

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO HELD DECEMBER 19TH, 2017.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:00PM BY JAMES R. SMITH, MAYOR.

ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING PRESENT: JAMES R. SMITH, MAYOR
MITCH. HART, PRES. via telephone
JON D. GOODE
SCOTT K. GAMBLES

EXCUSED: ROBERT M. LAU

ALSO PRESENT: Mark & Wendy Steele Alan Skinner, Director
Justin & Shannon Steele Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk
Todd & Kim Hunzeker Clyde Nelson, Attorney via telephone
Lori Anne Lau
Veda Mascarenas Morgan Steele
Amanda & Josh Hansen Carson Steele
Quinten Hansen Gavin Hansen
Kali Kirby JoAnna Ashley

The Mayor noted that Attorney Nelson and Councilmember Hart were in attendance via telephone and Councilmember Lau asked to be excused.

The invocation was given by Justin Steele, Mayor Smith 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 December 4th, 2017 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve the accounts payable for December 1st through December 14th, 2017, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER FOR DETAIL)

Mayor Smith mentioned that there were quite a few Super Heroes that he wanted to be able to recognize before the end of his term which necessitated doing several over the last few meetings and he thanked the local newspaper editor for accommodating him. One that has been on the list for some time is Vaughn and Deon Smith. The Mayor explained that unfortunately we lost Vaughn and Deon is not well enough to attend but he would still like to recognize them for being the original Soda Springs Super Heroes. For over 80 years Vaughn and Deon have been treasured members of the community giving of their personal and professional time, money and skills to support and improve the community. They have

been major contributors to the people and organizations of the community, often times donating anonymously and always helping those in need. Vaughn loved scouting and donated many hours of work to help develop Camp Little Lemhi and he was also responsible for getting the City's treasured Dinky Engine out of the Alexander Reservoir in order for it to be restored. The Smiths are longtime supporters of the Caribou County Schools donating too many activities and helping build facilities like the Soda Springs High School track. Vaughn also received a "Take Pride in Idaho" and "Take Pride in America" award for local projects he participated in. The Mayor added that it was recently brought to his attention that the fishing ponds at Kelly Park were an Eagle Scout project completed by Devaughn Smith with the help of his father. Vaughn and Deon Smith are honored for being caring, giving, pillars of the community and true Soda Springs Super Heroes.

Mayor Smith expressed his appreciation to Todd and Kim Hunzeker for caring about the community noting that it is easy to say you care, but the Hunzeker's have put their money where their mouth is by building their beautiful new dealership. The Mayor and City Council were pleased to recognize Todd & Kim Hunzeker as Soda Springs Super Heroes. The Hunzeker's have been successful business owners in Soda Springs since 1991 offering the community valued car sales and service and providing local jobs to citizens. In addition the Hunzeker's have been active community supporters volunteering on the hospital board and with the Senior Citizens Center along with contributing to school activities, local groups and community events. The past several summers they have provided free rides on the PRT bus for youth to go the Lava Hot Springs swimming pool and most recently they hosted the very successful Trunk-R-Treat event for the community. They rarely turn down an opportunity to help. The City recognized the Hunzeker's passion for growth and improvement and thanked them for their continued investment in the City's economy and overall support of the community.

The Mayor with overwhelming support from the City Council recognized the Caribou County Sun and its Editor and Chief Mr. Mark Steele as a Soda Springs Super Hero. The Greater Soda Springs Community is exceptionally fortunate to have this very special treasure in our community called the Caribou County Sun and the great man behind its success, Mark Steele. Mark and Wendy Steele have owned and operated one of the last independently owned newspapers in the intermountain region for over 40 years. In that time Mark has won many awards through the Idaho Press Club for his photography, writing and the local treasured columns "I'd Rather Be Fishing" and "As I See It". Mark's background includes a Masters in Journalism and Mental Health Mass Communications and it is rumored that his love of politics goes back to his childhood days of hanging out on the steps of the Boise Capitol. Mark's unique gift of seeing the many sides of any issue has endeared him to his many readers and this community and as much as he would like to be seen as a grumpy, opinionated, old cowboy we really see a positive, caring, generous, irreplaceable member of our community. With great thanks and respect the City honored Mark Steele and the Caribou County Sun as a Soda Springs Super Hero.

The Mayor mentioned that Councilmember Goode, who is the liaison to the Planning and Zoning Commission, has been working on finding some new Planning & Zoning (P & Z)

Commission members to fill a current and upcoming vacancy on the Commission which provides a critical function for the City. The Mayor was pleased to recommend the appointment of Lori Anne Lau and Veda Mascarenas as new P & Z Commission members. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the two appointments, seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Goode thanked them for their willingness to serve. Mayor Smith administered the oath of office.

Forsgren Engineers representative Kevin Harris presented the Mayor and Council with a bucket of goodies as a thank you and to wish all a Merry Christmas expressing Forsgren's appreciation for working with the City.

Director Skinner reported that the by-way sign relocation to the Walton Feed property was complete and the Kellerstrauss property was cleaned up. The sign should be good in the new location with no future problem. The Mayor thanked the crew for a job well done.

Mayor Smith stated he was ecstatic to present the child-pedestrian safety grant project that JoAnna Ashley had been working hard on and Director Skinner and Forsgren took her work and put together some engineering for the project. Mrs. Ashley reviewed the purpose of the project and the grant details. The project is intended to install sidewalks and crossings in critical areas for children to safely walk to school and to activities at the City Park and Library. Director Skinner reviewed some specific areas included in the project and the engineering including a contingency factor. The grant has no match required but the application commits the City to about \$10,000 to complete the project. The time line was reviewed. Councilmember Goode moved to authorize signing and submitting the child-pedestrian safety grant as presented, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried. The Mayor thanked Mrs. Ashley for her work and Director Skinner and Forsgren for putting together the engineering which makes a better grant submittal. Councilmember Goode then moved to approve the Mayor and City Council to sign the support letter acknowledging the commitment of funds toward the project. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner reported that approval had been received from the Department of Environmental Quality for the upcoming year's utility project on South 1st East Street. Director Skinner explained he will wait to put the project out for bid to see if the two other grant applications are successful so they can all be included in one project.

A new airport hangar lease was presented for approval. The lease is for lot #4 where a hangar was previously owned by Jerry Jepsen and has been sold to Rodger Sorenson. Councilmember Goode pointed out the need to increase the liability insurance requirements and also require that the City is shown as additionally insured. Attorney Nelson agreed. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the lease agreement with Rodger Sorenson for lot #4 subject to the amended insurance requirements and review and approval by the City Attorney. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner reported on the progress of attaining a utility easement for the new water line that was ran across the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) property off of 3rd West Street. A gentleman's agreement allowed the placement of the new water line with a promise to eventually establish an easement or purchase the property. The piece of property involved is 60 feet wide and already contains water, power and sewer and the City's intention is to relocate the 220 South Street abandoning the existing one that runs through the middle of the Point S Tire property. The appraisal of the 60 foot wide piece of property values it at \$22,500. Mayor Smith expressed his feeling that the value is high. Director Skinner explained that he will be sitting down with the two land owners involved to come up with a creative solution. Councilmember Hart suggested trading some other adjoining City property to the LDS Church and also working with the County on a possible trade with the Church. Director Skinner will report back on the progress.

Director Skinner requested a merit increase for Public Works employee Jeff Young who has completed his probationary period. Director Skinner recommended a three step increase to a PW4-10 for Mr. Young who attained his commercial driver's license and is performing well. Councilmember Hart, seconded by Councilmember Goode moved to approve the wage increase as recommended. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor explained that the new auditors have requested a signed wage list showing approved wages from 2017. The City's 2017 pay plan detailing the employees' wages was presented by the Clerk. The Council accepted and approved the Mayor's signature on the 2017 Pay Plan. The Clerk explained she will come up with a new way to document employee wages moving forward.

The Mayor and Director Skinner mentioned that a new gate had just this week been installed at the gravel pit to limit access and for the safety of those not familiar with the area due to the increased ground water. Director Skinner informed the Council that the gates had already been vandalized. The City is trying to be responsible land owners and access can still be attained if there is a need by contacting City Hall.

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 3RD DAY OF JANUARY, 2018.

James R. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk