REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 5, 2017

Officials in Attendance: Mayor Dorothy Knauss; Councilmen John May, Payton Norvell and John Wight; Councilwomen Sharon Ludwig, Dee Henderson, Carra Nupp and Roberta McMillin

Staff Present: City Attorney Mike Waters, Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCart

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Audience Comments: None

Announcements/Appointments, including:
- Mayor’s Youth Award – Andras Bakken.
- Mike Waters of McGrane & Schuerman Law Firm is stepping in as City Attorney.

Presentation: None

Consent Agenda:
Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig approving Consent Agenda consisting of:
- March 1st Regular Minutes
- March Payroll and Claim Vouchers
Seconded by Councilwoman McMillin. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Committee/Commission Reports:
- Lodging Tax Advisory, Councilwoman McMillin: Tدد’s initial application was rejected because it was incomplete – it was resubmitted and the committee recommends award. Motion by Councilman Nupp to approve allocation of Hotel/Motel Tax funds of $1,000 to Tدد, seconded by Councilman Wight. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

City Administrator Mayor’s Report, including:
- I recently made a “Declaration of Emergency due to Flood Conditions”. I asked Stevens County Emergency Management when I should lift that and was told to keep it active for as long as the County’s is active. The State is attempting to gather ball park figures regarding damages for the entire county and then if the total reaches a certain threshold, there may be state money for public road repairs. We’ve spent about $4,000 so far. The declaration gave us the authority to procure expedited permits – the creek on Second Street was eating into the roadway – we fixed that. Don’t know what else will need to be addressed – the north footbridge in the park is suspect. There isn’t any money for individual assistance for flooding. I was told by Emergency Management that even with all the people who lost their homes during the fire season, the county did not meet the threshold for private FEMA assistance – so there has to be a huge loss to kick off private assistance.
- The Kalispell Tribe is applying for a C-1 air quality designation. C-1’s are usually reserved for national parks and wilderness areas but the federal government has given tribes the ability to ask for and receive that designation. Their reservation at Usk is very small but their adjudicated lands take in all of Stevens County, part of Ferry County, part of Montana, part of Spokane and up into Canada. Those were adjudicated to the tribes in 1978 by the federal government. What that means is if anything exceeds the air quality parameters and goes over their reservation, then it’s not a permitted use. They study wind patterns and this does affect the site at Addy. I was pretty concerned about it until I read their whole narrative and found out that the Spokane Tribe already has a C-1 designation that covers the Addy plant. I don’t have any idea how that is going to affect HiTest Sand. The legislation that they needed (HiTest) is moving right along.
• Chief Burrows and I will be meeting with the Spokane Tribal Council at Wellpinit to talk about the common drug problem in this area. We’ll probably be talking about drug dogs, trading of assets - I don’t know - it will be an open discussion.
• We have a meeting scheduled for April 25th to select someone from a pool of qualified candidates to take the lead at the museum.
• Officer Miller commences police dog schooling April 17th for 10 weeks.
• We’re still working on the airport. County Commissioner McCart asked for it to be placed in the state capital budget.

City Attorney Report: None

Old Business:
• The City has met the wellness program parameters for 2016 so it qualifies for a 2% discount on AWC medical premiums in 2018.

New Business:
• Motion by Councilman May to read introduction of Ordinance #908 Granting Gas Franchise to Avista by title, seconded by Councilwoman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried. The Clerk read the introduction of Ordinance #908 by title. The Mayor stated that the only difference is that Avista is asking for a 25 year term instead of 10 - Charlie looked it over and has given his blessing.
• The Clerk read the introduction of Ordinance #909. Motion by Councilman May to adopt Ordinance #909 Retitling/Amending Chapter 3.03 of the Chewelah Municipal Code Regarding Payments to the City, seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried. The Mayor stated that it allows the City to take credit/debit cards. Leslie thoroughly researched the matter with the State Auditor and Municipal Research. It will not cost the City anything - the transaction fees will be borne by the customer.
• The Mayor stated that someone had contacted her and after brief discussion, the Mayor was requested to research the availability of grants for a splash pad in the park.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:03 PM.


Mayor Dorothy L. Knauss

Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCaI