MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12/10/2019

Mayor Ryan Smathers
6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members: Jennifer Dunaway, Mark Swayne, Don Gardner, Shannon Schrader, Josh Tilley and Sean Simmons

Staff: Administrator-Rick E. Laam, Clerk-Janet R. Montambo, Treasurer-Donna Wilson, Building Official-Todd Perry, Public Works Supervisor-Shane Miller, Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Michael Martin, Police Chief-Jeff Wilson and Fire Chief-Jon Hoyt

Guest: Annie Connor-Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District

Media: Elizabeth Morgan and Nancy Butler

MINUTES

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes held November 26, 2019 as written. Councilmember Simmons seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Councilmember Simmons made a MOTION to approve the regular bills and the additional bills as presented and the Payroll ending December 7, 2019. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

PETITIONS, APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Orofino Creek Flood Mitigation - Annie Connor, Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District Project Manager presented a Power Point to the Council regarding the mouth of Orofino Creek. Connor explained to the Council in the spring during the snow melt the high water in Orofino Creek is causing bank erosion and channel movement affecting or potentially affecting infrastructure on Orofino Creek. Bedload deposition at the confluence of Orofino Creek and the Clearwater River has moved approximately 75’ feet to the east (upriver and toward the Best Western). Connor was requesting approval for a water study that is approximately $10,000. Connor commented after the flood events of 1996, Clearwater County contracted with Water Consulting Incorporated out of Montana to do a “Watershed Assessment and Master Plan for Flood Mitigation and Stream Restoration on Lower Orofino Creek” which was completed in 2003. The projects that were identified and prioritized are still relevant today based on her evaluation of the area. The top priority project was the reconstruction of the channel at the mouth of Orofino Creek. Conner stated the project was implemented in 2004 with the caveat that when
the Clearwater River and Orofino Creek peak simultaneously, the backwater effect created by the Clearwater River will cause Orofino Creek to deposit bed load before it reaches the River. Connor stated it may be necessary to re-excavate the Orofino Creek channel. It was noted, if left untreated, additional bank erosion, property loss, and potential damage to infrastructure is possible. The second priority project was restoration of Newman’s corner and the reach above up to the Konkolville Mill, including stabilization of eroding streambanks. The project encompasses the current eroding bank. Conner stated to her knowledge, no watershed restoration of flood mitigation was implemented here, though over the intervening years the slop of the bank had decreased and revegetated with trees and shrubs.

Councilmember Gardner would like to be proactive and not kick the can down the road. Councilmembers discussion concluded, Annie Connor, Rick Laam and Chris St. Germaine will meet with Clearwater County Commissioners at their next scheduled meeting and begin discussion of obtaining help, whether in-kind or help with funding to update the Watershed Master Plan.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administrator - No report.

Treasurer - No report.

Building Official - Building Official Perry reported the Planning and Zoning will hold a public hearing on a Special Use Application. Planning and Zoning will make a recommendation to the Council at the January 14, 2020 Council Meeting.

Public Works - Public Works Supervisor Miller reported he has Russell Construction installing a bigger manhole in the park to help with the flow at the 90% elbow. There is still a lot of grease and sediment in the eighteen-inch pipe that is going to the Builders Supply. This will help with any overflow. In other news, Miller commented he has four plows ready in the event of snow.

Police - Police Chief Wilson reported tonight is the battle between the Police Department with the Orofino High School Basketball team to help with fund raising for Christmas 911. Police Chief Wilson thanked Mayor and City Council for their support. The Police Department received First Place for their float in the Christmas Parade.

Water/Wastewater - Water/Wastewater Supervisor Martin reported they are busy with routine operations in maintenance requirements. There are currently no break downs in our water/wastewater systems and all is going well.

Fire - Fire Chief Hoyt reported this next week-end is the second week of the Fire Fighter 101 Essential Training. There were eighteen students in attendance. Chief Hoyt has received positive feedback on the training. It was noted the heat and light projects are completed in Station 1 and Station 2. It was discovered that two of the four heaters in Station 2 were working properly with the other two completely burned out. With only two heaters working overtime

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trying to keep the Station warm explains the high cost of the Stations monthly electrical bills. Fire Chief Hoyt announced the Fire Department Float placed third in the Christmas Parade.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember Dunaway commented she would like to initiate a meeting with the Park/Recreation Group to begin discussion on the multi-use arena. The next Work Session is January 7, 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Wilson wanted to remind the Mayor and Council that this Friday is the City Employee Christmas Party at the Mexican Restaurant beginning at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:38 p.m., Councilmember Simmons made a MOTION to adjourn. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ryan Smathers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Janet R. Montambo, City Clerk

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