

compliance with the Stage 2 guidelines. She would like to be able to allow at least one spectator/parent/guardian per participant. This is mostly due to each child needing a ride and as a safe guard for if a child has an injury or issue during the game. The upcoming schedule was reviewed and how traveling to other locations would be handled was discussed. Director Billman stated she has a hard time asking parents to drive to other locations and then they have to sit in their cars. She plans to review the other locations guidelines and then decide whether to continue to participate with them. Councilmember Hart shared the Governor's news report today in which he did not change the current stage. He noted hospitals were doing well and they haven't seen the increase due to Thanksgiving that they expected but everyone needs to continue to be cautious. The status of the vaccines was also reviewed. Attorney Haney and the Council discussed the guidelines allowing youth sports programs and who would be considered essential for the programs to continue. Attorney Haney's opinion was that one parent/guardian could be argued to be essential. Councilmember Goode pointed out state statute that requires the City to make laws and rules not inconsistent with the State of Idaho. The Governor's order has the power of law. Councilmember Lau added the State Legislature also agrees the Governor is within his power to make this order and points out the City gets its power from the State. Councilmember Goode also mentioned the code requiring the City's obligation to preserve public health and noted the statute is very relevant for today. He suggested the City must take reasonable steps to protect against COVID related liability in order to be covered by the City's liability insurance carrier Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP). The Council also discussed at length requiring masks. They understood the difficulties of enforcing it but felt it was reasonable and responsible to require them. The Council all agreed to allow one parent/guardian per team player to attend the games. Councilmember Lau moved to approve to allow one parent/guardian per participant for the remaining of the current season and thru the next unless there is a change in the Governors order. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor and Council also discussed the skate party that was planned. All agreed it would need to be postponed until the guidelines for group events are changed. The skate park is open to families to enjoy within their family group but the City encourages everyone to continue to practice safety measures by wearing masks and social distancing. In lieu of the skate party the Mayor suggested a drive-by Santa experience if City Director Justin Hansen and Recreation Director Billman wanted to try and plan something that could be done safely.

Councilmember Goode pointed out Soda Springs is one of the few municipalities still having recreation leagues and he applauded Director Billman for trying to keep it going within the guidelines. He feels it's been an exceptional outcome for the kids to be able to continue to participate. He hopes the community would appreciate her efforts and be kind and work together to keep it going. Councilmember Lau agrees she is a rock star and has done a fantastic job during these difficult times and appreciates her working with the Council.

There was no citizen input at the designated time but Mayor Robinson took a moment to recognize the City Employees receiving service awards this year which include; Dan

Squires, 20 years for the Water/Wastewater Department, Esther Melander, 15 years at the Library, Rob Lee, 15 years as a volunteer firemen and Julie Snooks, 10 years as a building custodian. The Mayor expressed his thanks for employees dedicated to the City for the long haul and stated the City is so blessed to have volunteers including all the local service organizations. He encouraged others to join local groups that support the community.

Engineer Skinner reviewed the Formation Well completion. A letter was received from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) with formal approval for the City to use the new well and it comes with the additional monitoring requirements. The testing specific on the well was detailed which is meant to build some history and some of the testing is already done on the water system. Engineer Skinner also explained the City needed to officially request to close out the consent order and a letter was sent asking for it to be terminated. He mentioned DEQ's new engineering manager was a local resident's son from Thatcher and it was nice to have someone we know and he is also a good engineer. The items left include finalizing the formal easement to the power line and getting it recorded, abandoning the test well and pulling 200 feet of casing along with a \$500 payment to each land owner which was requested. Councilmember Hart supported the land owner payments and stated he felt they have been very fair with the City. The Council and Engineer discussed the probability of getting the consent order closed out before the next water notice is due to be mailed to the residents. It was suggested the letter be as positive as possible if it does have to be sent.

There were no updates to the project list but Engineer Skinner asked the Council to let him know if they see something they want bumped up in priority. Councilmember Hart suggested a detailed review of where were at, with the Enders Building use and lease, at one of the meetings in January. Engineer Skinner mentioned the savings on the sprockets needed for the Wastewater Treatment plant fabricated by Custom Iron locally. The cost was half what was budgeted plus there were no shipping costs.

Councilmember Gambles as liaison to the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee (GSSCDC) presented a proposal regarding the annual Clear Springs Trout Farm fishing derby. The GSSCDC in conjunction with the Carriboo Development Foundation (CDF) have annually helped organize the event. The trout farm was recently purchased by Riverence Provisions and the new local manager, Carson Richards let the GSSCDC know they would still donate the fish and use of the venue this year but due to COVID do not want to be in charge of organizing the event. A third party from Utah has offered to organize a COVID friendly event and thinks he can get enough volunteers to help. The Council and Staff discussed. Everyone agreed it is a great event and fundraiser and they hate to see it not happen but there is no way to hold it and stay within the Stage 2 requirements. The Council agreed to cancel the event this year and expressed appreciation to the trout farm for being willing to donate the fish and venue and try to allow it to be held.

Clerk Vorwaller requested approval to close all day on Christmas Eve with her staff all taking a paid time off (PTO) day. Councilmember Hart seconded by Councilmember Goode moved to approve City Hall being closed on December 24th, 2020, Christmas Eve. All in

favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(f) to communicate with legal counsel regarding probable litigation. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

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

Motion Carried.

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

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 6TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2021.

Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk