



**CITY OF PONDERAY
REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 7th 2017**

MAYOR STEVE GEIGER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR STEVE GEIGER, COUNCILMEMBER ENGEL (by phone), COUNCILMEMBER OSBORNE, COUNCILMEMBER LARKIN

ALSO PRESENT: ATTORNEY MARSHALL, CHIEF CORNELIUS, PLANNER BRUBAKER, ASSISTANT PLANNER MILLER, ENGINEER LARSON AND CLERK WARREN

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER KUNZEMAN

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND/OR DISCLOSURES:

Mayor Geiger acknowledged conflict of interest and disclosures statement.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve Minutes of July 17th 2017, Regular Council Meeting*
- B. Approve Bills in the amount of \$25,299.93*
- C. Acknowledge Treasurers Report*

Motion to approve consent agenda

Councilmember Larkin/Osborne. Roll Call vote. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/UPDATES:

MAYOR: Mayor Geiger reported that he send Cathie with S&W another letter. No response back yet. He did talk to Tom, the manager, who informed the Mayor that they are not renting rooms 2-9 anymore because they are already full. However, he has given them notice and they all need to be out by the end of August.

He talked to several other Cities that have a local options tax and they are all doing it the same as Sandpoint. If an item is purchased and delivered to Sandpoint then they can charge the extra one percent. On the other hand if something is purchased in Sandpoint and delivered to Ponderay they should not have to pay the extra one percent. So he is thinking is that when we send out our City business license packets, the first of Oct. we will send an educational sheet to inform them of how this works. Only if it is a delivery into the Sandpoint City limits can the extra 1% be charged. Clerk Warren asked about Sandpoint telling our businesses that they need a Sandpoint business license to pay the tax. This is not right.

We are working on the bed tax option that will go on the ballot for Novembers elections to increase our bed tax by 2% so it will be the same 7% as Sandpoint.

We have received about half the bids for the carport at the PD. They should all be in by next council meeting.

CLERK: Clerk Warren reported on the bed tax. As of today she received more money from 104, May & June are still due. As of the end of June we are two thousand seven hundred sixty seven dollars and forty nine cents (\$2,767.49) above last year to this time.

Clerk Warren had an estimate from Apex for a new copier for the City Hall. It is for Seven thousand One hundred twenty three dollars (\$7,123.00) The PD can get our old machine and both contracts would be with the same company and we would save money on the cost of copies. Chief Cornelius said that they are having a hard time getting parts for their machine and he thinks it is past time to get a newer one for them.

Motion to approve new copier

Councilmember Engel/Osborne. Roll Call vote. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

POLICE: Chief Cornelius reported that he has an injured officer who will be going to the doctor tomorrow and he will know after that how long he will be off. It looks like we will be short handed for the next several months.

As far as the hiring process goes, we are down to one step left on the person we are trying to hire now. If he gets through that we will probably look at picking him up first of October. He needed a little time and our officers do not have time to train while they are short handed and summer is not the best time to train either.

STREETS/PUBLIC WORKS: Dan Larson reported that he had a meeting with the City of Sandpoint regarding the Schweitzer Bridge reimbursement. The total amount requested is three hundred twelve thousand four hundred eighty nine dollars and sixty three cents \$312,489.63. This is about fifty seven thousand more than anticipated.

The Chip seal has been done on Triangle Drive, they need to sweep, do fog coat and striping. When they do that they will come back in Sept. to do the Chip Seal on Piehl and Starr Roads. That will be a little different product that will have a choke sand on it, but will not get the fog coat. We will have the two to compare.

Councilmember Larkin asked about the stop sign at Bonner Mall. It is owned by the mall and they have been notified that it needs replace. Engineer Larson said that they are working on a grant that will help us replace several of our signs that need replaced on City streets.

PLANNING, PARKS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Mandy Evans - executive director - Panhandle Animal Shelter - spoke to the council regarding our contract with them. The last time we had a contract with them was in 2012. They reevaluated the contract and are submitting a contract that asks for a base line yearly fee rather than having someone issue invoices per dog. They do not have the staff to do invoicing. They looked at the average number of dogs that come into the shelter from Ponderay. The cost for a dog that comes in is eighty seven dollars (\$87.00). Last year we had 28 dogs brought in.

Motion to adopt Contract with Panhandle Animal Shelter and authorization for the Mayor to sign.

Councilmember Larkin/Osborne. Roll Call vote. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

Planner Brubaker reported that we were awarded a grant for the LOR foundation that would provide us the access to the park from Kootenai Cut-Off Road. This is a twenty thousand dollar (\$20,000.00) grant to purchase a fifteen foot wide portion of land along the side of the animal shelter. Shelter will dedicate a fifteen foot strip and the grant will pay for the additional fifteen feet to make a thirty foot strip for both the drainage way and for us to put a pathway in. Which would become a gateway to the park and bike path. It could also be used as a small dog park. The grant match will be about five thousand (\$5,000.00).

Chief Cornelius, Chief Mitton, KayLeigh and Erik will be meeting later this week to talk about the addressing in the City. He thinks we will come up with a system that honors the historic addressing here in the neighborhood but is orderly enough to work with efficient emergency response.

Ponderay Neighbor Day, is another grant that was awarded. The event is schedule for Sept. 23rd. There is going to be events scattered throughout Ponderay. Starting at McNearney Park and working the way to the Harbison property. The main events would be from 4-7 in the afternoon. Currently we are looking at hot air balloon rides, food court, retail vendors, petting zoo, pony rides, live music. We will be looking for help from the council as that event gets closer. There will be a flyer and mailing going out soon.

Planner Brubaker showed a marker that they are thinking about for the Pend d' Oreille Trail. It is wood with burned on markings. It might make sense to go every tenth of a mile. Since emergency vehicles commonly respond on the tenth of a mile. People who do running and biking do things in tenths of a mile. Maybe not a full tall post every mile marker but do shorter ones. Along the railroad they will be a less pretty marker.

Jim Osmund - Kootenai-board member-Ponderay Sewer Dist. S&W has asked to be on their agenda for next Monday's meeting. Also, the DEQ keeps coming down with stricter discharge requirements for the sewer district, what we discharge into the slough. Their permits just came out and has even stricter limitations upon them. Ideally DEQ would like to see them put in a mechanical plant which would be about twenty five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) at a cost of about twenty two thousand dollars (\$22,000.00) per patron in the district. The monthly charges would go up about forty five dollars (\$45.00) a month for a single family residence to at least one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month if we were to operate in the black. For us that is insane. So we are trying to find other options how to handle those discharges. DEQ's position is that the water quality in Kootenai Bay has deteriorated over the last fifteen years. Over the last fifteen years Kootenai-Ponderay sewer has increased the quality of our discharge and they have started discharging to our land site which makes us not discharge into the slough for June, July, Aug and Sept. So we have cut out at least 25% of our discharge volume wise and put it on a land ap site. We spent millions of dollars doing that to meet requirements and now they are saying it continues to deteriorate. Our feeling is that the deterioration may be due to the fact that Ponderay has increased in size and become industrial with a lot of pavement and concrete and a lot of development. All the land between black rock and Oden has all be developed. There are houses along the lake that weren't there fifteen years ago. People are putting nitrogen and phosphorus on their lawns and that seeps into the ground. The area has increased with people use fertilizer and chemicals and all that is dumped into Kootenai Bay. Our position is that we are not the only kids peeing in the pool and decreasing the water quality. What they have talked about, and this will take a multi-city approach. In order to meet their requirements and better the water quality, the possibility of collecting, as a district, all the storm water in Kootenai and in Ponderay. If we could collect that ground water and treat that before it goes into the Bay that may a way of improving the water quality and giving Kootenai and Ponderay a way of funneling the ground water that comes off of our surfaces, that cause flooding and cause ditches to be high, if we could work on a master plan that would collect all that and put it through our treatment plant before it goes into the lake. DEQ thinks that is a great idea. We will be taking to Kootenai about this at their next meeting. We don't know who would be regulating that yet. We are talking about county land and two different municipalities being involved and the sewer district. Our goal is to keep the cost down for everybody by possibly moving that direction and incorporating storm water with what we treat. There may be grants available to do this. Sewer districts primary concern is to keep the cost down in the interest of the ecology and the patrons of the district.

****ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CONTRACTS:**

Ordinance #141-zone change

Motion to approve Ordinance #141 suspending the rules.

Councilmember Larkin/Osborne. Roll Call vote. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Lynn Buchlet-resident of Sandpoint RV Park-complaints about the owner, other residents, squatters, utilities that are not getting paid and children unsupervised.

Budget Workshop: The council went over all the numbers and made a couple small changes.

Motion to tentatively approve the budget.

Councilmember Larkin/Osborne. Roll Call vote. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

Councilmember Engel/Larkin to adjourn. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned 7:16 p.m.

City Clerk/Treasurer Su Warren

Mayor Steve Geiger