

BLACKFOOT CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Virtue welcomed those in attendance and invited everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken and those in attendance were: Councilman Brown, Councilman Gardner, Councilman Jensen and Councilman Woodfin.

Mayor Virtue presented the consent agenda which includes the following: Minutes from 8/20/13 and the payables. Councilman Jensen moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Brown seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Virtue explained the proposal to pursue judicial confirmation for a clarifier and improvements at the wastewater treatment plant. He gave a brief account of the need for an additional clarifier at the wastewater treatment plant. There is a need for two clarifiers that work together and if one is not working, the City is subjected to fines and penalties from DEQ and the EPA. It is critical that we get an additional clarifier. After talking with our City Attorney Dan Acevedo and the attorney in Boise who helped us with the water storage tank, the most viable option appears to be judicial confirmation. It will cost a little more than the bonding process but it is important that we get this project going. We had a discussion with SICOG (Southeast Idaho Council of Governments) and we are relatively confident that of the million dollars it will take to do that project we can get around \$350,000 in a grant and the remainder will come from current operating expenses from the WWTP revenues. Mayor Virtue asked the council if they have any thoughts or comments regarding this project. Councilman Gardner stated he has been out to the wastewater treatment plant a number of times and talked with those in charge and he feels there is a definite need for the clarifier, as this problem will not go away. Mayor Virtue said he feels this falls under the statute of ordinary and necessary and therefore would qualify for judicial confirmation. It is in fact critical and it does subject the city to some liability if a clarifier does go down. Councilman Jensen stated he is not a fan of the judicial confirmation route but feels this is what is considered an ordinary and necessary upgrade that is badly needed. Councilman Jensen moved to approve the Mayor to approach the attorney to start the process with respect to judicial confirmation for a clarifier and improvements at the wastewater treatment plant. Councilman Gardner seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Virtue stated in the October council meeting the group that is proposing the ban on smoking in city parks will do another presentation and offer additional information. We will hold a public hearing to get input from the community regarding this issue.

Councilman Jensen moved to adjourn. Councilman Woodfin seconded. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

City of Blackfoot

Mayor Mike Virtue

Attest:

City Clerk Suzanne McNeel