MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE, IDAHO,
HELD AT THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

January 7, 2020

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d’Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Coeur d’Alene City Library Community Room January 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., there being present upon roll call the following members:

Steve Widmyer, Mayor

Dan Gookin    )  Members of Council Present
Kiki Miller    )
Dan English    )
Woody McEvers  )
Amy Evans      )
Loren Ron Edinger  ) Member of Council Absent

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Widmyer called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION:  Pastor Ray Duran with Candlelight Church provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember McEvers led the pledge of allegiance.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:  Motion by Gookin, seconded by McEvers to add item no. 5 to Agenda Item F, Consent Calendar: Approval of Final Plat for SS-19-13, Georgia Addition to Cd’A; to the agenda.  A timely request was made to include this item on the agenda, but it was inadvertently omitted when the agenda was prepared, and the Final Plat must be approved before building permits can be issued.  Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR:  Motion by McEvers, second by Gookin, to approve the consent calendar.

1. Approval of Council Minutes for December 17, 2019.
2. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
3. Setting of General Services and Public Works Committees meetings for January 13, 2020 at 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. respectively.
NO/100 DOLLARS ($96,400.00) FROM SPHCONTROLS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

ROLL CALL: Gookin Aye; Evans Aye; English Aye; Miller Aye; McEvers Aye. Motion Carried.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Miller noted that there is a position on Library Board of Trustees currently open. Any interested parties should apply through www.cdaid.org/volunteer.

Councilmember Gookin acknowledged the students present, noting that the meeting should be worth their time. He also commented that city employee Michelle Cushing, who was the CDBG Grant Administrator, is leaving City employment and thanked Michelle for her work in getting information out to the community. He said that she will be missed.

Mayor Widmyer asked for confirmation of the appointment of Ben Wolfinger to the Civil Service Commission and Ali Shute to the Arts Commission.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by McEvers to appoint Ben Wolfinger to the Civil Service Commission and Ali Shute to the Arts Commission. Motion carried.

Mayor Widmyer expressed his thanks for the dedicated service given by Councilmember Edinger and noted that Governor Brad Little provided him with a commendation in appreciation of his fifty years of service. Additionally, Mr. Edinger asked the Mayor to read a note to the community into the record in his absence.

To the citizens of Coeur d’Alene, I regret that I can’t be here tonight to see the installation of three fine people, Dan English, Dan Gookin, and the installation of our newly elected Councilperson Christie Wood. You are in good hands. They will look out for you Coeur d’Alene. Thank you to our city employees for their tireless efforts to better our City. I have been lucky to have served with many outstanding Councils. Thank you for giving me the privilege of being your Mayor and Councilman for these many years. It has been an HONOR. God bless all of you. Ron Edinger

OATHS OF OFFICE: City Clerk Renata McLeod administered the oath of office to re-elected Councilmembers Dan Gookin, and Dan English, and newly elected Councilmember Christie Wood.

RECESS: Mayor Widmyer called for a recess at 6:09 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:13 p.m.
ROLL CALL: Mayor Widmyer asked for a roll call of the new Council with members present being:

Woody McEvers  ) Members of Council Present
Amy Evans  
Dan English  
Kiki Miller  
Dan Gookin  
Christie Wood  

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT:  Motion by Evans, seconded by Gookin to elect Councilmember McEvers as Council President.  Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Widmyer noted that staff is proposing one Council sub-committee per month that would meet twice, called the “General Services/Public Works Committee.” The first grouping of Council will attend the first meeting of the month and will include Amy Evans as Chairman, Christie Wood, and Dan English. The attendees of the second meeting of the month will include Woody McEvers as Chairman, Dan Gookin, and Kiki Miller.

The other committee assignments are as follows:

- Councilmember Wood: Tubbs Hill Foundation liaison; Parks Foundation liaison; Sick Leave Bank; Parks and Recreation Commission
- Councilmember Evans: Arts Commission; Ped/Bike Committee; City Legislative Committee; CDA2030
- Councilmember Gookin: KMPO
- Councilmember McEvers: CDA TV; EMS; and Lake City Center Liaison
- Councilman English: Parking Commission; ignite CDA
- Councilman Miller: Library Board; and the Historic Preservation Commission

The Mayor will continue to serve as the City’s representative to Jobs Plus (CDA Area Economic Development Corporation), Ignite CDA, and the Governor’s Workforce Development Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, AUTHORIZING STAFF TO APPLY FOR A WATERFRONT IMPROVEMENT FUND MATCHING GRANT TO PURCHASE NEW BOAT DOCKS AND PILINGS AT THE 3RD STREET BOAT LAUNCH, AND ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS UPON AWARD.

STAFF REPORT: Trails Coordinator Monte McCully explained the current conditions of the 3rd Street dock and their need for replacement and requested authority to apply for a grant to aid in the cost of the dock enhancements. He noted that this year was a great year to apply due to the lack of other large projects being requested for funding. He further explained that the grant would provide an opportunity to replace the docks to match the condition of the other city docks near the Harbor House. The grant request will be $145,891, with a city match of $21,884 whichwould be funded through the city’s waterfront improvement fund.
DISCUSSION: Councilmember Miller noted that she had talked to the City Administrator and expressed concern about how the grant request came forward; however, she indicated that she will support the grant opportunity. She noted that there was no mention of the docks remodel within the capital plan and believes there were a couple of items that should have been included. Councilmember Wood noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission was in favor of fixing the docks, as they are in disarray, and this is an opportunity to use grant dollars for the needed improvements and she commented that she hoped the grant gets approved.

MOTION: Motion by English, seconded by Gookin to approve Resolution No. 19-002; authorizing staff to proceed with applying for a Waterfront Improvement Fund grant to purchase new boat docks and pilings at the 3rd Street Boat Launch, and acceptance upon award.

ROLL CALL: Evans Aye; Miller Aye; McEvers Aye; Gookin Aye; English Aye; Wood Aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH T-O ENGINEERS, INC., FOR DESIGN OF THE FUTURE WILBUR AVENUE/RAMSEY ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

STAFF REPORT: City Engineer Chris Bosley explained that Greenstone Homes is preparing to begin development of another phase of Coeur d’Alene Place. This phase will construct the intersection of Wilbur Avenue with Ramsey Road. A subsequent phase will extend Wilbur Avenue to Moselle Drive, facilitating traffic movements in and out of the large residential area. Once that connection is made, a traffic signal will be needed at Ramsey Road and Wilbur Avenue. Greenstone Homes would like to have the underground work complete in coordination with their next phase to eliminate the need to tear out new construction when the signal is warranted during another phase. T-O Engineers is on the City’s on-call roster for engineering services and can complete the traffic signal design and the funding would come from impact fees. He requested approval to design the signal so that the underground development for the future signal will be able to be installed now.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember McEvers asked when the developer would be required to pay for items such as the traffic signal. Mr. Bosley noted that has not been agreed upon at this stage of development; however, Greenstone Homes did pay for a traffic study, which confirmed the future need of the signal, but no fees are currently earmarked for the signal. However, Coeur d’Alene Place has paid into the impact fee fund with their development over the years. Councilmember Gookin said that in a 2018 article from the Press it was noted that the developer was going to pay for the engineering of the signal, and wondered what changed since that time. Mr. Bosley said that it was an original condition of development and once they discussed the expense with their attorney, it was clarified how much was paid in impact fees in the past and the expected future payments into the fund. Additionally, they discussed how much traffic the development would contribute and the settlement was to pay this portion out of existing impact fees. Councilmember Gookin noted that the impact fee report is 16 years out of date, while other
fees are updated annually, and the city is lagging on impact fees. He noted that the Quadrant 1 traffic study is outdated and that the last year’s capital improvement project budget did not include the signal and he feels the developer should pay for the signal. Mr. Bosley reiterated that at this time the City has not established who will pay for the signal, and the request is to get the design work complete to be able to install underground items during the current development stage. Councilmember English noted that he agrees the impact fees need to be updated and he can picture the impact down the road and that it makes more sense to do the early stuff now. Councilmember Wood asked if impact fees updates are in the works. Mayor Widmyer noted that a study is in the queue; however, it would affect affordability of housing, but should be updated. Mr. Tymesen explained that staff looked at impact fees through the “Great Recession” and confirmed that staff is in the process of updating the comprehensive plan which will establish densities and will go hand-in-hand with an impact fee update. In the older version of the impact fee plan they would not have planned for the Wilbur signal, but it will be added to the new plan.

MOTION: Motion by English, seconded by Evans to approve Resolution No. 19-003; Approval of a Contract with T-O Engineers for design of the future Wilbur Avenue/Ramsey Road traffic signal.

ROLL CALL: Miller Aye; McEvers Aye; Gookin No; English Aye; Wood Aye; Evans Aye. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION OF STAFF TO PROCEED WITH APPLYING FOR A LOCAL HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LHSIP) GRANT FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.

Staff Report: Mr. Bosley explained that a Federal grant opportunity has become available, administered by the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) to provide safety improvements. This same grant was awarded to the City in 2018 for traffic signal upgrades on Sherman Avenue and Lakeside Avenue. Those improvements will occur in fiscal year 2021. This fiscal year 2022 grant application, which is due on January 16th, would fund pedestrian safety improvements and ADA compliance at several needed locations throughout the City. The City’s estimated match requirement for the LHSIP grant is $37,801 (7.34%). Though not currently budgeted for, if awarded the grant the funding would need to be included in the FY 2022 budget. The resulting project would provide approximately $515,000 in pedestrian safety improvements in Coeur d’Alene. The project would include additional rapid flashing beacons (RFB’s). One of the requirements of the grant application is to prove a reduction in fatal or pedestrian injury accidents, which he is certain the city can provide based on statistics over the past year. He reviewed several possible locations throughout the community.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember McEvers asked if drivers are supposed to stop when the flashing beacons are activated. Mr. Bosley noted the code requires vehicles to yield; however, they should stop if there are pedestrians in the crossing. Councilmember McEvers noted that the City has provided a lot of attention to the 5th Street and Sherman Avenue beacon and wondered if the beacons were going to be high maintenance. Mr. Bosley noted that the 5th Street and Sherman Avenue signal is the highest-use beacon. There were some bugs and the battery wore
out and he hopes the technology gets better over time. Councilmember Wood suggested that the Engineering Division work with the Police Department on those types of grants in the future as they can provide additional resources.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Miller to authorize staff to proceed with applying for a Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (LHSIP) grant for pedestrian safety improvements. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-004

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH J.U.B. ENGINEERS, INC., FOR PRELIMINARY BUDGET EVALUATION FOR THE FUTURE ATLAS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

STAFF REPORT: Mr. Bosley noted that he is requesting approval to award a preliminary budget evaluation contract to J-U-B Engineers for future Atlas Road improvements. Much of Atlas Road remains as a rural road and has not been updated to an urban street design per City standards. The street requires much maintenance in terms of regular patching and pothole filling, particularly south of Hanley Avenue. The City’s desire is to reconstruct Atlas Road into a 3-lane urban section, complete with curb, gutter, and stormwater swales. KMPO is currently requesting applications for funding transportation projects. More points are awarded to projects that are further along in design. By contracting J-U-B for $15,000 to complete the preliminary budget evaluation, additional points would be awarded toward the project as well as giving the City a more accurate depiction of costs and impacts, particularly right-of-way and utility. Mr. Bosley noted that this would be an advantage at applying for funding through KMPO. J-U-B Engineers is on the City’s on-call roster for engineering services and could complete the preliminary budget evaluation and funding would come from impact fees.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Widmyer asked for clarification regarding how far to the north the references to turning Atlas Road into an urban roadway would go. Mr. Bosley explained that it would eventually go to Prairie Avenue; however, this project would just go to Hanley Avenue. He noted that from Hanley to Prairie Avenues, curb and gutters exist and the road is in better shape than to the south. Mayor Widmyer asked what the County was planning for the future of Huetter Road. Mr. Bosley noted that the future of Huetter Road would include turning it into a frontage road with the bypass running parallel to the current road, and with Hanley Avenue being the first point to connect into the bypass. Councilmember McEvers said that he felt that completing the study would allow for funding later and wondered if there would be an opportunity to talk to the Forest Service about the need for modified swale plans, like what was done in the Government Way project. Mr. Bosley said he would be willing to talk to the Forest Service about that opportunity. Councilmember Gookin asked if the plan would include mitigation of the cut-through traffic at Master and Atlas Avenues. Mr. Bosley said that it would be a discussion point for all intersections.

MOTION: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Miller to approve Resolution No. 20-004; Approving a Contract with J.U.B. Engineering for preliminary budget evaluation for the future Atlas Road improvement project.
ROLL CALL: McEvers Aye; Gookin Aye; English Aye; Wood Aye; Evans Aye; Miller Aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN Motion by McEvers, seconded by Miller that there being no other business this meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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ATTEST: Steve Widmyer, Mayor

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Renata McLeod, CMC
City Clerk