

**CITY OF COLSTRIP
CITY COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting
April 22, 2008

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance City Clerk/Treasurer Richards called the roll. The following were:

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilpersons Sue Hert, Rick Harbin, Dan Becker and Betty Jo Ellison

Also Present: City Attorney Gary Ryder, Public Works Supervisor John Bleth, Police Chief Larry Reinlasoder, Zoning/Code Enforcement/Building Inspector Jan Morgan and City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Hert moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Ellison seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Harbin asked about the claim to Gases Plus and whether they sell boots. It was confirmed they do. Councilperson Hert asked about the finance charge on the credit card bill. Clerk/Treasurer Richards explained charges were made on the city's credit card by members of the police department but no receipts/invoices turned in. The city was charged finance charges until receipts were turned in so the bill could be paid, which took two months. Councilperson Hert asked how often this occurs. Clerk/Treasurer Richards stated it occurred a few times last fall when police officers were gone to the police academy. Councilperson Becker asked about the claim to the Super 8 Motel. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards explained the claim is for the motel in Billings, not Colstrip. Motion carried with all in favor.

- a. Minutes of 4/08/08 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 4/17/08
- c. March Treasurer's Report

Departmental Reports:

In addition to written information included in the council's packets Public Works Supervisor Bleth, Zoning/Code Enforcement/Building Inspector Morgan, Police Chief Reinlasoder, City Clerk/Treasurer Richards and Attorney Ryder gave departmental reports.

Public Comment and Participation: None

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Williams announced the annual Arbor Day celebration will be Friday, May 2nd.

Mayor Williams reported Montana Municipal Insurance Authority conducted Harassment and Supervisor Training to city employees yesterday.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Ellison moved to approve Resolution No. 08-R03, amending the 2007-2008 Budget due to the receipt of private and public grant funds. Councilperson Becker seconded. No discussion. Motion was carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Harbin moved to approve Resolution No. 08-R04, establishing a \$25.00 Street Excavation Permit Application Fee. Councilperson Hert seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Harbin asked what this resolution is all about. Public Works Supervisor explained the city has a process to apply for a Street Excavation Permit but has never established the application fee. These permits are for any work done that would disturb or involve the city streets and right-of-ways. Councilperson Becker moved to amend the motion to include right-of-ways in the resolution. Councilperson Ellison seconded the motion. No discussion on the amendment. Amendment carried with all in favor. Motion carried with all in favor on the main motion as amended.

Jim Atchison, representing the Colstrip Community Care Task Force, read a letter from Chairman of the task force Robert Shy, Jr. asking the city to sponsor a Coal Board Grant Application. The grant application would be for architect and engineering fees estimated at \$120,000 for a proposed elderly care facility in Colstrip. Task Force member Les Mahon, 7390 Castle Rock Lake, asked for the City Council's support of the project. Councilperson Ellison also is a member of the task force and spoke of the need for this type of facility in Colstrip. Councilperson Harbin is impressed with the consultant selected to do the feasibility study for the task force and feels there definitely is a need in Colstrip for this. Mayor Williams explained every grant application that goes before the Coal Board must be sponsored by a local government unit or Indian tribe. Councilperson Ellison moved to sponsor a Coal Board Grant Application for the Colstrip Community Care Task Force for architectural and engineering fees. Councilperson Becker seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Harbin asked how much money the Coal Board has left. Mayor Williams estimated they have \$700,000 - \$800,000 available for grant applications. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer