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

**Audience Comments:**
- *Mike Bentz, CG&CC president,* discussed concerns about the delay in building a new fire station at the Golf Course. Several years ago a CG&CC property was sold to the City with the agreement that a fire station would be built there. He described several measures that the golf course and residents in the area had taken to reduce the fire danger in their part of town. He said it was recommended by the Fire Chief that we make the establishment of a fire station a priority to save lives, protect property and keep insurance rates reasonable. Mr. Bentz inquired where the City was at in the process of procuring a grant and what the projection was for the station being built with appropriate equipment in place.
- *Alyssa Helvik, former pool manager,* spoke in favor of the pool and asked the Council to consider proposal to save the pool.
- *John Geiges* spoke of the difficulty for those on fixed income to absorb utility increases, of the poor condition of the roads, and the lack of sidewalks.
- *Dan/Trisha Macrae* presented information about potential tax revenue that the City could receive from the state if it allowed marijuana sales.

**Announcements/Appointments, including:**
- Mayor’s Youth Award – Kayti Hilzinger
- Roberta McMillin resigned from council position #6 due to health issues. The vacancy will be advertised.
- Motion by Councilman Norvell to excuse absences of Councilwomen Henderson and Nupp, seconded by Councilman Wight. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.
- State audit for fiscal year 2016 has been completed and there were no issues.
- The Mayor stated that she was working on the pre-application process for a USDA Rural Development grant for the construction of a fire station at the golf course. It’s a federal grant and so we have to “jump thru their hoops” – it’s a lengthy process -- it won’t happen fast but it is in the process. She took this task off of the C/A’s hands due to a surge in building permit activity.
- The Mayor stated that she and the C/A had met with Kyle Guzlas from the State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) which is the entity that gave us the grant for the Barbour Complex. We talked about a splash pad in the park -- the application time is March 1st and the money would be available in 2019. So we’re exploring it as was requested by the Council, but we haven’t made a commitment yet.

**Presentations:**
- *Evan Schalock,* update on latest activities of Chamber of Commerce.
Consent Agenda:
Motion by Councilman May approving Consent Agenda consisting of:
>June 7th Regular Minutes (Mayor noted a misstatement by herself under Old Business in which she stated that she had chaired the Ad Hoc Pool Committee - that was incorrect - she chaired the Finance Committee - it doesn’t change the minutes because that is what she said but she wanted to clarify).
>June Payroll and Claim Vouchers
Seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Committee/Commission Reports: None

City Administrator Report:
• The City has been awarded up to $36,000 in TIB grant funding for emergency road repair due to the heavy freeze/thaw cycles this year. The roads most affected are Second Street West and West Main. The grant stipulates that the work has to be completed by the end of August. We will use the small works roster process to solicit bids and present those at the next meeting. Other work that will be done in August is for the sidewalks on HWY 395. Hopefully we will have the bid out and determine a low bidder for the Lincoln project.
• Need to meet with the Finance Committee to discuss revision to planning fee schedule which does not include fees for the Hearing Examiner services/costs for appeal process. These fees haven’t been updated since 2001.
• Apologized for having placed the fire station grant on the back burner – it was necessary due to the increase in building permit activity and the time consumed by other grant administrative requirements. The Mayor is on it at this point and together we’ll get that turned in and finished soon.

City Attorney Report:
City Attorney Mike Waters stated that members of City Council run the meetings and make the decisions about everything. As I’ve gotten to learn how it works, I think that can be made clearer and more direct in the actual conduct of the meetings themselves -- the biggest key to that is probably the agenda. The agenda as it has been presented can use a better label. It’s been listed as the agenda and here’s how it’s going to be -- one of the best practices is to present it as a "proposed" agenda which is then voted on as approved by the council -- that is also the opportunity for the council to propose and vote on additions, deletions, and/or changes. In order to formalize that I would propose a change to the structure of the agenda -- perhaps to add a line after ‘Audience Comments’ that is the ‘Approval of the Preliminary Agenda’. I would also propose adding a ‘Motion for Adjournment’ rather than just ‘Adjournment’. I can provide a draft at the next meeting to reflect those changes in the structure of the agenda. Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig directing City Attorney to draft ordinance (resolution) revising structure for council meeting agendas for presentation at the July 19th meeting, seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken after discussion with Councilman May voting against, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:
• Motion by Councilman May allowing Robert Belknap to make a presentation regarding the pool, seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried. Robert Belknap gave a brief history of the swimming pool along with findings from friend/neighbor, Mike Leisch. Leisch was previously employed over 17 years for the city of Oakland, CA as an electromechanical engineer and his duties included the maintenance and repair of six outdoor pools, four of which were Olympic-sized. Belknap stated that Leisch’s initial findings concurred with the Pool World assessment that the shell of the pool is in sound condition and that Leisch asserts that the leaks can be repaired -- that the repairs could be
made by almost any labor force, including volunteers, with the requisite knowledge base which Leisch is willing to spend time helping the community acquire. Mr. Belknap stated that the eminent destruction of the pool has caused a quick shift in community focus. The citizens of Chewelah and the surrounding community are in the process of forming a foundation to explore and fund a multi-phased low cost, no cost to the city, rehabilitation and ultimate upgrade of what is seen as an irreplaceable community asset. What is needed is a well-crafted plan to monetize, not at city expense, the rehabilitation and ongoing operation of the existing structure. All we are asking of you is time. Currently the pool is costing the city nothing. Mr. Belknap asked the Council to place a two year moratorium on declaring Chewelah’s public swimming pool surplus property. Anything less would short the time needed for the volunteers to do a good job of putting together this feasibility package. Debbie Akers followed Belknap’s request with her own comments about the health, safety, and recreational benefits that a public swimming pool provides. Motion by Councilman May allowing formation of a committee and placing a two year moratorium on declaring the City pool as surplus property, seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

- Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig to allow discussion regarding recreational marijuana ban, seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried. After discussion, motion by Councilman May to continue ban on recreational marijuana, seconded by Councilwoman Ludwig. Roll call vote taken with Councilman Norvell voting against, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:
- Motion by Councilman Norvell to schedule an Open Public Forum during regular August 16th meeting and add as an item on that agenda, seconded by Councilman May. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig at 7:58PM to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Wight. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Dorothy L. Knauss  
Mayor Dorothy L. Knauss

Jamilah M. Mart

Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCut

Regular Council Minutes – July 5, 2017 - Page 3 of 3