

Mayor Darrell Kerby called the regularly scheduled council meeting of June 20, 2006 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Kerby, Council Members John Langs, Leslie Falcon, and Dave Gray, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Police Chief Dave Kramer, Fire Chief Larry Owsley. Also present for the meeting were Eric Winters, Catherine DesJardin, and Tony Doersam from the Corps of Engineers. Council President Russ Docherty was absent due to illness.

Eric said to date on the right bank 1675 lineal feet has been cleared and brushed, cleaned and grubbed out and 2850 feet of road was built. This will allow for emergency vehicle access. On the left bank 225 lineal feet has been cleaned and grubbed. He said 175 feet has been built up about 4.5 feet and topped with crushed rock to make the road more accessible for truck traffic and to protect the waterline and to keep the business open at Fodge's Mill. There have been 500 lineal feet of sandbags about 14 inches high put in at the Kootenai River Inn. The Fire Department organized the sand bagging effort and Larry tracked 84 people with another 40 volunteers that did not check in. The fire department did the ring dikes. The water was within a foot from coming out of the ring dikes at the Kootenai River Inn. The waves were coming up on the grass at the Inn during the wind and rainstorm. The sand bagging effort was very worthwhile at the Inn according to Eric. The Corps has a boat staged at the Road and Bridge Department. Tony will stay in Bonners Ferry and Eric and Catherine will return to Seattle for awhile. The Corps will keep a presence on the river to observe what is taking place. There was 54.1 miles of levee damage previously observed by the Corps including raw farmland and benches that are failing. Farmers are pumping constantly to keep the water from the root level of the crops. Anhauser Busch has problems with their dikes and they have lost 90 acres or so. The backup from Kootenai Lake into the Kootenai River will cause damage.

Attorney Tim Wilson joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Cathy said the Libby Dam flow will be reduced until 43,000 cfs are reached and the level in Bonners Ferry should be below 1764 feet by Thursday and it will continue to drop. The river level of 1766.67 feet was reached on Saturday evening.

Mayor Kerby thanked the Corps for coming down and updating Council. He then awarded Eric and Catherine with Honorary Citizen Awards. He said their work and efforts were exemplary.

Eric said the river is too high in his opinion to take any boats on the river at this time.

Dave Kramer commented that Charlie Comers is from Libby and he knew who to call from the Corps to get the work accomplished in Bonners Ferry and he should be commended for getting Catherine and Eric here to work with us.

Darrell said Larry Owsley did a great job organizing the sand bagging efforts on short notice.

Larry gave Council a list of the people who worked on the sand bagging efforts. Larry used the disaster services plan to organize it. Larry said there were three incidents on Saturday. The Pierson residence needed help sand bagging so the fire department from Curley Creek responded. The Glen Fodge sand bagging needed done so Larry and Alan Hamilton responded and worked with the State of Idaho and the County. Ring diking was done at Bonner and Fourth Streets on Saturday evening. General Feed at Second and Railroad Streets needed ring diking and the Bonners Ferry Fire Department did this on Sunday. Ray Holmes has resigned since he has moved out of town too far to be on the fire department. Mayor Kerby said we should make an effort to recognize the folks that participated in the sand bagging efforts.

Dave Kramer said the water issues have been keeping the Police busy. Dick Hollenbeck has been patrolling for water boils. There are nineteen pallets of sandbags at the fairgrounds and eight pallets at the Kootenai River Inn.

Dean Satchwell was commended for his hard work when he stopped in. Dave commented that the jail trustees have also been filling sandbags.

Leslie Falcon moved to approve the consent agenda. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of June 20, 2006 accounts payable; approval of June 6, 2006 council meeting minutes; approval for Allen Ashby to attend a course on Computer Crimes Against Children in Coeur d'Alene on July 25, 2006; approval for Blain Grossman to attend meter school in Seattle from September 11-15, 2006.

The annexation of property is in the developers court so there is no action to be taken by the City at this time according to the Mayor.

Mayor Kerby updated the group on funding letters that have been sent to the Corps of Engineers requesting assistance for levee maintenance.

Leslie Falcon moved to have the second reading of Ordinance 486A Amending Building Code, Inspection of Snow Loads in its entirety. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. Clerk Kris Larson read ordinance 486A in its entirety. Leslie Falcon inquired if trailer courts will be required to turn in a plan for snow removal to Planning and Zoning. Stephen said they will.

Dave Gray moved to hire Kyle Kelly and Sean Kelly for the water meter installation project. Leslie Falcon seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mayor Kerby said the disinfection by-products notice was required to be published because the City went over the limit again and it will probably continue until the new tank is completed.

Leslie Falcon moved to approve the parade permit for August 19, 2006 and to also approve the catering permit for the Eagles for the Selkirk Saddle Club Rodeo on July 21-22, 2006 at the fairgrounds. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mayor Kerby said the City has been using Mike Klaus too much and as a professional engineer he should be classified as a salaried position rather than an hourly position. Stephen said Mike is used to being a salaried employee and does not have a problem. John Langs moved to change Mike Klaus' to a salaried employee. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The position change will take place June 18, 2006.

John Langs moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the request for funds authorization form for the water tank grant. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mayor Kerby said John Youngwirth finally found a mower that will work for him. Leslie Falcon moved to approve the purchase of a mower for the Street Department for mowing, snowplowing, and weed spraying. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

John Langs moved to appoint Leslie Falcon to the Panhandle Area Council as Alternate. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Gray moved to hire James Brimhall and Cody Guthrie for the water meter installation project. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Mayor Kerby spoke to the group regarding mosquito abatement. The city may be on its own for abating mosquitoes

although the county will be facing the same problem. The Mosquito Abatement District is still an active taxing district but it has not been needed for many years so there are no District Commissioners and there is no money in the taxing district. Phil Allegretti has spoken to the Mayor and he suggested working with the State to learn how to test for mosquito larva and share in the costs with the county on the efforts. This is the most effective way to kill the mosquitoes. There will be a flyer included in the City utility billings authored by Panhandle Health District educating the public on mosquitoes and the West Nile Virus. Stephen asked if it would be a possibility to cost share with the public on abating mosquitoes. Mayor Kerby said we need to learn the science first and then teach it to the public. John Langs said he is very willing to have the city participate in this program and help the public learn. John Langs moved to authorize up to \$4,000 to be spent toward mosquito abatement. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. Larry suggested teaching the county fire chiefs and having them spread the word.

Dave Kramer said Stan Galloway is working on the long term emergency through the State of Idaho for logistical support. Also, Scott Bacon from the Department of Lands will be on the long-term emergency team and they will be available to work with FEMA. Mayor Kerby said the Acting Colonel from the Corps of Engineers, two Generals from the Idaho National Guard, and Bill Bishop from Disaster Services met with the City and County. They are bringing in two pumps for us to use. The Assistant Director of FEMA for our region from Seattle also joined the meeting with the city and county and she told the group that it was a long shot for FEMA assistance but it would open the door for damaged citizens if they qualify. The Governor of the State of Idaho is the person who has to request assistance from FEMA if he feels it qualifies as a FEMA event.

Leslie Falcon inquired about the sewer lagoon. Stephen said the lagoon was shut off on Sunday at the pond but if the river reaches over 1767 feet pumping will need to be done.

Mayor Kerby also spoke of the multi-jurisdictional collaboration that is taking place. He also said the Corps will advise us about the height of the levees that must be maintained and give guidance to the City.

At 8:20 p.m. Leslie Falcon moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 to discuss personnel. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Leslie Falcon “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”. At 8:50 p.m. Leslie Falcon moved to go out of executive session. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. No action was taken.

John Langs authorized payment of wages for employees working outside the city limits on the emergency. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Darrell Kerby, Mayor

Attest:

Kris Larson, City Clerk

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