MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7/10/2018
Mayor Ryan Smathers
6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Staff: City Administrator-Rick E. Laam, Clerk-Janet R. Montambo, Treasurer-Donna Wilson, Building Official-Todd Perry, Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Michael Martin and Police Chief-Jeff Wilson
Absent: Public Works Supervisor-Shane Miller and Fire Chief-Mike Lee
Guests: Mike Hardin, Holly Hardin, Ken Harvey, Maria Ward, Alan Hengen, Kathy Hanson, Larry Hanson, Mike Clay, Cindy Freeman
Media: Elizabeth Morgan and Nancy Butler

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Councilmember Gardner made a MOTION to amend the agenda and add the Payroll ending July 7, 2018, the City Park request and an Executive Session. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

MINUTES

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes held on June 26, 2018. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the regular bills and the Payroll ending July 7, 2018. Councilmember Dunaway seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

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CEDA Posthumous Award for Roy Clay - Mayor Smathers reported at the April 13, 2018 Annual CEDA meeting, Roy Clay posthumously received recognition for his many years of leadership for Orofino and his service as a CEDA Board member. Mayor Smathers invited Roy Clay’s son Mike Clay and daughters Cindy Freeman and Kathy Hanson and husband Larry Hanson to tonight’s meeting to receive the award. The recognition plaque indicated that Roy was “A Champion for Community Activity, an Unsung Hero of Positive Growth and Development and an Individual who has made a Notable Difference in the Lives of People”.

Administrator Laam commented Roy served as the Orofino Mayor and Councilman for 41 years. Roy’s leadership and vision were instrumental in the planning and eventual construction of the water treatment plant. He will always be remembered as a community leader and a friend. A plaque with these words on it is hanging on the outside of the water treatment plant facility.

Letter of Resignation - The City of Orofino received a Letter of Resignation effective immediately from Mike Lee as the Orofino Fire Chief.

2017 EPA Region 10 DWSRF Water Award - The City of Orofino received notification from Richard Green, Regional Coordinator for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund from Region 10 EPA. The City of Orofino had been nominated to receive an EPA DWSRF Water Award. The award will be presented in September. Green was inquiring about a location that would work well for the award presentation. He will get back with more particulars about an exact date and time of day.

CCED Annual Report - Chris St. Germaine, Clearwater County Economic Development submitted a CCED Annual Report highlighting efforts over the past year for the Council to review as information.

Notice of Consummation of Altice USA, Inc. Pro Forma Internal Reorganization - The City of Orofino received a letter from Robert Hoch Counsel, Government Affairs of Cequel III Communication I, LLC regarding the restructuring of Suddenlink Cable. Suddenlink still holds the cable service franchise in the City and is bound by its terms, which are unchanged by the Restructuring.

City Park Request - Maria Ward reported she reserved the park for this upcoming weekend for Days of Praise event. Ward was requesting for one of their volunteers to bring in a small camper and stay overnight to watch over their electric equipment for security purposes. It would be so much easier rather than packing up everything each night and setting everything back up each morning before the events starts each day. Councilmember’s all agreed that Ms. Ward can have a volunteer to camp in park during this week-end’s event.

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DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administrator - Administrator Laam reported he has received a renewal agreement with First Step Internet. First Step Internet is considering future expansion of their services in this area. One antennae is already placed on the Wixon Heights Water Reservoir. First Step is looking for strategic sights to update their equipment and place a second antenna in the future. Laam will submit the agreement to the Mayor for his signature of the agreement.

In other news, Laam is working with engineers and a surveyor for the required Aerial Graphic Information Survey (AGIS) for the Orofino airport. This work will carry-over to the next Fiscal Year and will cost $80,000.

Laam commented this past year the Konkolville Water Company (KWC) filed a lawsuit against the City regarding a proposed Water Sale Agreement. The City expended $25,000 in legal fees defending the lawsuit, which we won in court. A second lawsuit was filed by Lanny White, a resident of the Konkoville area, challenging the city’s right to annex the area in Konkoville where water is being supplied by the city. Again, the city expended another $25,000 in legal costs defending ourselves. The city prevailed on all nine claims made by White in Judicial Review. This is money the taxpayers are responsible which we will never get back. White can appeal to the Supreme Court but he will need to hire his own attorney and pay out of his pocket. Laam would like to talk to our attorneys and ask to recoup the city’s attorney fees. Laam knows he can’t request reimbursement from KWC. But the city can file a claim for attorney fees in the White lawsuit. The city tried to be the nice guys in the KWC lawsuit and decided not to ask for attorney fees. We thought this would begin the healing process, but it didn’t. Laam indicated he is tired of frivolous claims made from individuals or organizations. We still have a third lawsuit pending that is no fault of the city’s. I think it’s time we start pushing back and indicate to the public if you file a claim against the city and we win, we will go after attorney fees.

Treasurer - No report.

Building Official - Building Official Perry submitted the June 2018 Building Permit Report for Council review. Perry commented Hugh Miller will begin work on pouring the steps in the arena next week. It was noted July 15th is the beginning of the environmental window period to begin work on the Forest Street Bridge project. Perry informed the Council that more weed letters were sent out to land owners.

Public Works - Public Works Supervisor Miller was not in attendance at the meeting. No report.

Police - Police Chief Wilson reported all went well with the July 4th and LoggerXross events. There were no calls for service with the exception of one DUI that was issued.

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**Water/Wastewater** - Water/Wastewater Supervisor Martin reported his crew is busy building the walls that houses the new sewer screens. Martin commented there is no local contractors available to do the building. Martin expects the electric portion of the project will be connected by Friday. In other news, Martin found a charger dispenser to sell water at the RV Dump station. Martin was inquiring from Council if they approve of him setting up the machine to charge a penny per gallon or charge $10.00/per thousand gallons for water. The dispenser is set up like a car wash, it will take dollar bills and coins. Councilmembers all agreed to start out with a penny per gallon.

**Fire** - Mayor Smothers reported since receiving the Fire Chief’s resignation and Assistant Fire Chief Brink is out of town on a fire, he asked Holly Hardin who is one of the fire fighters and along with Councilmember Gardner to put the fire hall in some kind of proper order.

Holly Hardin was in attendance of the meeting and reported a lot of cleaning was going on in the Fire Hall. There were old desks, broken chairs and just plain junk that was hauled away. Hardin found bank statements and put them all in three ring binders and put the office in some kind of order. Hardin mentioned some of the previous firefighters are coming back and will help with fire calls. Hardin would like to see public works crew help during the day if help was needed. In other news, Hardin commented the fire department was in attendance at the city park during the July 4th celebration. Again, the event went smooth with no incidents for fire calls.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Draft Copy of FY 2018-2019 Budget** - Administrator Laam reported that a full copy of FY 2018-19 Budget was submitted for Council review. Laam commented the budget will continue to change throughout the whole process until the Council adopts the Tentative Budget and sets a public hearing date. There are a few changes to the budget since the last report. Laam added $5,000 in the maintenance line for the Fire Hall building, this will go towards paint and some necessary updates for when the new Fire Chief is aboard. In other news, Laam commented at the last council meeting the Council gave the go-ahead for Police Chief to look for the last two Ram trucks to complete the new uniform fleet and budget them in for next year’s budget. Doug Adams, with Hanson’s garage indicted that Ram is changing their looks for the 2019 models and it has created some challenges and concerns to find 2018 Rams. He searched for 2018 Rams but could not find any. Police Chief Wilson then contacted Kris Shell with Goode Motors (3 locations in Idaho) who normally has the State Bid Contract. She did an extensive nationwide search for two 2018 Ram Trucks. After several days she was able to find two pickups that are available. The dealers are willing to let them go to her. Administrator Laam was requesting the Council’s approval and allow the purchase of the two vehicles this year rather than next year simply based on the fact they will not be available next year and to complete our desired goal of a uniform fleet for the next eight years. Laam commented the current budget will need to be amended if the last two vehicles are purchased this year. A set aside dollar amount will be added to the vehicle fund each year for replacement in eight years.
Councilmembers all agreed that there will be a savings and benefit on purchasing this year's model compared to next years. Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION for the purchase of two Dodge Ram Pickups for the Police Department. Councilmember Dunaway seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:47 p.m., Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 subsection 1 (a)to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. The motion included a request for a roll call vote. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

REGULAR SESSION

At 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Gardner MOVED to return to regular session. Councilmember Dunaway seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Smathers reported with the Resignation of the current Fire Chief, it is his recommendation to appoint an Interim Fire Chief. The job announcement for a full time Fire Chief is being advertised now, but in the meantime, until one can be brought aboard by the first of October, someone within the department will need to perform some of the administrative work. It is his recommendation to appoint Holly Hardin as Interim Fire Chief to do the administration work until a full time Fire Chief is hired. Councilmember Gardner made a MOTION to appoint Holly Hardin as Interim Fire Chief. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:40 p.m., Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to adjourn. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

Ryan Smathers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Janet R. Montambo, City Clerk

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