

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO HELD NOVEMBER 16TH, 2022.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:00PM BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT, MITCH HART.

ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING PRESENT: MITCHELL J. HART, PRES.  
RYAN CARPENTER  
RODNEY WORTHINGTON  
SCOTT K. GAMBLES

EXCUSED: Austin W. Robinson, Mayor  
Gregg Haney, Attorney

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Steele Alan Skinner, Engineer  
Chief Scott Shaw II Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk  
Dan Squires  
Justin Hansen

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

Council President Hart noted the Mayor was absent due to a work conflict and Attorney Haney was also absent and excused. He added some informational items to the agenda; Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) update, Bonneville Power Administration update and Ender's winter maintenance concerns.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Gambles moved to accept the minutes of November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 as presented and dispense with the reading. Councilmember Carpenter seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable were reviewed. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve the accounts payable for November 1<sup>st</sup> through November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, seconded by Councilmember Worthington. Councilmember Carpenter asked about payments to BAT Electric and Forsgren Engineers. Engineer Skinner stated the only thing left for BAT Electric is to install the touch screen control at the #4 Hydro and Forsgren is close to wrapping up on the South 2<sup>nd</sup> East Street Project. Councilmember Worthington noted a payment for first aid supplies and expressed his support for all departments to have what they need. A vote on the motion was called. All in favor, motion carried.

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER FOR DETAIL)

Engineer Skinner presented a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the City to take ownership of the Formation Cave property. The City was approached by the Nature Conservancy wanting to give the property to the City that is surrounded by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property. The proposal would be for the City to work with the BLM and keep the caves open to the public. The City has requested a donation/endowment of

\$10,000 to help repair the fencing. The MOU needs input from the Council and attorney review. Councilmember Carpenter asked if the staff had concerns. Supervisor Squires stated it would be a huge asset to protect the water source area and keeps local control and use in place.

The water mainline extension for the Finlayson Subdivision 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition, being pursued by Ken Finlayson, was discussed. Engineer Skinner stated he is working on an easement with Tom Carwright and asked if the City wanted to share in the cost of the mainline extension due to the extra length to address a dead-end line. The Council discussed the development and Councilmember Carpenter pointed out multi-family units bring in additional fees to the City. Councilmember Hart would like to see a breakdown of all expenses and the final plans before considering a cost share. Councilmember Worthington cautioned against doing for one and not others. Engineer Skinner explained this special circumstance benefits the City due to a prior installation of dead-end line.

Engineer Skinner presented the Water Facility Planning Study (FPS) grant approval paperwork for review which needs completed in 60 days. The 50% match grant of \$45,000 will be used to update the City's Water FPS to include installing and updating a pressure reducing valve (PRV) system. Engineer Skinner stated we just have to be careful the new system doesn't cause increased operator certification requirements. Supervisor Squires clarified the water distribution system is based on population only, so that is not a concern.

The Compliance Evaluation reports on the Wastewater Treatment Plant and collection system were received from IDEQ after the recent inspections. Engineer Skinner and Supervisor Squires noted the inspections went well. The one violation of not reporting an overflow was reviewed and the City confirmed it will be in compliance in the future. The Council thanked the staff for a job well done.

Engineer Skinner gave an update on Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and their forecasting of the City's future power needs. He stated he was comfortable with the BPA's forecast. He also explained BPA has surplus funds the City will receive as \$20,000 credits offsetting the monthly bill for the next 10 months. There will be no change to rates for the next three years.

The Council and Staff briefly discussed winter maintenance at the Enders building. Director Hansen expressed some concerns if the building is leased again and hopes the City has learned from the past experience. He stated the current operation and care is going fine.

Engineer Skinner mentioned he will circulate the project list to all the departments and request updates on projects. Police Chief Shaw reported the Police Department computer upgrades were in process and they should be switched back to Spillman by the first of the year. The camera systems will be installed in the new vehicles before putting them in service. The Department has done testing and backgrounds on a couple of good candidates for the open positions. If hired they will have to be sent to the academy and would be fully

trained by late summer. Fire Chief Squires reported the new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA's) have been received and fit tested and are ready to go.

There was no citizen input.

Councilmember Carpenter moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(e) involving matters of trade or commerce. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye:	Mitch Hart	Those voting nay:	none
	Scott Gambles		
	Ryan Carpenter	Absent:	none
	Scott Gambles		

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Gambles moved to exit executive session, seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Carpenter moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 7TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2022.

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Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk