



Mayor Smith commented that during the last four years it has been a pleasure working with the City employees and serving the City residents and he thinks that a huge amount was accomplished in four years. A new library wing, numerous new roads and a significant amount of infrastructure improvements were completed even though there is still a lot to be done. The advice he would give he learned in primary which is treat people with respect, tell the truth and work hard. Mayor Smith noted that he is not going away just won't be doing this roll, he expressed appreciation for the friendships made and stated that it has been enjoyable to accomplish so much.

Council President Hart and the City Council were pleased to recognize Mayor Jim Smith as a Soda Springs Super Hero. Mayor Smith hit the ground running when he became Mayor in January of 2014 with a strong vision of improving the City he calls home and is so proud to be a part of for almost three decades now. From his first month of service, he was committed to see the City's economy thrive through improved infrastructure and beautification. Over the past four years, the Mayor's efforts have been extensive. He has set in motion a pattern to update needed city infrastructure. These improvements have played a role in seeing new businesses developed and existing businesses revived. Improvements and growth came with increased costs and as improvement projects moved forward, the Mayor insisted the City not only maintain but expand reduced utility rates for seniors and to all low-income residents. The Mayor's compassion was noted and appreciated. Above all, Mayor Smith emphasized the importance of working safely with new safety procedures implemented for City employees because of his strong desire to keep the City's valued employees safe. The Mayor's knowledge of budgeting and ability to manage limited resources was proven to be a winning combination. Mayor Smith left his mark and the City of Soda Springs is better for having had him serve its citizens as our Mayor. Council President Hart thanked Mayor Jim Smith for being a Soda Springs Super Hero.

Mayor Smith then administered the oath of office to the newly elected Mayor, Austin W. Robinson along with swearing in the re-elected Councilmembers, Robert Lau and Jon Goode.

In parting Mayor Smith pointed out a shadow box created by Cindy Erickson with some vintage recreation uniforms sponsored by Monsanto showing their long time support of the City's youth recreation programs. Mayor Smith asked that someone be assigned to present the memento to Monsanto.

Mayor Robinson thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and encouraged everyone to attend in the future.

Councilmember Goode nominated Councilmember Hart to continue to serve as the Council President recognizing his extensive experience and vast trove of wisdom. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor motion carried. Councilmember Hart thanked the Council.

The appointed positions were reviewed. Councilmember Lau suggested no changes had to be made. Mayor Robinson stated that he was comfortable with current positions. Attorney Nelson suggested that if he planned to leave the appointed positions in place that he should go ahead and make a recommendation for the official reappointment. Mayor Robinson then recommended the reappointment of Chief of Police Jon Bunderson, Fire Chief Dan Squires, Director of City Services Alan Skinner, Clerk-Treasurer Tausha Vorwaller, City Attorney Clyde Nelson and Attorney Doug Wood for the criminal cases. Councilmember Lau moved to approve the appointments as recommended by Mayor Robinson. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Hart mentioned that it was customary for the new mayor to give the Council assignments. Mayor Robinson stated he would like to take some time and visit with all of the Council before setting the assignments.

Director Skinner reported on the utility easement/land purchase being negotiated with the LDS Church for the newly installed water mainline off of 3<sup>rd</sup> West Street. The Director reported that a donation was received to go toward the purchase. The LDS Church will be offered a cash payment along with improvements in exchange for the land. Attorney Nelson made the City Council aware of a draft letter for the acceptance of the donation. Attorney Nelson explained that the Council needed to approve accepting the donation with the conditions requested by the donor. Director Skinner reviewed the draft letter which states the City accepts the donation to be used to help purchase the land and relocate the 220 South Street. It also states that per City Code the donor can pursue installing a sign closer to Highway 30. Councilmember Lau asked about the cost to install the street. Director Skinner stated if the City does most of the prep work it will probably cost about \$70,000 for the asphalt. Councilmember Goode stated he felt the letter was reasonable. Councilmember Hart recommended waiting to approve the letter until the next meeting when there may be more information from the land owner. Mayor Robinson asked that all utilities be addressed within the land being purchased so when the street is installed the new asphalt would not have to be disturbed.

The Council reviewed the ongoing project list. Director Skinner mentioned that he added a couple of Library projects to the list including the shelving project which all materials are purchased and is scheduled to be completed by the contractor. The other project is a proposed back patio that a local contractor has expressed interest in donating the work.

Director Skinner presented a letter from Forsgren Engineers in response to questions submitted by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding the South 1<sup>st</sup> East Street utility project. The questions and responses were reviewed in detail which included a reference correction, an eight (8) inch water line requirement and transition to an existing 6 inch line, addressing air pressure release through an existing fire hydrant and the inlet and outlet elevations connected to a new manhole. Director Skinner stated the project is already approved and Forsgren's clarifications are for our records to be kept on file with no action required.

Director Skinner reported that two new employees had been hired. Justin Hansen will replace Craig Hill as the Power and Streets Supervisor and Rick Hill who was already working in a temporary position was hired full time as a mechanic and public works employee. Councilmember Gambles asked about a replacement for the building inspector position. Director Skinner mentioned that he will be looking for someone who is interested and it will take 12 months of training.

Several items were presented to the Mayor and Council for review regarding ethics and conflict of interest laws. Attorney Nelson briefly reviewed and stressed that the best practice is to always disclose any perceived conflict and refrain from deliberating or voting on the issue. He stressed that it is a misdemeanor for elected officials to act on any planning and zoning issue where there is a conflict of interest. He also mentioned that he is available to review anyone's question or concern about a possible conflict and can present an official opinion on the issue.

Mayor Robinson thanked Attorney Nelson for the thorough review of the conflict of interest laws.

The Mayor asked if someone would like to present Monsanto with the shadow box. Councilmember Hart suggested that he and former Mayor Smith make the presentation. Mayor Robinson and the Council supported the suggestion.

Mayor Robinson opened the floor for citizen input. There was no citizen input.

Councilmember Lau moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2018.

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Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk