

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SODA SPRINGS, CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO HELD DECEMBER 4TH, 2017.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:00PM BY JAMES R. SMITH, MAYOR.

ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

JAMES R. SMITH, MAYOR
MITCHELL J. HART, PRES.
JON D. GOODE
ROBERT M. LAU
SCOTT K. GAMBLES

EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT:

Georgia Brown	Alan Skinner, Director
Laura Lind	Tausha Vorwallner, Clerk
Danielle Stoor	Clyde Nelson, Attorney via telephone
Roger Gibson	
Tim Vedder	Larry Weaver
Ron & Lorraine Myers	Eric Hobson
Denise & Bill Horsley	Sue Goodenough
Jeff & Kristen Horsley	
SSHS Cross Country Team Members	

The invocation was given by Georgia Brown, Mayor Smith then led everyone in the 'Pledge of Allegiance'.

The previous meeting minutes were presented for review. Councilmember Goode stated he had reviewed and noted no changes he then moved to dispense with the reading and approve the November 15th, 2017 minutes in their present draft form. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The accounts payable and payroll for November, 2017 were reviewed. Councilmember Goode moved to approve the accounts payable for the period of November 14th through November 30th, 2017 and the payroll for the month of November, 2017. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. Councilmember Goode asked about a water assessment payment for the Hydro plants. Director Skinner explained this is an annual payment that previously went directly to the water master but because the water master retired the payment is being submitted to the water district secretary. Councilmember Lau also asked about a payment for a chip and seal spreader. The Clerk reported it was a late invoice received on last year's chip and sealing. A vote on the motion to approve the accounts payable and payroll was called. All in favor, motion carried

(SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REGISTERS FOR DETAIL)

The Mayor and City Council recognized Monsanto as a Soda Springs Super Hero for their immense contributions to the community. Monsanto has been a valued member of the greater Soda Springs community for over 65 years providing jobs and community support

in numerous ways. Monsanto was recognized for supporting the City's Library, Parks, Fire and Police Departments and the Recreation programs. The Mayor noted that the City would especially like to recognize Monsanto's employees that contribute time and money to making Soda Springs such a great place to live. The Mayor and Council expressed their sincere thanks to Monsanto.

Mayor Smith was pleased to recognize Ron and Lorraine Myers as long time local business owners and exceptional community supporters. Ron has been in the radio business for 35 years and has continued for over 25 years as R & L Communications supporting our public safety departments. The Myers also owned and operated a cell phone business all around SE Idaho for 19 years. Ron was a member of the Caribou County Fire Department and served as Chief for 6 of the 10 years, Lorraine has served as a member of the Soda Springs Public Library Board and as the Chamber of Commerce President along with providing small business coaching. The Myers most recent hobby and contribution to the community involves supporting the many running and biking events in the area. The Mayor and Council expressed their appreciation to the Myers for their continued investment in the City's economy and longtime involvement and support of the community making them true Soda Springs Super Heroes.

Mayor Smith revisited the City Council's approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Friends of the Park for placement of the new all-inclusive playground. Last meeting the MOU was approved striking the reference to the Northeast corner of the park due to questions about the location of utilities and fiber optic lines. Director Skinner reported that Digline was utilized to locate any utilities and it was determined there were no issues with the NE corner. Laura Lind representing the Friends of the Park thanked everyone for their support and involvement and explained how much time and effort has been put in by their group over the past 18 months. She reported that they were not willing to compromise on the proposed location in the Northeast corner of the City Park and recently raised additional funds over \$20,000. She explained that they had no intention of moving forward with construction without verifying utilities and was offended that the Council would think they would have considered building on top of utilities. Councilmember Hart reviewed and discussed the size of the playground. Attorney Nelson pointed out that the current draft of the MOU was missing the volunteer language previously agreed upon. Councilmember Goode moved to approve accepting the MOU with reference to the Northeast corner included and also the volunteer language. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The Mayor and Council expressed their appreciation for the effort put into this worthwhile project.

Eric Hobson, Caribou County Public Safety Director addressed the Mayor and City Council requesting support and assistance in recruiting emergency medical technicians (EMTs). Mr. Hobson mentioned that due to it being a volunteer position it is a challenge for the County to recruit enough EMTs and explained that they have been under staffed for years. The option of converting to a paid EMT service would require a 982% increase to the ambulance tax. There is a training class starting in January and they have a few applications but not enough. Mr. Hobson said his main goal right now is to get the word

out and get people signed up. The training is now available to 16 & 17 year olds, requires 140 hours of class time and takes 4 months of evening classes to complete. Mayor Smith suggested putting a paragraph in the upcoming Mayor's letter and information on the City's website. Councilmember Hart asked how many retired EMTs there were and suggested trying to recruit some of those back who already have the experience. It was also suggested that Mr. Hobson visit the High School health classes and encourage the training as a great senior project. The Mayor and Council stated they are willing to help in any way and it would also be good to reach out to the local industry and pull in those already trained.

The City was pleased to recognize Agrium, Conda Phosphate Operations as a Soda Springs Super Hero. Agrium has been an important part of the Greater Soda Springs Community for over a decade providing valuable jobs to our citizens and supporting our community through generous donations to the City's Fire Department, Parks and the youth recreation programs. Agrium also sponsors an annual United Way fundraiser and recently gave a significant contribution for wildlife conservation efforts. The Mayor noted that he would especially like to recognize Agrium's approach of sitting down with the City groups and asking how they can make the biggest difference with their donations. The Council thanked Agrium for being a Soda Springs Super Hero!

Mayor Smith noted that he had recognized Coach Jeff Horsley but also wanted to recognize the past and present Soda Springs High School Cross Country Teams for their historic achievements, dedication and enormous efforts to continue the legacy of this very successful program. He mentioned that he had been sought out numerous times by people recognizing the team as not only great athletes but more importantly as good people. The Girls boast a historic 12 consecutive State Championships and the Boys have an impressive record of 8 State Championships, 2 Runner-up's and 2 - 3rd place finishes in 12 years. The Mayor and City Council thanked the runners, all the coaches, the parents, the support staff and the school for continuing to set expectations high and representing the community in such a positive way making the Soda Springs High School Cross Country Teams truly Soda Springs Super Heroes!

Director Skinner mentioned the Scenic Byway sign relocation near Montpelier was moving forward. He also reported on the additional Local Highway Technical Assistance (LHTAC) grant funds and the 7th East Street asphalt project. Initially the program was offering up to \$100,000 to small cities but due to the amount of excess funds the program has been expanded to a minimum project of \$250,000. The Mayor and Director explained that the proposed project for 7th East Street has been expanded to include Pioneer Drive and Hopkins Lane including cul-de-sacs, valley gutters and some curb repair. The proposed asphalt project budget is \$351,000 including a 20% contingency with no match required. The requirements include submitting bid documents by April 16th, provide mid-project update by June 1st and complete the project by November 16th, 2018. The Council briefly discussed the proposal. Councilmember Lau moved to approve submitting the proposed project as presented for the LHTAC Grant and authorized the Mayor's signature, seconded by Councilmember Goode. All in favor, motion carried.

The final pay application and change order #3 for the past years utility projects completed by A+ Construction was presented for approval. The change order included increased costs associated with the water line trenching across Highway 30 and some unit price adjustments for a total change order amount of \$21,232.58 and resulting final pay application #5 being \$34,161. Councilmember Hart moved to approve change order #3 and the final pay application #5 as presented. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The infrastructure project list was briefly reviewed and Councilmember Hart reported that he had met with Mayor-Elect Robinson and went over the project list of budgeted items for his review.

The Mayor and Director Skinner reported on some current ground water issues and areas that may possibly be worse in the spring. Several residents are being affected by increased ground water along with the City's gravel pit and increased levels are being experienced at Formation Springs. Director Skinner reported on an application to develop a fish pond along the Little Spring Creek that was rejected by the Army Corp of Engineers and it was determined that the Creek is considered a Water Way of the United States requiring property owners to attain a permit for cleaning. The Mayor expressed disagreement with this determination. The Council discussed at length and included a suggestion to involve the managers of the former Tronox site in the conversations to make sure everyone is working together.

The official election results certified by the Caribou County Clerk and Commissioners were presented to the Mayor and City Council for review. Councilmember Goode moved to approve accepting the election results as certified and presented. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

(See attached copy of election results – originals on file)

Director Skinner presented a recommendation to sole source fire hydrants designating the preferred brand in order to not have to stock multiple brand parts. He further explained an issue with prior contractors and the bid document which requires approval by the Fire Chief. Both the Fire Chief and the Water Superintendent agree on the preferred brand. Director Skinner mentioned that other brands are good but we just want to standardize the type installed throughout the City and designate the required brand going forward in future bidding specifications. Councilmember Lau moved to approve Resolution 2017-4 declaring that American Flow Control Waterous Fire Hydrants and their components and replacement parts shall be subject to sole source procurement by the City. Councilmember Goode seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Attorney Nelson reminded the Clerk that the resolution must be published.

Mayor Smith discussed with the Council the continued efforts to rent out additional properties at the Industrial Park and the Airport. He reported that there is a request to build a 60 x 60 hangar at the Airport with an apartment to be used as a living quarters. The

proposal includes the need for water and power hook-ups and the installation of a septic tank along with asphalt to tie into the existing asphalt. The Mayor suggested that it could be beneficial to have a set of eyes at the airport. Director Skinner also mentioned that due to Rodger Sorensen's hangar being damaged and tore down, he has purchased one of the existing hangars and his lease will need to be updated. The proposal was discussed and Councilmember Hart and Attorney Nelson suggested that the apartment should be for the owner's use only. Also considered was an additional rental amount for the residence.

Director Skinner reported on a safety visit performed by Lower Valley as a partner of the Idaho Energy Authority (IDEA). The Mayor supported this type of safety exchange stating it was a very positive program. The report was briefly reviewed and it was noted that the new hydro trash rake was recognized as a positive improvement.

Councilmember Goode moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm, seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 19TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2017.

James R. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk