
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 Andrea Gumm Clyde Nelson, Attorney via telephone JoAnna Ashley Randy Johnson Chief Shaw

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

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 October 2nd, 2018 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The final accounts payable for September and the prepaid payables for October were reviewed. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the fiscal year end accounts payable dated September 30th, 2018 and the accounts payable dated October 1st through October 15th, 2018. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. Councilmember Goode then asked what the agreement was with the County regarding the building permit fees. The Director stated the agreement was to pay the County 70% of the fees collected quarterly. The Clerk mentioned the current payment included the School’s building permit fee. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Clerk Vorwaller and Director Skinner explained that it was the original intent of the Caribou Development Foundation (CDF) and the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee (GSSCDC) to share in the cost of the bridge purchased for the Hooper pathway connector but the GSSCDC expense approval never got brought to the City Council. The GSSCDC paid the full cost to save on the sales tax because the CDF is not tax exempt and the CDF has reimbursed the City for half the cost. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the GSSCDC expense for half of the cost of the bridge, seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried. Attorney Nelson cautioned against the City paying to avoid the sales tax.
Andrea Gumm with JUB engineers presented a proposal including three phases to 1) update and digitize the City’s plat and zoning maps, 2) prepare a future land use planning map for the Comprehensive Plan and 3) an option to build the City an online map portal. Mrs. Gumm mentioned that they tried to come up with the most cost effective way and will be working with the county data that is available. Clerk Vorwaller stressed the great need to have this done explaining that no official updates had been done since Gary Stoor used to update the maps which has been over 10 years ago. She also noted the importance of the future land use map which the City has never had. Councilmember Lau expressed his opinion that the County should be able to provide the City the data to prepare these maps and give us access to their online portal. The Council and staff discussed at length. Councilmember Hart moved to approve phases 1 and 2 and hold off on phase 3 until further research is done on what the County has to offer, with the cost shared by the utility funds. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor except Councilmember Lau who voted nay, motion carried.

Director Skinner gave a brief update on the South 1st East project. He explained they ran into some problem abandoning the old water mainline between 2nd South and 3rd South and will continue to work on that. If everything goes as planned they will start to grind the asphalt and Liddil Paving is scheduled to lay the new asphalt starting the 1st of next week.

The 2018 and 2019 project lists were reviewed. The Director detailed a few of the projects they are finishing up. They are working with GHD to get the Greenfield building moved and the concrete is ready for the recreation shed. They are also finishing up the asphalt, sod and backfill along the new sidewalk and street approach on 3rd West. The Formation Spring materials have been ordered. The new cover and electrical control system for the #2 lift station (by the JR Inn) will be installed next week to finish that upgrade and the #3 lift station is budgeted to be upgraded in 2019.

Director Skinner reported that he was contacted by the Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) permit writer, Matt Stutzman who will be writing the City’s new Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) permit. Mr. Stutzman is currently reviewing the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) prior work, asking for additional information and will be doing a walk-thru in order to complete the City’s new discharge permit. Mr. Stutzman has indicated he should be able to have the permit draft available within the next 2 to 3 months. Councilmember Hart was curious about why the City of Soda Springs is first on their list. Director Skinner thinks it’s because the EPA had been working on our permit for eight months already and had a draft prepared.

During citizen input Chief Shaw mentioned that the Department purchased the new police vehicle which was in the budget. He explained it is painted all black and he wants to incorporate school colors and the mascot into the striping. The Mayor supported the idea and stated it was a good thing showing support for the schools.

The Council revisited the proposal to provide Air Methods memberships to all the City Employees and Volunteer Firemen. The Clerk reported the City can get the discounted rate
through the hospital which is $10 an individual or $25 a family. Councilmember Goode moved to approve matching the hospital rate to cover the cost of the Air Methods membership for all City Employees and Firemen. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. Councilmember Hart asked what the total cost would be. The Clerk stated it will be $1,300 or less with some employees already covered through a spouse who works at the hospital. A vote on the motion was held. All in favor, motion carried.

Some wording options for new signage at the Geyser were considered. Mayor Robinson recommended a new sign that says “Do not enter onto the geyser surface”. The Council discussed and Councilmember Goode agreed with the Mayor to provide better liability protection to the City. The new signage will be reviewed further at the next meeting.

The Mayor and Council reviewed a request to support the Itafos United Way fundraiser. Councilmember Hart suggested the local industries band together in their efforts. Councilmember Goode stated he would rather focus the City’s support on local groups and doesn’t feel this fits with the City’s policy to support local charities. The Council agreed and declined to support the United Way campaign.

Resident Bruce Lind of 10 Cammack Drive addressed the Mayor, Council and City Attorney regarding his proposal to deed a portion of his property to the City in hopes the City would establish and maintain it as a City street. Mr. Lind detailed the history of the Neff Subdivision and River Drive explaining the property in front of his home should have been made part of the City street but was never developed. He also explained the history of the gas pipeline that runs under this portion of his property and his understanding that the gas company approved paving over the gas line. Mr. Lind also detailed the issues that occur with and without the City snow plowing that section and mentioned that he is trying to refinance his home and if the City does not accept the quit claim deed he had recorded he will not be able to complete the refinance. The Mayor and Council reviewed and discussed the situation at length pointing out the piece of property deeded does not allow the street, if developed, to connect to the only property available for future development. The Council considered options that include accepting the current deed plus an additional deed of land that would connect to the developable land or reject the current deed and require Mr. Lind to have a new survey and deed prepared after a detailed review of what portion of property would be most beneficial to a future developer. Attorney Nelson also made it very clear that even if the land was accepted by the City, the City has no obligation to develop the street or maintain the property in anyway. Councilmember Lau expressed support for accepting the current deed along with an additional deed and covering the survey costs. Councilmember Goode stated he could be in favor of accepting the property but would not approve the cost of paving the street because it is the developers cost to make that improvement. Councilmember Hart suggested it will take time to study the situation and doesn’t feel the problem can be quickly solved. Councilmember Lau moved to approve to accept the current deed and expand the access to the developable property paying up to $1500 for the survey with the understanding that the street will not be developed. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. Attorney Nelson suggested the deed needed to be redone to memorialize the agreement and Councilmember Hart expressed his desire
to reject the deed and negotiate a new deed. After a lengthy discussion Councilmember Lau requested to withdraw his motion. The Council accepted the withdrawal. Councilmember Goode moved to reject the quit claim deed presented by Mr. Bruce Lind. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hart. The Mayor called for a roll call vote.

Those voting aye: Mitch Hart Jon Goode Scott Gambles

Those voting nay: Robert Lau

Absent: none

Motion Carried.

Clerk Vorwaller reported that the U.S Capitol Christmas Tree will be stopping in Soda Springs on November 16th for a one hour event from noon to 1pm.

Councilmember Goode moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(c) to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye: Mitch Hart Jon Goode Robert Lau Scott Gambles

Those voting nay: none

Absent: none

Motion Carried.

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

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 7TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2018.

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Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk