
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
ROBERT M. LAU
SCOTT K. GAMBLIES

EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Steele
Dan Lau
Jon Bunderson
Manuel Delacruz
Brianna Smith
Lily Delacruz

Alan Skinner, Director
Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk
Clyde Nelson, Attorney via telephone
Mike & Lisa Newton
Kimberly Hull

The invocation was given by Dan Lau, 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 April 19th, 2017 minutes in their current draft form. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable and payroll were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve and accept the payables for the period of April 18th through April 30th, 2017 and the payroll for April, 2017. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. A new impellor for the Wastewater Treatment Plant was discussed. Director Skinner explained that a large chunk broke off but it was still able to run until the new one came in. Councilmember Goode asked if it could be rebuilt and if a spare should be kept on hand. Director Skinner did not think it could be rebuilt and he will look into keeping the old one as a spare in case of future failure. Councilmember Gambles asked about the sweeper parts and if the sweeper was broke down. Director Skinner explained that the sweeper was not broke down but there was no one to operate it during clean up week.

(SEE ATTACHED PAYROLL & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Mayor Smith asked the Council to approve the reappointment of Dan Lau to the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Board (GSSCDC) noting that he also represents the City on the Southeast Idaho High Country Tourism group formerly known as the Pioneer Country Travel Council. Councilmember Gambles seconded by Councilmember Goode, moved to approve the reappointment of Dan Lau for a 4 year term on the GSSCDC. All in
favor, motion carried. The Mayor administered the oath of office to Mr. Lau and thanked him for his service.

Chief Bunderson requested one step wage increases for two officers. He mentioned that the increases were included in the current budget but only given on merit. He explained that his final two officers have met the criteria of continued performance with increasing demands. Mayor Smith expressed his support noting that the Chief has been able to decrease the budget and increase accountability and service. Councilmember Goode moved to approve and accept the recommendations of Chief Bunderson, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

Chief Bunderson also took the opportunity to recognize and commend Officer Manuel Delacruz on his actions in saving the life of an individual. The incident occurred on April 25, 2017 at the Lovers Delight Park off of North 1st East Street. Chief Bunderson detailed the incident that required Officer Delacruz to successfully perform cardio-pulmonary resuscitation after the individual became unresponsive. Chief Bunderson commended Officer Delacruz for his exemplary conduct and compassion towards his fellow man.

The Planning and Zoning Secretary, JoAnna Ashley reviewed with the Mayor and City Council the proposed update and uses of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. She pointed out and compared the City’s goals and objectives with those of other cities plans showing the lack of detail and direction in our plan. She suggested updating statistical information along with building on the goals and objectives portions. She presented a table with the required sections suggesting which aspects of the plan that the Planning and Zoning will need help completing. Secretary Ashley explained a grant opportunity called the Community Builder Grant that could be utilized to help with assessing population, economic development, housing and land use. The Community Builder Grant program is intended to help form a strategy to address the community’s needs and establish a guide for how to implement the plan. The grant application is due in June with the award in October or November. Mayor Smith requested more details on the scope of the project and the match needed. Councilmember Goode expressed his opinion that this process has value and he applauded Secretary Ashley for taking on the project and pursuing it and if we can get the grant it could improve the comprehensive plan making it a guide and tool to be better utilized. He pointed out the Planning and Zoning Commission is all volunteer and does an excellent job but with the numerous hearings over the last year they have not had the time and do not have the expertise. He definitely agreed they need some professional help and feels $5,000 to $7,500 would be money well spent. The Mayor agreed it was an important project but needed to be within a reasonable cost. The Council supported pursuing the grant and the Mayor asked that he and Councilmember Goode be kept updated on the progress.

Mayor Smith briefly reported on the Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation position at the Library stating it is on hold while the State pursues funding but all involved still feel it is a good idea.
The Mayor mentioned that rising ground water is still causing home owners flooding problems. He mentioned that the County declared a disaster but it has not been supported by the Governor and he is looking into the reasoning. The Mayor stated it is not necessarily the City’s responsibility but he would like to quantify the availability of help for these home owners which may give them access to low interest loans to solve their issues.

The ongoing improvement projects were reviewed. Director Skinner mentioned that a cost estimate from Somsen Lumber has been requested for the Geyser Park pavilion. The Library improvements are moving forward with painting and the new entrance doors which will be completed before the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation Grant deadline of June 15th. The Main Street sidewalk grinding and the overpass lighting is complete and the City Hall parking lot is scheduled for mid-May. Director Skinner reported that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approval was received for the 3rd West 225 South water mainline project that will service the new hotel. The bid announcements for all three projects will be advertised as required and the pre-bid meeting is scheduled for May 18th with contract awarding to be considered at the 1st City Council meeting in June and construction will start right after. Councilmember Hart mentioned the need for a warning cone where a large hole is near the Middle School. Director Skinner stated the cones keep coming up missing and the large repairs will be done by Liddil Paving when they do the City Hall Parking lot.

Director Skinner presented additional quotes and options for a new sewer truck including a new brand of truck which the crew was able to demonstrate. The original Vactor bid from MetroQuip was decreased by eliminating some options and a $10,000 trade in value for the old truck bringing it down to $398,284. The Vactor will take five to six months for delivery. The Sewer Equipment Co. of America demonstration truck was offered at $377,403 from Dawson Infrastructure Solutions out of Salt Lake City, Utah and is available for delivery in the next one to three weeks. Water-Sewer Department Operator Larry Smith shared his knowledge of the trucks and impression of the demonstrated truck. Director Skinner expressed his concern about the demonstrated truck explaining that these trucks have only been manufactured since 2015 and he recommended going with the reduced price Vactor. The Council reviewed and discussed the options at length and the warranties were reviewed. Councilmember Hart stated that he felt Director Skinner had done a good job at looking at all the options. Councilmember Lau suggested looking at refurbished trucks and expressed that he is still struggling with the high cost of the truck. Director Skinner mentioned that a 10 year old truck was not a viable option. The Clerk reviewed financing options and the Mayor and Council considered self-financing with Power funds and extending the financing to 10 years. Councilmember Hart’s recommendation was to finance through a 3rd party to insure some safety of the funds balance. Councilmember Lau moved to approve purchasing the Sewer Equipment Co. of America truck from Dawson Infrastructure Solutions by using the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) competitively bid contract and leveraging outside financing as negotiated by the City Clerk. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The Mayor asked Attorney Nelson to review the bidding requirements and make sure the purchase was in compliance.
The Mayor and Attorney Nelson addressed an amendment to the City's firearms code. The amendment would reference State Code allowing the use of firearms in defense of property or life. The Mayor requested the Council's review of the proposed amendment to be considered for approval at the next meeting.

The Clerk briefly reported on budgeting items. The current year's forecast will be reviewed and discretionary projects considered. An HR Committee meeting is scheduled for May 22nd to review employee benefits and the Department budget request worksheets are due by May 12th.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

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

Those voting nay: none

Absent: none

Motion Carried.

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

Councilmember Lau moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 17TH DAY OF MAY, 2017.

_____________________________________
James R. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk