

the many years he volunteered as a coach for numerous little league teams. The world could use more Gus Greene's! We are very lucky to have Gus Greene in our town. He makes Caribou County a better place with his generosity and compassion. Gus Greene is truly a Soda Springs Super Hero!

The Mayor reported that he and Councilmember Gambles and Attorney Nelson met with Attorney Doug Wood who is supporting the Friends of the City Park and they are working on a legal document that will protect both parties regarding the construction of the proposed all-inclusive playground. They hope to have an agreement to sign by next meeting. The Mayor commented on available park funds that went unexpended in the 2017 fiscal year explaining that the funds were allocated for projects that the crews were not able to get to and some of the funds were excess salary and benefits.

Attorney Nelson reported on his review of the proposed revisions to the City's purchased power contract with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Due to the complexity of the contract and the number of definitions he looked at any financial harm to the City due to the revisions and in respect to how it was reviewed he does not see any problem. Attorney Nelson briefly reviewed his understanding of the revisions which gives the City an option to purchase non-federal power if we exceed our current Tier 1 limits which currently we only use about half. Councilmember Hart reported that he didn't see any surprises and the revisions were consistent with the complex language of the BPA agreements. Councilmember Hart moved to approve the revisions to the BPA Contract as presented, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

The Council considered the proposals submitted for auditing services. Mayor Smith stated he felt it was not appropriate for him to have an opinion on the auditing services where they will be evaluating validity of the City's financial management and deferred the decision to the City Council. Councilmember Hart shared his review and ranking of the three proposals recommending Deaton & Company out of Pocatello based on the cost, logistics and prior knowledge of the firms work. Clerk Vorwaller agreed with Councilmember Hart's recommendation based on her conversations with the auditing firms' representatives and recommendations from other City Clerks. Councilmember Goode also agreed with Councilmember Hart's recommendation adding that he likes the idea of the closer proximity and ability for the auditor to make more field visits if needed. Councilmember Lau moved to approve to accept the proposal from Deaton & Company to provide auditing services to the City for the 2017 fiscal year audit. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Director Skinner presented for review the project list for the new budget year and reported that there are a few minor punch list items left to complete last year's project along with completing the Kelly Park boring. Director Skinner explained that it may be difficult to find a contractor that can get the boring done this year. He also mentioned he and staff are working on some grants through the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council for asphalt replacement on 7th East Street and child-pedestrian safety for sidewalks and highway crossing lights along with possibly a Transportation Investment Generating

Economic Recovery grant known as a TIGER grant which could provide federal funding for sidewalks and other transportation needs. The Mayor mentioned that the Friends of the Park are also working on a grant that the City may be able to attain for park improvements.

Director Skinner gave a brief report on the relocation of the by-way sign near Montpelier. The Walton Feed Company may be willing to let the sign be placed on their property and the Chamber of Commerce may also have a possible location.

Councilmember Hart reported on attending the Planning & Zoning (P & Z) Commission meeting in place of Councilmember Goode in which a public hearing was held on the application of Bipeck Holdings, LC for a conditional use permit in a C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zone to allow the existing Mobile Home Park to be converted to a Recreational Vehicle (RV) Park located at 561 East Hooper Avenue. Councilmember Hart explained that there was a fair amount of discussion including the significant improvement and beautification that Bipeck has planned, comments in favor of the proposal, a written comment in favor if a barrier fence is required, concerns presented about the one last mobile home having to be moved and the trash and cars accumulated around the mobile home. Also discussed at length was the required perimeter fencing next to the residential zone which some wanted, others didn't and the City staff had concerns about accessing City utilities in proximity to the fence's location. The Planning & Zoning's recommendation to the City Council was to approve the conditional use permit for the RV Park allowing the mobile home to stay, with Bipeck and the mobile home owner working together on the clean-up and time frame for removal. Councilmember Hart moved to accept the P & Z's recommendation and approve the conditional use permit for the RV Park at 561 East Hooper Avenue allowing the one mobile home to remain for a reasonable period until moved at which time that space would be included in the RV Park. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Hart further explained the conversations held regarding the required fencing and the suggestion that Bipeck Holdings could apply for a variance to waive the requirement of the fencing. Mayor Smith stated he is pleased with Bipeck's vision but shares some concerns about whether it is appropriate to waive the fence requirement pointing out that the code is in place to protect the residential areas. He also explained that after review with the City Attorney it has been determined that a variance is not currently allowed for waiving the fence and it will require a code amendment. Attorney Nelson reviewed and suggested ways to amend the code to allow a variance process to the RV Park perimeter fencing requirement. Councilmember Lau moved to approve instructing Attorney Nelson to draft the code amendment to add a variance procedure on fencing in the RV Park code. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Goode thanked Councilmember Hart for filling in for him at P & Z.

Director Skinner presented his recommendation to hire Celeste Billman as the new full-time Recreation Director. He explained that she has been filling the position temporarily and it has been working well. Councilmember Gambles shared comments he has received that she is doing a great job. Councilmember Gambles moved to approve hiring Celeste

Billman as the full-time Recreation Director, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Smith shared a picture of EJ Lopez, a local youth, cleaning the skate park that was recognized by Fireman Scott Mackenzie as good stewardship of City facilities. The Mayor commended Mr. Lopez for being a good example and asked anyone that sees him to thank him. The Mayor also mentioned that he received a positive comment from a contractor that was here a few years ago and is back doing another project and he noticed how good the city was looking.

Director Skinner requested to procure the materials for the bridge for the Hooper pathway connector project. The project has been an ongoing project of the Greater Soda Springs Community Development Committee (GSSCDC) and the Cariboo Development Foundation (CDF) with the majority of the project covered by CDF funds that came from the fishing derby fundraiser along with donations of sand and trucking. The bridge will be a City asset connecting the Hooper Park pathways. Councilmember Lau moved to approve purchasing the bridge materials to be reimbursed by the CDF, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor reminded everyone of the candidate forum that will be held on Monday, October 23rd at the Tigert Middle School and the Council also discussed that the next City Council meeting would be back to the 5:00pm start time.

Councilmember Goode, seconded by Councilmember Lau moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 1ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2017.

James R. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk