

Mayor David Sims called the regularly scheduled council meeting of February 21, 2017 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sims, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Ken Toline, and Adam Arthur, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Mike Klaus, City Attorney Andrakay Pluid, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, and Economic Development Coordinator Dennis Weed. Also present for the meeting were Clif Warren from SPOT, Owen Plato from Tech Partners, Marcia Cossette, Jessica Tingley, and Jerry Higgs.

Jerry Higgs said there was a wolf pack cited on the Northside near the old Jim Marx property.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. He said the Fire Department has had eight calls in February and there were 12 calls in January. There was a smoke investigation at the Kootenai River Inn related to a heater on the roof and a methane gas odor at the Youngwirth Office. Both of these events were due to snow pack. There was an EMS assist at the Jenni Lane Apartments. There was an alarm at the High School caused by a boy smoking in the restroom. The furnace at the Laundry near the Eagles had a fire in a vent full of lint but there was no damage. Community Title gas leak due to a loose joint in their natural gas heating system. They also had flooding in their basement from the snow melt. There was an EMS assist at the Kootenai River Inn for a drunk customer who ended up in jail. Ken Toline asked about locations of fire hydrants. Pat said there is a hydrant map in each vehicle. He will get a map to Ken. The hydrants are marked with flags unless they have been removed. Pat said the prisoners shoveled out the majority of the hydrants so he sent a letter of thanks to the Department of Corrections in Orofino.

Mike Klaus said the penstock cleaning has started at the Moyie Dam. The ice and slush was approximately 12 feet thick and this is being worked on by Charlie Kramer. Hopefully, debris will be removed in front of the screens and they will be removed by this Friday. The dive team will probably come in early next week to clean behind the screening system that is just in front of the penstock valve. Mike anticipates putting water through the penstock by the end of next week. He is hopeful to run water through one of the units by the first week of March and get the silt flushed out. Tomorrow the electric crew will be cleaning rocks and sticks out of rock trap area that is about 700 feet below the dam in the penstock. At the water plant there is an underdrain that separates the filter media from the clean water side. The rods that held the underdrain media broke so the rods had to be replaced. The crews have been working on this for a couple weeks. They got the rods back in place and have started putting the filter media back. There is a sealant that goes on the underdrain bocks and the crews are waiting for that to cure. Mayor Sims commented this is on one of the two filters at the plant. Mike will be looking at a better long term solution as the failure could happen again. He is hopeful to have this remedied before high water use.

Rick Alonzo moved to approve the consent agenda. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; approval of Treasurer’s Report; and approval of the February 7, 2017 council meeting minutes.

Clif Warren from Selkirk-Pend Oreille Transit Authority (SPOT) spoke to council. He said the addendum allows for a member at large on the Board of the SPOT. Mayor Sims said there is no

financial obligation with this addendum but it gives the City of Bonners Ferry a voice on the Board. Mayor Sims said he looked at the ridership numbers and they are up 41 percent over last year. Ron Smith asked about the budget. Clif said SPOT will work on the budget in April or so as their fiscal year is the same as the City's. SPOT is on a two year grant cycle with the State of Idaho. Adam Arthur moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Joint Powers Members Agreement for SPOT. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Dennis Weed spoke regarding the Boise State University (BSU) Capstone Project for the Bonners Ferry Visitor Center. The amount of \$1,390 is for the project without the intern. Dennis said the City is paying \$20,000 annually to keep the Visitor Center open. BSU is supposed to come up with ideas on how to reduce the expenses for the Visitor Center. The benefit for the City is to spread the costs to those who are getting the benefit from the Visitor Center, and that is what BSU will be looking at. Dennis said there is a cost for an intern of \$2,000. He said there is grant funding available for this through the Idaho Department of Tourism. He is also looking to grant funding for some of the BSU students to come to Bonners Ferry for review of the project. Dennis and the Mayor are having telecommunication weekly with the BSU students. Dennis hopes to start paying a part-time person through a grant for summer help to keep things rolling. Ron Smith moved to authorize the expenditure of \$1,390 for the Visitor Center research and scope of work. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Idaho Community Development Block Grant Addendum and associated paperwork for the sewer bridge project upon review by the City Attorney. Ken Toline seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Ken Toline “yes”, Adam Arthur “yes”.

Ken Toline received a phone call from the Chairman of the Kootenai Tribe regarding proposed legislation to move slot machines and video gaming out of the casinos. Ken sent a letter to the Legislature. Mayor Sims said Gary Aitken is in Boise today. Ken asked if this would have a ripple effect on the City. Andrakay said it would have an impact on the businesses in town and in turn this would affect the City. Mayor Sims said the Tribe donates money to the School District. Mayor Sims also contacted Heather Scott as she is on the Committee hearing this issue.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

---

David Sims, Mayor

Attest:

---

Kris Larson, City Clerk