

CITY OF COLSTRIP
CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
October 23, 2007

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards called the roll. The following were:

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilpersons Gale Palmer, Betty Jo Ellison, Rick Harbin and Susan Hert

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

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Ellison moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Harbin seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

- a. Minutes of 10/09/07 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 10/19/07
- c. Journal Voucher Nos. 281-287
- d. July, August and September Treasurer Reports

Bid Opening:

The following sealed bids were received and opened by City Clerk/Treasurer Richards for the UV Disinfection System:

Water Control Corporation	\$51,259.00
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The Bid Bond and Qualifications of Bidder were not included as required in the Invitation to Bid. The bid will be reviewed and a recommendation brought to the next council meeting.

Departmental Reports:

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

Public Comment and Participation:

Terry Watson asked about recycling. Mayor Williams responded he would be addressing that issue in his comments.

Mayor's Communications:

The Recycling Committee met recently and will meet again on November 7th. Four Seasons Recycling will attend the next meeting to discuss a proposal. The operator of the landfill estimates recycling cardboard could save 2-3 years of life per cell at the landfill. Everyone that is interested is welcome to participate in the recycling effort. Councilperson Palmer commented that the power plant has entered into a contract with Golden Recycling to recycle the cardboard generated at the plant.

Mayor Williams met with representatives from the Montana Department of Transportation, Burlington-Northern Railroad and school district about the railroad crossing on Pine Butte Drive near Highway 39. Mayor Williams requested a diagnostic review several months ago. The state indicated new signals and arms will be installed but probably won't occur until next year. The improvements will be funded by the state and the railroad. Councilperson Palmer asked if anything could be done about the railroad crossing on Willow Avenue; the stakes are coming up and it is pretty rough. Mayor Williams asked Public Works Supervisor Bleth to contact the railroad about this.

Mayor Williams asked the City Council to approve the City paying for flu shots for city employees. The City Council concurred.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Hert moved to clarify the On-Call Policy as requested by the Personnel Committee as follows: An employee may be scheduled to be ON CALL on a rotating basis. When ON CALL an employee will be compensated for one (1) hour at one and one half (1.5) times the regular rate of pay for each ON CALL period which is ~~less than~~ sixteen (16) consecutive hours **or less**. When ON CALL for **more than** sixteen (16) ~~to twenty-four (24)~~ consecutive hours **in a twenty-four hour period**, an employee will be compensated for two (2) hours at one and one half (1.5) times the regular rate of pay. In addition, every hour actually worked will be paid at the rate of pay earned. Personnel will not be compensated for ON CALL when there are ~~other~~ employees working which are qualified to cover the work requirements. Councilperson Ellison seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Palmer commented the policy looks basically the same. Mayor Williams stated it doesn't change anything, just changes the wording to hopefully make it clearer to the employees. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Harbin moved to approve a 3-year contract with Olness & Associates to conduct the audit of the city's financial statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Councilperson Palmer seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams requested Attorney Ryder investigate any action the City may be able to take regarding the misrepresentations recently against Chief Reinlasoder and the flier recently distributed around town. Attorney Ryder stated Chief Reinlasoder can pursue legal action himself without the city's involvement. There are state laws against distributing campaign materials that are not identified with the campaign information. There is also a law against distributing information that is either recklessly or intentionally inaccurate. Attorney Ryder recommends an outside agency look at this, which Chief Reinlasoder has requested. Individual affected council members can contact legal counsel if they wish to pursue the matter but doesn't feel the city itself can initiate a lawsuit.

Administrative Matters:

Mayor Williams wanted to clarify that the Invitation to Bid on the Fire Equipment Truck approved at the last meeting is for both the chassis and van body. Councilperson Harbin stated he made the motion and did understand it was for both items.

Councilperson Palmer asked about the check stolen from the Clerk/Treasurer's office by another city employee and if it has been followed up according to the city's policies and procedures. Mayor Williams responded he has discussed the matter with those involved.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer