

Councilmember Lau revisited the proposed cargo container ordinance. He reported the Planning and Zoning would like to take two to three more meetings to re-review and hold a public meeting before sending a recommendation back to the council. Councilmember Lau suggested making sure all parties who had interest in the past of using cargo containers be made aware of the meeting.

David Vedder the current Director of the Caribou Field Archers Club along with Vice President, Shane Hubbard met with the Mayor and Council to propose establishing an archery range in the City. They mentioned the Archery Club has been established for over 60 years and they continue to try to provide more opportunity to the community. Mr. Vedder explained they have a seasonal range at Trail Canyon, hold an annual shoot at Kelly Park and monthly shoots at the school during the winter. The Club would like to establish a permanent year-round range with quality targets within the City to provide a safe location for 4-H, the schools and club members. Mr. Vedder suggested possibly putting it at Kelly Park and shared a power point presentation of the proposed set-up. He stated they are also open to other location ideas. The range would be created using range best safety standards. Mr. Vedder explained the cost to build the range would be covered by Fish & Game grants, extensive corporate sponsors and donations of equipment and labor. He suggested maintenance would be a joint effort with the Club maintaining the targets and the City maintaining the grounds. He also mentioned the Club currently has liability insurance covering locations they use and lists the National Forest Service; the City of Soda Springs and the School District and coverage amounts could be adjusted if needed. A similar range exists in other cities and their rules can be reviewed and incorporated. Mr. Vedder asked if the City was interested in moving forward with the idea. Councilmember Hart suggested looking at a couple other locations like the Airport and the upper Hooper Springs Park and offered to send Mr. Vedder a power point of the City's properties. Councilmember Lau added his opinion that the upper Hooper Springs Park would be a perfect place. The Mayor and Council supported the idea and encouraged the Archery Club to put together a plan.

Eric Hobson, Caribou County Director of Public Safety added to the previous discussion on the need for emergency medical technicians (EMT's) in Caribou County. Mr. Hobson explained they currently have 11 EMT's and have been under the federally suggested minimum of 18 for 10 years. He stated this is not just a local shortage but a nationwide problem. He would appreciate the City's help in getting the word out of the need for more volunteers and the class that will begin in February. The class requires 160 hours and takes five months to complete. Mr. Hobson mentioned the increased tax burden on the community if the County had to move to a paid emergency services program and why it's so important to get more volunteers interested. Councilmember Hart suggested pursuing a partnership with the industrial plants who also have EMT programs.

Fire Chief Squires requested approval to proceed with purchasing cascade air cylinders budgeted and used to fill the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) air bottles used by the firemen. He explained how the new larger air cylinders will allow them to fully fill their SCBA bottles faster and discontinue the rental fees. He also explained the hydro testing is

paid by the City anyway and the new cylinders will have a 10-year warranty with a life expectancy of 30 years. He has seen an increase in cost since price checked last summer and would like to get them purchased before prices go up. Councilmember Lau moved to approve the purchase as described with the understanding that the higher cost will need to be covered by his existing budget. Councilmember Gambles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Hart noted an approximate 11-year payout based on how you look at it.

During citizen input Councilmember Gambles commended the snow plow removal efforts today that started at 5am and stated the Christmas lights look great. Mayor Robinson wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and reminded all that Jesus is the reason for the season. He added he is looking forward to working the next year with the new councilmembers.

Engineer Skinner reported the rest of the playground camera system equipment showed up and we will be ready to schedule the pole placement as soon as the weather permits.

The 46kV transmission line upgrade was discussed. Engineer Skinner stated Rocky Mountain Power is now saying they can only work on up to 12 kV lines and cannot do this upgrade. The Council agreed this didn't make sense because Rocky Mountain has 46 kV systems all over and that is what the City's line will be connecting too. Engineer Skinner suggested bidding out the project. The Council agreed.

The progress on the #4 Hydro plant rebuild was discussed. Detailed plans and costs were reviewed. The costs tentatively approved so far include pulling and reconditioning the generator for \$78,900 plus an additional \$40,000 because it was necessary to rewind, and building a new switch gear for \$90,700. This brings the total to over \$200,000 and there is also optional equipment that could cost up to another \$50,000. Engineer Skinner mentioned he, the designer, and City Director Hansen are reviewing the optional items and will be making a recommendation.

Attorney Haney presented a settlement agreement and mutual release regarding the Enders building lease. He reported he had negotiated the termination of the lease with the Diamond Heart Cattleman's Steakhouse owners who in the original agreement had an option to renew for three years. They agreed to clean and vacate the building immediately and the City will forgive the security system costs along with December's rent. They will forfeit their security deposit. Attorney Haney stated he and Councilmember Hart did a walk through on December 13th and commended them on doing a good job cleaning it up. Attorney Haney recommended approval of the agreement as prepared. Councilmember Lau moved to approve the settlement agreement and mutual release with Diamond Heart Cattleman's Steakhouse LLC. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Hart noted the City is now in full control of the building and reviewed the carrying cost, at a minimum, to heat the building. On average it will run a \$1000 a month or \$12,000 a year. Radiators have been serviced and are working better for a 20-year-old system. He suggested beginning with the new council the City will need to

wrestle with what to do with the building. Partnering with the Caribou Historical Society may be an option and selling the building is an option but it is more complicated than that due to the requirements to auction City owned property.

Councilmember Lau briefly addressed and explained annexation options and questions that came up throughout the election process and at the candidate forum. There are two general avenues for annexation; property owners agree and want to be annexed, or there is implied consent if the City is already providing services to the property. The challenge with annexation is the City takes on the full responsibility of the infrastructure, streets and power system which would have to be purchased from Rocky Mountain Power. The increased property tax and utility fees collected may not necessarily offset the up front and maintenance costs to the City. Councilmember Lau suggested investigating certain properties and doing a feasibility study if the City is going to consider an annexation. Councilmember Hart added there are also challenges with gravity flow services to outlying areas and terraced lands where septic systems are higher than drinking water wells. The other option is a treatment facility for the subdivision which then has the same requirements as the City with certified operators. Water/Wastewater Supervisor Squires also noted permitting would take years for receiving waters approval. Councilmember's Hart and Lau added that recent legislation effects how new construction is not paying for itself like it should.

Councilmember Hart explained the Association of Idaho Cities (AIC) has an environmental specialist employee who is helping the City's stay aware of federal regulations. In conjunction with that AIC is offering participation in a Federal Water Quality Association for \$35 a year. The Council agreed it was a minimal amount to have access to valuable information that may come out of the membership. Councilmember Lau moved to approve participating in the Water Quality Association through AIC, seconded by Councilmember Gambles. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Lau moved to approve entering into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(f) to communicate with legal counsel regarding probable litigation. Councilmember Hart seconded the motion. A roll call showed the following vote:

Those voting aye:	Mitch Hart	Those voting nay:	none
	Scott Gambles		
	Robert Lau	Absent:	Jon Goode

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Hart moved to exit executive session, seconded by Councilmember Lau. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Lau moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm, seconded by Councilmember Hart. All in favor, motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 15, 2021
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PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THIS 5TH DAY OF JANUARY,
2022.

Austin W. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tausha Vorwaller, Clerk