



stated the Police Department can patrol the route for safety. The Council did not have any concerns about the planned event. Mayor Robinson commented things like this is why he loves to live in Soda Springs because people come out and put their minds together to help each other out. The Mayor thanked Mr. Davis.

Director Skinner asked the Mayor and Council for direction on the Hooper Spring cover repair. He would like to move forward with engineering and needs to know what design to pursue. Councilmember Goode stated he is not in favor of wood materials because they are too costly to maintain. Councilmember Hart recommended having the Parks and Recreation Committee review the design options and provide a recommendation. Mayor Robinson shared comments from the public that would like to see the new roofing keep the original archway look. Councilmember Lau suggested putting it on the website and solicit comments from the public. Comments from those in attendance included keeping the rustic and historic look. Director Skinner will take it to the upcoming Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for their review.

The Council reviewed the ongoing list of utility and improvement projects. Director Skinner explained he is waiting to hear on the two grants submitted and engineering documents to go out for bid on the South 1<sup>st</sup> East project. Councilmember Hart asked about the trash rake. The Director reported it is scheduled to be installed in March with the power and concrete work already completed and a portion paid out of last year's budget. Councilmember Lau asked if more information or project plans had been provided for the all-inclusive playground. Director Skinner mentioned a couple of new donations were received for specific pieces of equipment but he had not received any specifications or prints yet. He stated the group's schedule included beginning the layout and hole drilling on May 5<sup>th</sup> and start construction the end of May. The Council is responsible to approve the plans and specifications and then the group has 6 months to complete the construction per the memorandum of understanding. Councilmember Lau suggested that the group is running out of time to get the City's recommendation and approval with no new information provided. Director Skinner will ask the Friends of the Park for the required information. The Mayor asked about the proposed road relocation and property purchase from the LDS Church. The Director reported the legal descriptions were being written and as soon as he has the prints he can review with the County and work on an agreement to proceed.

Jason Atkins, Regional Business Mgr. for Air Methods who operates Idaho Air Rescue addressed the Mayor and Council proposing to place a permanent, full time, air medical base in Soda Springs. Mr. Atkins mentioned they have been talking to the hospital for about a year and was planning to place an incremental aircraft in Soda Springs but with the loss of the Portneuf Hospital contract they would like to reposition that aircraft to Soda Springs. The plan is to eventually be located right at the Caribou Memorial Hospital but until the Hospital expansion can accommodate them they would like to place a modular hangar and a mobile home at the Allen H. Tigert Airport. Mr. Atkins presented information about the Air Methods program explaining the intense training for pilots with state of the art simulators and emergency medical technicians who are clinically superior. He feels it will be a positive economic boon to the community with 14 full time jobs and at least two of the

pilots have expressed interest in relocating their families to Soda Springs. Mr. Atkins explained that they like to share their training with the hospital and EMS personnel and will be working with the local industry. He also mentioned that it was due to the Caribou Memorial Hospital that they established the Flight Insurance program that provides coverage for a family for \$25 a year. Mr. Atkins stated they will be done in Pocatello on March 31<sup>st</sup> and would like to be set up in Soda Springs as soon as possible. Councilmember Goode asked why Pocatello was going with a new provider. Mr. Atkins said he did not know why but knows that they chose a new smaller service provider. The Council and staff reviewed the current City Code and zoning. Councilmember Hart expressed his support for making whatever code changes are needed to allow the air medical base to operate at the City's airport. Councilmember Goode suggested checking with ICRMP on any risk issues they may have. George Kimball of the Caribou Memorial Hospital requested a letter of support for Air Methods from the City. Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into a lease with Air Methods to place a hangar at the Airport and also authorized the Mayor to provide a letter of support for the proposed air medical base. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Attorney Nelson suggested a detailed application be submitted explaining what is needed for placement of the mobile home. Mayor Robinson expressed his excitement for this fantastic news.

There was no citizen input at the designated time.

The Council heard a review of the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Committee's recommendation on the conditional use application of Michael Urban from Councilmember Goode. The P & Z held a public hearing regarding the conditional use application for multiple commercial storage units to be constructed on a corner lot at North Hooper Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> North Street in the Finlayson Subdivision. The property is currently owned by Michael Urban who plans to sell the property to the developer, Justin Santana if the conditional use is approved. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the conditional use permit for commercial storage units with the following conditions; drainage must be contained on the property and flow into a designated storm water system and snow cannot be pushed onto neighboring property; the storage units must be constructed within five years of the approval; no building will be constructed within five feet (5') of the property line, or if built against the property line the roof must slope inward onto the property; there will be no outside storage and all items must be contained, RV's will only be allowed in open-face buildings; the driveway shall be maintained in accordance with City code and sidewalks will be required. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the conditional use permit based on the P & Z Commission's recommendation and conditions. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Attorney Nelson asked if the driveways would be paved. Director Skinner explained they will be required to be hard surfaced the same as other recent applications.

Director Skinner informed the Mayor and Council that the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will officially take over primacy of all Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) municipal permits. The only action required of the City is to designate a certifying official. Director Skinner presented a draft letter that authorizes him to sign the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) and be the contact point.

Director Skinner also explained that the City's new discharge permit currently being written will still be issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) but after this one future permits and primacy enforcement will fall to the DEQ. Councilmember Hart mentioned Idaho is one of the last states to take over primacy and discussed the new fee that will be assessed by DEQ based on population. Councilmember Goode points out that it is an unfunded mandate. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the letter authorizing Director Skinner to sign reports, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner reported that DEQ showed up last week and did a full blown inspection of the Wastewater Treatment Plant taking six hours. Matt Schenk, IPDES Regional Compliance Officer was very complimentary and saw no problem which is the same way the last inspection went but then a follow-up letter from EPA listed several hundred violations. The inspection and report went well but feedback from EPA may be different. Director Skinner reviewed and discussed with the Council past violations for late report submittals and explained after review it was verified that the reports were not submitted late but it was suggested to work with the permit writer to change the due date giving us a little more time. Councilmember Hart asked about observations from the past inspection which pointed out needed changes to the operations & maintenance (O&M) manual. Director Skinner stated new manuals were prepared with the completion of the new plant incorporating the items mentioned.

Director Skinner presented a recommendation to give public works employee, Brandon Harris a merit increase for the completion of his probationary period and meeting the goals set when he was hired. The recommendation was to move him from a PW4-7 to a PW4-10 on the City's pay scale. Clerk Vorwaller presented documentation for the FY 2018 approved pay plan and for each new hire or wage increase approved since the pay plan was set per the auditor's request. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the wage increase for Brandon Harris as presented, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember's Goode and Lau both mentioned they would need to be absent for the next meeting. The Council discussed rescheduling and agreed to move the next meeting to Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2018.

---

Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk