AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

DATE: 04/7/2014    DEPARTMENT: Admin/Public Works    DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE: ☒

SUBJECT:
Hailey support of initiative to encourage certified operations of smart controllers for water conservation

AUTHORITY: ☐ ID Code    ☐ IAR    ☐ City Ordinance/Code
(IFAPPLICABLE)

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:
The Wood River Land Trust and Sawtooth Botanical Garden have been working with local landscapers to encourage certified operation of smart controllers for water conservation. A partnership letter has been drafted, attached, using Hailey’s logo and the verbiage: “these entities support certified operation of smart controllers for water conservation.”

FISCAL IMPACT / PROJECT FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY OTHER AFFECTED CITY DEPARTMENTS: (IFAPPLICABLE)

| City Attorney | Finance | Licensing | Administrator |
| Library       | Community Development | P&Z Commission | Building |
| Police        | Fire Department | Engineer | W/WW |
| Streets       | Parks | Public Works | Mayor |

RECOMMENDATION FROM APPLICABLE DEPARTMENT HEAD:
Motion to support encouraging certified operations of smart controllers for water conservation

ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL:
Date __________________________

City Clerk __________________________

FOLLOW-UP:
*Ord./Res./Agrmt./Order Originals: Record    *Additional/Exceptional Originals to: __________________________
The Sawtooth Botanical Garden has been teaching and demonstrating water-wise landscapes and irrigation practices for decades. The SBG’s partnering landscape contractors see newer technology with irrigation controllers as an opportunity for our community to keep more of our water in the ground.

We are rolling out the **Billion Gallon Project**. Our goal is to save enough water over the next few years to fill a football stadium fifteen times! Imagine saving the equivalent of 35 miles of the Big Wood River’s flow 3 times over every single year! We can do it by just being smart. The new “smart” irrigation technology and controllers act as a “thermostat” and adjust the watering to what your lawn and plants need based on real-time sensor input—as opposed to a preset clock schedule that waters the full amount even on cooler, cloudy days when it is not needed. Smart controllers along with an irrigation system inspection and adjustments can save 10-60% in watering each season while at the same time nurturing a healthier lawn and landscape. No more waste! System upgrades through all the SBG’s partnering contractors will potentially save hundreds of millions of gallons annually.

All clients of participating landscape contractors listed here will have a water saving upgrade solution installed to your system this year or over the next few years that best fits your needs. System upgrades offer a return on investment with reduced water/pump use and costs and give you a healthier landscape. The water saving upgrade appropriate for your irrigation system will be installed and operated by trained and certified water technicians to maximize your water savings. **If you would like to wait until next year for your upgrade or opt out entirely, contact your irrigation contractor right away.**

The Sawtooth Botanical Garden is your public garden. Part of it’s mission is to demonstrate, educate and inspire the practice of sustainable landscaping with water conservation in mind. Stop in and see what is possible.

*Ask your contractor about the Gold, Silver and Bronze levels of water savings.*

*These entities support certified operation of smart controllers for water conservation.*