

to the Council. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the accounts payable for August 15th through August 31st and the payroll for August, 2017, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

Mayor Smith declared the public hearing open for the purpose of hearing public comments on a proposed new water rate to cover the cost of installation of the Formation Well, a 3% increase to the base water rates and establishment of a water connection/disconnection fee and an electrical connection/disconnection fee. The Mayor explained that the new water rate was to cover the cost of the Formation Spring improvements required by a consent order issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. He pointed out that the \$1.5 million cost is low compared to other options considered which included a water treatment facility that would have cost up to \$15 million. The Clerk reported that no written comments were received. The Mayor asked for comments from those in attendance of which there were none. The public hearing was closed at 6:45pm. The Mayor and Council briefly discussed the new rates. Councilmember Goode commented that it is fiscally prudent to build up as much as possible along with borrowing from the other funds to cover the cost of the improvements that are required to be done by January 2019. Mayor Smith mentioned that he doesn't like to increase rates but explained that tax dollars cannot be used to pay for fee based utility services.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve Resolutions 2017 -1, 2, and 3 implementing a new Formation Well water rate, connection and disconnection fees for water and power and increasing water, power and sewer rates by 3%. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion to approve the adoption of the new rate resolutions. All in favor, motion carried.

Lorraine Myers requested the City sponsorship of the annual Soda Screamer half marathon event planned for October 14th, 2017. She explained that it would involve using Kelly Park, City Hall, police support, and some of the City traffic cones the same as in the past. The waiver has been reviewed by Attorney Nelson in the past. The Mayor expressed his support and noted that October is Cross Country Runners Month in Soda Springs. Chief Bunderson pointed out that State approval is required due to the State Highway lane closure. The Clerk reported that the State special event application will be submitted requesting the approval. Councilmember Goode moved to approve sponsoring the Soda Screamer event and provide the requested support. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Smith reported that it was pointed out that the new part-time data records manager position for the Police Department was approved last meeting without properly being listed on the agenda. The requested new position was included on the current agenda for proper approval. Councilmember Lau moved to approve the new part-time police data records manager position, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

Chief Bunderson introduced two new employees and expressed his appreciation for the Mayor and Councils support. Lindsay Grimm will be filling the data-records manager position and Waynet J. Turner has been hired to fill the full time officer position vacated by Officer Delacruz. Mayor Smith welcomed them to the City family and expressed his strong caution to be careful and work safely because the City cares about the people that work for us. The Mayor administered the oath of office to the two new Police Department employees.

Director Skinner updated the Council on continuing projects. Work on the Industrial Park roads has been started by the City Crew, quotes will be coming on fence for Kelly Park along the Railroad tracks and the Airport still has \$10,000 available for asphaltting. The new variable frequency drives at Ledge Creek are installed and the staff is working with the contractor on the programming. Regarding the new #1 lift station for the hotel, Director Skinner reported that engineers estimate a flow increase from 41 gallons a minute to 125 gallons a minute to use as a guide to come up with the hotel's share of the cost. Engineering on next year's project and the #2 lift station upgrade has begun. Director Skinner proposed to expend the \$10,000 airport funds on asphalt adjacent to what was done last year, south of the fueling area, between the hangars and the fuel. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve the airport asphalt, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

The Barnett Subdivision project is complete with the last of the sod installed and the asphalt patched. The Mayor suggested some sweeping and by the Presbyterian Church it may need some water to do a good clean up. The waterline is complete and all services connected on 1st South and the asphalt is scheduled for tomorrow.

Director Skinner reported that the new waterline is in from 3rd West to the Hotel and Intermountain Gas moved their line. The boring company broke down at Kelly Park and another contractor was hired to do the boring under the highway. This project should be completed by the end of September but the Kelly Park line may not. The #2 pay application from A+ Construction in the amount of \$155,970 was reviewed. The pay application included change order #1 for additional excavation expenses and sod to install the waterline across the church property and quickly clean-up. Director Skinner stated he is still working with the church on purchasing the property to allow for the rerouting of the road. Councilmember Lau moved to approve pay application #2 including change order #1, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried. This still leaves \$351,000 to be expended on the project by the end of the fiscal year.

Veda Mascarenas of 331 South 2nd West presented citizen input at the designated time. She thanked the City for the new water line by the Presbyterian Church that has been a long time needed. She also shared concerns about the attitude of City employees and how they address the public. She mentioned that she has heard different times from City employees that "it's not my problem" and she feels as public servants they should treat people better and have a better attitude in handling the citizens. The Mayor asked Mrs. Mascarenas to accept his apology and stated he appreciated her comments and will address the issue.

Mrs. Mascarenas also noted that she feels the new yard clean-up ordinance was a good thing and even if it is not strongly enforced it is making a difference.

Councilmember Goode revisited the Planning and Zonings (P & Z) intentions to update the Comprehensive Plan and the grant submittal that was unsuccessful. He explained that the next step would be to utilize the \$7500 budgeted to help update the plan in another way. The P & Z recommended working with Idaho State University (ISU) Bengal Solutions. Program Director, Dr. Dan Cravens presented to the P & Z a proposal for six graduate students to do an economic study of Soda Springs creating a market analysis and action plan which then can be used to help update portions of the Comprehensive Plan. The proposal would cost the \$7500 budgeted. Councilmember Goode supports the proposal and recommendation of the Planning and Zoning. He understands they are not consultants which would come at a much higher cost but the ideas proposed included realistic goals for limited funds and feels it is a prudent expenditure. Councilmember Goode also suggested that some of the cost could come from the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee (GSSCDC) because the information will be mutually beneficial. Councilmember Gambles and Goode will present to the GSSCDC before the next Council Meeting and then the proposal will be reconsidered by the Council. Attorney Nelson asked for clarification on how this proposal relates to updating the Comprehensive Plan. Councilmember Goode briefly explained that the information gathered by ISU will be used by the P & Z to update the data in the Comprehensive Plan.

Attorney Nelson presented a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) prepared by Attorney Doug Wood for the Friends of the City Park regarding the proposed playground project. Attorney Nelson expressed several concerns and suggested changes and additions including liability insurance with the City named additionally insured and performance and payment bonds to insure the project will be completed and contractors paid. He also suggested clarification on the type of fencing and suggested the completion time was too long. Attorney Nelson requested the City Council to review and submit comments. He also pointed out that the City has never received any plans or specifications for review and the City should not be signing an agreement until the plan is reviewed and we have detailed information about contract price, who is providing labor and materials, right to inspect and approve materials used and method and means of construction. Mayor Smith suggested a work meeting with Councilmember Gambles who is over parks, Attorney Nelson, himself and the Friends of the Park to work through these concerns and come up with an agreeable MOU. Councilmember Lau expressed his desire to find a way to keep the old equipment along with the new and again expressed his disagreement with installing a fence. He also suggested there needed to be an opportunity for public input where the plans and design could be reviewed. Councilmember Gambles disagreed with Councilmember Lau stating that he feels there has been opportunity for input but agreed the plans need to be submitted and reviewed. The Mayor asked the Council to submit any comments or concerns to Attorney Nelson and Director Skinner.

The Mayor and Council reviewed in detail a proposal submitted by Mick McCullough of Soda Springs Hotel, LLC for the Cobblestone Inn & Suites which is currently being

constructed at 341 West 2nd South. Director Skinner explained that the proposal includes extending the sidewalk, curb and gutter along the front connecting to the bowling alley parking lot but requests a waiver of the rear (south side) sidewalk, curb and gutter where there will be some parking that is compacted gravel and there will be some landscaping. The Mayor asked that Councilmember Hart's emailed comments be inserted into the record as part of the discussion. They are as follows: *In concept, I can see the merits of Soda Springs Hotel, LLC's request. I feel we could defer curb, gutter and sidewalk on the rear of the new Hotel until a more comprehensive development plan is advanced on the access road at the rear of all those businesses. If we elect to grant the Hotel's request, they would need to incorporate sufficient methods to allow rear access, control drainage ... to avoid that rear area of becoming a "mud-hole" over time.* Mayor Smith sympathized with the concept because there is nothing in the back but does have concerns about who will be responsible to provide maintenance and control the gravel from coming onto the road. Councilmember Lau suggested a flush curb to hold in the gravel just across the entrance. He stated it may help but if not he would want the problem corrected. Attorney Nelson suggested something in writing that would postpone the requirement to put in the curb and gutter in order to assess if the proposal was acceptable. Director Skinner will review with Mr. McCullough the concerns and suggestions and Attorney Nelson will prepare an agreement for the next meeting. All agreed they had concerns about how to manage the back portion and they didn't want adverse maintenance issues.

Clerk Vorwaller presented the annual Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP) renewal for the City's liability insurance coverage along with the document to reject additional terrorism coverage which if not rejected is a substantial additional cost. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the Mayor to execute the annual ICRMP renewal and reject the additional terrorism coverage. Councilmember Lau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 20TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2017.

James R. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk