

The council workshop of September 16, 2014 convened at 6:05 p.m. Present for the workshop were Mayor Anderson, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Water/Sewer Superintendent Jim Fritzsche, Water/Sewer Operator John Delaney. Also present were Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Ruth Sutton, Loretta Hunsaker, and Bob Graham.

The workshop was a review of the sewer master plan.

Stephen said John Delaney has been the chief worker at the sewer plant so he has great knowledge of what is happening there. He commented that John and Jim Fritzsche were good to come in for the workshop.

The replacement cost of our sewer system is \$21,300,000 as estimated by JUB Engineering in the sewer master plan. The recommendations of the sewer master plan were treatment including pre-treatment filtration and post treatment filtration, lagoon bypass piping, bridge force main, buffer zone for lagoons, and security fencing. Pre-treatment would remove non-biological components prior to reaching the ponds. Post treatment would eliminate the algae treatment that we are currently doing with chemicals to meet the EPA total suspended solids limit (TSS).

Lift stations were reviewed. The master plan recommends moving lift station 5 located behind Super 1 at a cost of \$840,000. Lift station 1 is the only lift station on the Northside. If we construct a headworks room we would upgrade this lift station. Lift station 2 is near the waterways building and it may also need to be upgraded if the headworks room is constructed. The master plan recommends replacement of lift stations 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8.

Lift station backup generation is recommended in the master plan for an estimated cost of \$40,000 per site. Stephen said if this is done fencing will be required to help prevent vandalism.

Lift station communications are being upgraded. We are also adding programmable logic controllers (PLCs). Albert Solt and Steve Neumeyer are working on the panels and once this is completed we will have radio contact with the lift stations.

The top three priorities are the sewer bridge as there is concern of the pipe failing, headworks room, and the effluent filtration system. The headworks room will reduce some of the loading in the lagoon ponds. The depth of our lagoon ponds are about five feet according to John Delaney. Stephen said dredging is done in the spring and fall because when we dredge it stirs up more stuff and causes more algae to grow. John said it costs up to \$1,700 per day for chemicals to kill the algae. He said to keep up to DEQ standards he would have to put more chemicals in than this. He said he tries to balance out the costs and keep the TSS tests in compliance. He said the effluent has to be de-chlorinated before it can be discharged into the river and there is additional cost for that. Connie said lift station 5 plugged at times up when South Hill had it. Stephen said each time there is a problem we have to notify DEQ.

Stephen said lift station SCADA communications and collection system line replacements are items that we may be able to pay for out of reserves. Some of the collection line replacements will become critical if we see system growth. Replacements of degraded lines are driven by camera surveys. Jim said we have root intrusion problems in town and we put chemicals in the

lines to kill the roots. Connie asked about this being in the lagoons and discharged into the river. Jim said it is pretty diluted by the time it reaches the lagoons.

Funding options were discussed. If we bonded for all the items it would cost approximately \$8 million or \$400,000 per year for 30 years. If we revenue finance or pay as we go we would need to raise rates so that the projects are done when adequate cash reserves are accumulated. If we do a combination of bonding and revenue financing we would recommend the treatment related components for bonding and work on the collection system and lift stations with revenue financing. The treatment component is estimated at a cost of \$3 million.

The group discussed post treatment. John Delaney said there are options to look at for this. He said membrane filters deteriorate. He said we don't need microfiltration in the headworks room. John would like to rent a filtration system to see how it works. We only have to treat for seven months of the year. John said the engineer recommended a Pall filter and he would like to see if we could rent it to see if it will work. He wants to see what will work best and be cheapest for the city. Mayor Anderson spoke of potential fines by the EPA. John said we are passing all our tests and he is very conscious of the limits. He said our limits are 45 TSS. Stephen said we are taking out 20 to 40 pounds of algae per day. Connie asked about post filtration and how it works with the lagoons. Stephen said it is a box at the end of the system that pulls out the algae. Ron Smith said the numbers do not reflect what John is talking about. John said the numbers in the proposal are based on a Pall filter and the Pall filter will work. Stephen said there are accessory items that come up during the process and we need to follow the engineer's estimate so we don't come up short. He suggested bonding for \$3 million and if we can get the treatment components done for less we will have other needs in our sewer system to spend the bond funds on such as lift stations and collection lines.

The group discussed bond funding and grants. Tom thinks the council needs to act soon. Rick said we need to be proactive rather than reactive. Ron Smith asked about the water bond and water rates and questioned why we are considering raising water rates. Stephen said the cost of doing business is going up and the regulatory requirements are also increasing. He said regulatory costs have doubled since he started at the city. Connie also responded that we need to build up our reserves to help take care of some of the issues such as the Northside tank and line replacements. Stephen said we have a lot of old steel lines in the ground that need to be replaced and we should be replacing about 1,000 feet per year. Mayor Anderson said we will agendaize potential rate increases for the next meeting. He said we need to discuss water and sewer separately and decide what we will do.

Council took a recess at 6:50 p.m.

Mayor Anderson called the regular council meeting of September 16, 2014 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Fire Chief Pat Warkentin, Police Chief Bob Boone, Water/Sewer Superintendent Jim Fritzsche, and City Attorney Andrakay Pluid. Also present were Adam Arthur, Jessica Tingley, Glenn Fodge, Ruth Sutton, Jerry Higgs, Loretta Hunsaker, Bob Graham,

Kate Turner, Vickie Bliele, Mike Listman, Rita Pensmith, Josh Henderson, Ken Baker, Ron Sukenik, and Len Pine.

Loretta Hunsaker commented on the previous workshop. She had a problem with the answer from Stephen Boorman about the \$3 million bond and if we don't need all the money for the treatment that we would find somewhere else to use it. She suggested that the amount not needed, if there is one, could be refunded to the subscribers. Loretta also spoke about water rates and said if the rates are kept lower then people will use more water. She said if the rates keep rising then people will stop using the product so rates will have to be raised higher to meet the expanding budget. She is hopeful that council is astute enough to consider all alternatives in this massive project that we are going to undertake. Loretta also spoke about the bond ballot language "agreement of the parties" and said they would be looking for an answer to this at a future meeting as the city is having this researched.

Kate Turner from Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency handed out information to council. She read a letter to the group explaining the contract with Second Chance Animal Adoption Agency. Impounded animals are kept for five days and if no owner claims them they are treated and adopted out. She said general costs have increased and there have not been contract increases. They are asking for \$800 per month. Kate said they went before the County and they increased their contract amount. Kate went over their expenses and income. Second Chance is requesting approximately \$1,600 more per year on the contract. She said there were 111 dogs brought in 2013 and about half of them stayed more than five days. Kate said if they cannot adopt out a dog they sometimes do a transfer with another agency. She said the Thrift Store helps compensate when Second Chance has a deficit. Stray dogs in 2013 picked up and dropped off by citizens were 14 percent in the City and 41 percent in the County, Sheriff's Office 13 percent, and 32 percent by City Police. Kate said it costs \$68 per day to care for the dogs. Tom Mayo asked if a dog is taken to Second Chance what the costs would be for the owner to get the dog back. The owners pay \$20 for impound and an additional \$10 per day plus the price of a dog tag if they are city residents. They do not go any higher than the adoption fee for animals left for a long period. City dogs delivered to the shelter are 50 per year. Rick said Second Chance made it much better for the animals. He said instead of going up a small increment each year, waiting for a long period creates a large increase. Kate said as long as she is involved the increases will not be huge. Mayor Anderson said we will amend this soon. Kate and Vickie left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Glenn Fodge said there are some new people who want power near him and he wants the new folks to have to get the same easements that he had to. He said he had to pay large fees to the railroad and he wants the new people to pay some of these costs. Glenn said there was an electrical easement when he purchased his property and he wants the new folks to have to get the same permissions that he did. Stephen said Mike Woodward was here when we did the electrical service for Glenn. Glenn said he was forced to get easements when he got his service and he wants the new property owners to have to get permissions like he did including his permission or easement. He listed the property owners he had to get easements with and the costs he paid to the railroad and the amount he spent on road work. Glenn said he had to go beyond what was

listed in his easement. He wants road maintenance on the road he put in. Glenn wants to make sure the new owners have the same requirements that he did. Glenn left the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Ron Sukenik left the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Len Pine spoke to council about Fallen Firefighters Memorial Week. He has put together a plan for commemoration of this. He has also submitted a proclamation for the event. Mayor Anderson said he would like to take part in the observance on October 11 if the schedules work out. Len said there is a memorial listing of 107 names this year. There will also be ringing of bells in memory. Flags will be lowered and remain at half-staff for a day. The memorial will start at noon on October 11, 2014. Council will endorse this memorial to show the unanimous support of the City for this commemoration.

Kevin Cossairt joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Len Pine gave a power point presentation for the group regarding fire training in La Paz, Bolivia that he participated in earlier this summer.

Police Chief Robert Boone gave the police report. During the last reporting period officers made 11 arrests including two for domestic battery, two for aggravated assault, officers investigated one attempted suicide, one felony warrant arrest, one excessive DUI, two marijuana possession, one for possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell, wrote 15 speeding tickets and 18 speeding tickets in a construction zone. They have a candidate for the vacant police position and the police detective is at a training.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. He said the fire department stood by for the Demolition Derby. They had one extrication from a participant and a spectator had a heart attack. There was an unintentional false alarm at the high school and another unintentional false alarm for a gas odor. Pat spoke about the 19 hour road closure at the State Line due to a truck that sprung a leak of anhydrous ammonia. He said this chemical is an inhalation hazard as well as an explosive hazard. Pat commented on the intersection of Arizona and First Street and said it is a matter of time until there will be a severe accident there. This subject will come before the Traffic Safety Committee. Tom Mayo said line of sight is an issue there also. Pat spoke about adopt a hydrant program. He said this would be for residents to keep hydrants clear of weeds and snow. This program is being considered. Pat said when Larry Owsley passed away John Kastelic left the fire department. He was an administrative assistant and Pat would like to fill this position with Dave Winey. He said it is not a high dollar position but it would help get the general paperwork done.

Stephen Boorman gave the administrator report. The logging at the reservoir is done and we got 20 loads. Cow Creek and Hazel Street have been paved. Bids are due this week on the Northside tank repair. Stephen met with DEQ yesterday and they are of the opinion that the Northside tank needs to be replaced. Ron Smith asked how many applications we have received on the water/sewer superintendent position. Stephen said there were about eight and he has been checking references. Ron asked about the lineman position. Stephen said we are interviewing this week.

Connie Wells moved to add the following late agenda items: 1) discuss firewood at the golf course, 2) discuss conditional offer of employment for the Police, and 3) discuss the first meeting date in October. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Connie Wells moved to approve the consent agenda. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of accounts payable and payroll; approval of Treasurer’s Report; and approval of September 2, 2014 council meeting minutes.

Tom Mayo moved to have the first reading by title only of the ordinance prohibiting parking in designated fire lanes. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. Attorney Andrakay Pluid read the ordinance by title only.

The fire protection services contract with the Kootenai Tribe was discussed. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract if the Tribe agrees to remove Section C on page two regarding progress and final reports. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Tom Moved to approve the catering permit for the Kootenai River Inn for the NRA Banquet at the Fairgrounds on September 20, 2014. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Ron Smith moved to approve the special event permit for Jill Nystrom doing business as Rusty Moose Tavern and Grill for a music festival on October 11, 2014. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Trucks and trailer purchase for the power plant, mechanic, and electric superintendent were discussed. One of the current electrical trucks would be passed down to the water/sewer department. Tom Mayo asked about the old vehicles. Kevin Cossairt said what is not sold at the auction will go to a specialty place for sale. Connie asked why the electric foreman’s pickup is going to the water department if it is still in good shape. Stephen said Kevin wants a flatbed truck to haul materials in rather than a truck with bins. Kevin said the truck being passed to the water department is set up like they like it and it will work well for them. Ron Smith moved to approve the purchase. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”. (Clerk’s note: purchase of electric foreman’s truck, power plant truck, mechanic’s truck, and a flatbed trailer).

The power plant retaining wall bid was discussed. Connie asked about the two part process. Stephen said there are two mobilization fees included in the bids. He said we do not know what we are getting into until we get into the project. The concrete will be pumped to the site. Connie Wells moved to award the bid to Fulton Construction for the retaining wall work for \$49,620 and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Tom Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Stephen said we are considering having Alan Flory brush the levees for up to \$5,000 and also do some brush work on the road to the Myrtle Creek intake. Rick Alonzo moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Alan Flory to do brush work on the levees and intake to Myrtle Creek for up to \$8,000. Ron Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The computer IT contracts were discussed. Stephen said we are not quite ready to sign a contract, but Computer Arts is considering more hours for next fiscal year and Mr. Listman is presenting a fixed price contract. Michael Listman said his company absorbs the risk for keeping the system running well so there are not unexpected breakdowns. Mike Listman introduced Josh Henderson and Rita Pensmith who work for his company. Stephen would like to explore more items in the contract and also have Andrakay look the contract over. Mike said his contract absorbs anti-virus protection. Rick said last year there was a need for background checks on all the employees or techs and that had not been taken care of. Mike said this was done in January this year. Mike’s company is located in Bonners Ferry and they are available 24 hours per day. Mayor Anderson said we will agendize this at the next meeting. Connie thanked them for attending the meeting.

Stephen said the firewood at the golf course had too much birch to be sold for pulp. Rick thinks we should donate the firewood. Stephen spoke to Brion Poston about the Friends of Mirror Lake raffling off the firewood but has not heard back yet. He said the Wrestling Club is interested in it. Ron Smith moved to donate the firewood at the golf course to the Wrestling Club. Rick Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

Police Chief Robert Boone spoke about the interview process for the open police officer position. Travis Stolley has been selected and the Chief would like to make a conditional offer of employment to him. Rick Alonzo moved to conditionally offer the police officer position to Travis Stolley. Ron Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed – Ron Smith “yes”, Rick Alonzo “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Tom Mayo “yes”.

The first October meeting will be held on October 9, 2014 rather than October 7, 2014.

Stephen spoke to council about the Kootenai River Restoration Project information. He said one concern is the City’s coffer dam on the Kootenai River and he appreciates the Kootenai Tribe’s willingness to work with us. Sedimentation inside the coffer dam is the concern. Stephen will respond to the Kootenai Tribe. He would like to have Sue Ireland come speak to council regarding the project.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk