

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WALLACE, IDAHO
October 14, 2020

Mayor Mogensen asked that anyone attending the meeting in person not call into the meeting, because it causes an issue for the people that are participating via telephone. She stated if there was an issue, the meeting would be stopped and then restarted. She asked the people calling in to mute their phone after they identify themselves. Josh from the News-Press acknowledged he was on the phone. Jocelyn Bachman also called into the meeting at a later time. Mayor Mogensen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the council chamber.

Roll Call: Council members present: Dave DeRoos; Elmer Mattila; Rick Shaffer; Michele Bisconer and Dean Cooper. Council members absent: Heather Branstetter.

Flag Salute

Consent Agenda:

Council member Shaffer made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2020 regular meeting and the September 16, 2020 special meeting, accounts payable in the amount of \$49,147.12, transfers and the advance payroll for October 2020. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Reports:

Mayor:

Mayor Mogensen stated she was involved in a few meetings regarding the pool. Hollis Anderson has "started a fire" in regards to getting the pool project moving and has suggested the City put something in the window at US Bank to show the financial progress. Luke Hull from Wallace High School made a poster with a thermometer, so the City can document how much money it has raised for the project. This has been placed in the window at US Bank. The City has put a dumpster out for leaves. Mayor Mogensen also stated she attended a meeting with the fire district regarding annexation, and the City would allow trick or treating this year.

Sheriff:

Council member DeRoos read the Sheriff's report submitted by Sheriff Gunderson stating that during the month of September 2020 the Shoshone County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to 134 calls for service within the city of Wallace. A report was attached. Council member Cooper made the motion to approve the Sheriff's report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Mattila. All Ayes. Carried.

Fire:

Council member Shaffer read the Fire report submitted by Fire Chief Aaron Cagle stating that Shoshone County Fire District One personnel responded 16 times for medical emergencies and 4 fire response in Wallace for September 2020. Council member Bisconer made the motion to approve the Fire report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Shaffer. All Ayes. Carried.

Street:

Council member Bisconer stated the Public Works Department cleaned storm drains in preparation for winter. They are also looking at where to store snow on the South Hill so it does not get pushed onto the stairs. Barriers have been placed at the end of Cedar and at Academy Park to protect these areas from being damaged by the snow. The City is hoping by doing this it saves time, money and resources. Council member Bisconer stated Cory, the Public Works Supervisor, has put together a great plan for snow removal. They have also finished repairing the fencing along Placer Creek.

Finance:

Council member Cooper read the Finance report submitted stating that the General fund has \$697,863.32; Street \$-51,676.14; Library \$45,856.83; Parks & Rec. \$252,325.62; Insurance \$67,209.71; Sewer \$138,542.61; USDA \$98.77 for a total of \$1,150,220.72. Wells Fargo Savings \$353,119.88 and Wallace Inn UDAG \$195,002.85. Council member Shaffer made a motion to approve the Finance report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. All Ayes. Carried.

Library: Council member Mattila stated the library steps have been touched up by Lonnie Keats. This work has a 10-year warranty. Also, Always There Home Repair finished the concrete work on the west side of the main stairway. The total cost of that work was \$312.00

Parks and Recreation: Council member Branstetter was absent.

Business:

Update on Wallace Swimming Pool Repair Project – Jim Roletto (*Action Item*) Mr. Roletto addressed the council and stated the plans have changed. The City stands ready to put the project back out to bid. Mr. Roletto stated he feels like this is the right thing to do. Council member Cooper stated the fundraising effort has been kicked into high gear and the generosity has been fabulous. Council member Cooper stated \$800,000 is the City's goal. The pool fund has about \$225,000 plus the \$50,000 from UDAG. Donations with either a letter of commitment, or actual cash with the exception of one, puts the City at \$513,000 that has been raised on top of the City funds. The need now is about \$12,000. There are also other potential donations and grants. Council member Cooper feels the City can obtain the additional \$12,000 and is comfortable with putting it back out to bid. Brief discussion on timeline. Mayor Mogensen thanked Jim Roletto and Council member Cooper for their work on this project. She also thanked the Friends of the Pool, Hollis Anderson, Janet Howard, Amy Lynn, Connie Lister. Further discussion held on timeline and project phases. Council member Cooper made a motion to give the City Engineer the go ahead to rebid very quickly. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Update on Annexation with Fire District #1 - (*Action Item*) –Council member Cooper explained that the City has a contract with the fire district and the contract allows for an increase every year. The challenge with this is Idaho Code states the entity you enter into a contact with must pay the same rate as those in the district. Under the current contract, the City does not pay the same rate, but there is a signed contract so it is not advantageous to either party to break the contract. Council member Cooper stated now with the bond levy it is “really out of whack”. On the bond levy the payment is just over \$107,000 a year through the rate payers. The Fire District is wanting an increase of \$39,000 more a year and this is not currently in the current contract. Without the annexation, the fire district has to add the portion that Wallace is not paying and put that on their rate payers. With the annexation, the citizens of Wallace would contribute to the \$107,000 and the City's portion would be around \$29,000 and the existing people in the district would see a reduction in their portion. The annexation paperwork needs to be in place by the end of this year, so that it can be placed on the tax rolls next year. However, the fire district would not receive this money until 2022. Council member Cooper stated the right thing to do is to have everyone pay the same amount. Discussion held on what documents the City is waiting on to finish this item. Council member Bisconer made a motion to table until further details are provided. Seconded by Council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Letter to Buffalo Soldiers – Dave Copelan (*Action Item*) – Dave Copelan addressed the council and stated the National Parks Service asked if the City could submit a letter supporting a feasibility study for a Buffalo Soldiers trail. The State is asking for a letter from the city and county stating there is no objection to the Parks Service conducting this study. Mr. Copelan talked about the connection with the Buffalo Soldier group and the publicity it would bring to the area. Further discussion held. Council member Shaffer stated he is recusing himself from voting due to his position as Marketing Chairman for the Chamber, and he also stated this would be a way to strengthen the City's relationship with Missoula. Further information provided by Mr. Copelan. Council member Mattila stated he thought it was a good idea. Council member Cooper made a motion for the City to write a letter in support of this study. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer recused himself; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Reposition flag pole in front of Visitor's Center – Dave Copelan stated they received \$1,000 to put up two more flag poles at the Visitor's Center, but they cannot put them up because the pole that has the American flag is bent. Discussion held on using the Morbeck money given to the Chamber and salvaging the pole that is there. Jim Roletto said he would take a look, and they could make a plan.

Flood Protection – Derek Forseth of Alta Science and Engineering (*Action Item*) – Mr. Forseth addressed the council regarding funding opportunities for flood hazard mitigation. He stated they have been working on flood control with the South Fork and side drainages throughout the basin for the last 14 years. Mr. Forseth said there are three programs he would like to present that his clients have been using in the basin. Next, Mr. Forseth went over how Wallace is represented on the FEMA flood maps. He then stated the first step is writing a letter to the Corp stating the issue, provide background information and state what the City needs help with. This process could possibly take about a year. Council member Shaffer asked if writing this letter would obligate the City to move forward with any projects. Mr. Forseth stated it does not obligate the City to do anything, but rather positions the City for wall or channel improvements.

Council member Bisconer asked if changes to the map could affect residents. Mr. Forseth stated it would and gave details on the additional steps that would need to be taken. He also went over grant opportunities through FEMA. Discussion held regarding what other cities are doing and timeline of the programs. Council member Cooper made a motion to apply for the USACE program. Seconded by council member Shaffer. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Approve carry forward of vacation and compensation time for City employees - (Action Item) – Council member Cooper made a motion to carry forward the vacation and compensation based on the memo provided in the packets. Seconded by council member Mattila. Council member Bisconer asked for clarification on how much time an employee can bank and if this is reviewed annually. Discussion held. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

General Comments:

There being no further business to come before the council, Council member Mattila made the motion to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. All Ayes. Carried.



Lynn Mogensen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristina Larson
City Clerk/Treasurer