department's reporting and statistic software and is more cost effective than their prior program. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried.

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

The phone connection with Councilmember Lau was lost temporarily.

Mr. Larry Weaver filled in for Eric Hobson with the Caribou County Emergency Services. Mr. Weaver informed the Mayor and Council that they were in dire straits of needing new Emergency Medical Service (EMS) volunteers. He mentioned the growing difficulty all

across the state of finding volunteers. He explained if enough volunteers are not found the County will have to implement a paid service funded by taxes. A 24 hour department would require a housing unit and could increase resident's taxes by 300%. Mr. Weaver asked the City to encourage all employees to take the training and test to become EMS personnel and also help spread the word about the need. The County provides a small reimbursement for time and travel. The training course is available on-line and current EMS Members are happy to help anyone interested. The age requirement is 16 years old with parental approval.

Lisa Goede with the Bear River Heritage Area (BRHA) detailed their projects and plans to become a sustainable group through national designation. The BRHA started in 2000 with the mission to promote and enhance local heritage. It includes seven counties; four in Idaho and three in Utah. Mrs. Goede explained she is currently on a talking tour to all towns in the seven counties in an attempt to gather support for their national designation. She mentioned the economic benefits through tourism and technical support programs they offer for cemeteries and log building restoration. Mrs. Goede explained Idaho has never had a heritage area and they have presented a draft bill to try and get the national designation. There is also a sample resolution for cities to show support. She explained opposition they run into always involves private property rights and she clarified that a national designation does not affect any laws of private land use or management and it does not create any liability for private property owners. Councilmember Lau shared some concerns he has heard through the local Farm Bureau group. Mrs. Goede thanked the City for their support mentioning that Councilmember Hart attended a recent meeting they held and also that Dan Lau is on their board. The Mayor and Council thanked Mrs. Goede for her presentation.

During citizen input Austin E. Robinson of 235 West 4th South commented that he feels it is this younger generation that makes it hard to find volunteers. The Lions Club also struggles with getting new members.

Director Skinner presented the new fiscal year spread sheet showing budgeted projects and improvements along with the ongoing projects. The Mayor noted the Lovers Delight Bridge looks great and the Director mentioned it was complete including the reseeding. He also reported the new road at 220 South is connected on both ends and A+ Contractors continues to work on the sidewalk project. Councilmember Goode asked about the deadline to install the rapid flashing beacons that are part of the sidewalk grant project. Director Skinner stated they were not part of the project budget but they had been ordered. He double checked and reported the grant completion report is due by December 3rd. Councilmember Hart asked about the payment for the hydro turbine. The Director stated the payment will be held until the repair is complete. The turbine has been delivered to the Blackfoot, Idaho vendor who will deliver and put in place. The Mayor also noted he has received positive comments about the new road behind Point S Tire.

Councilmember Hart and Goode gave a brief update on the Ender's Building lease. The prospective lessee is very enthused about the project and Attorney Haney is working on

the final updates to the lease document which will be submitted to them as soon as possible. Councilmember Goode noted that they have great ideas and are the right fit. The Mayor expressed his appreciation for all the work done by Councilmembers Hart and Goode to make this happen.

Councilmember Hart requested a brief report by the Mayor regarding the final salary and wages implemented for the new fiscal year noting the significant change made from the past pay scale. Mayor Robinson explained that he used the proposed new pay schedule as a guide and in the end used his discretion to set the final wages for each department. He shared that one department felt singled out which he addressed and also noted the police department step increases requested and approved with the budget were included. Councilmember Hart asked if the old pay schedule was part of the personnel manual. The Clerk clarified that it was not. He recommended reviewing and updating the personnel policy to include how wages are set going forward. The Mayor mentioned that he has the City Attorney reviewing the policy and the job descriptions. The Clerk also mentioned that a few years ago a committee, including herself, Councilmember Lau and Councilmember Goode started to draft a new personnel policy and had made quite a bit of progress. She mentioned there was a list of questions that needed answered by the City's liability insurance provider and then the policy could be submitted for the Council's review.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm, seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 6TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2019.

Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk