

City Council Meeting  
April 22, 2014

Present: Mayor Rose Hanser, Councilpersons Tom Jankowski, John Williams, Greg Koczur and Lawretta Miller

Also Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, Police Chief Cory Hert, Public Works Director Bryan Swan, Building/Planning Official Jan Morgan, City Attorney Gary Ryder and Fire Chief Ryan Reid

Mayor Hanser called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Clerk/Treasurer Richards called the Roll Call.

**Consent Agenda:**

Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Jankowski asked about Claim #18947 and Police Chief Hert explained what the purchase was for. Motion carried with all in favor.

- a. Minutes of 4/8/14 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 4/17/14
- c. March Financial Report

**Departmental Reports:**

Reports were given by Police Chief Hert, Building/Planning Official Morgan, Fire Chief Reid, Attorney Ryder, Public Works Director Swan, and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

**Mayor's Communications:**

Mayor Hanser read a letter from Colstrip Public Schools regarding the response and assistance from the Colstrip Police Department and Volunteer Fire Department to the recent fire at the school.

Mayor Hanser provided a response to the public comment made at the last council meeting regarding snow removal in the city's parking lot south of City Hall.

**Public Comment and Participation:**

Jim Atchison, SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC), submitted a proposal regarding grant administration of the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) Grant that SEMDC is currently preparing. SEMDC would be willing to extend payment of the 8% administration fee over a five year period instead of the city paying the administrative costs over the one or two years during the life of the project. City Council members thanked Mr. Atchison and were all in favor of the proposal.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:**

Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve the response to the 2012-2013 Audit Report. Councilperson Miller seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Williams asked about Item 5 of the response. He feels that it needs to be addressed and corrected so that it does not continue to be a finding in the audit report. No public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Miller moved to approve Resolution No. 2014-R12, accepting the Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve Resolution No. 2014-R13, accepting the Wastewater Environmental Report prepared by Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Miller moved to approve Resolution No. 2014-14, authorizing submittal of a grant application to the Treasure State Endowment Program. Councilperson Miller seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Miller moved to approve the position description for a Lead Water and Wastewater Plant Operator and establishing the compensation level. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Miller asked how many positions there would be. Mayor Hanser stated the Public Works Department would have one combined Lead Operator position instead of two separate ones, two Senior Maintenance Worker/Utility Operators and two Maintenance Worker/Utility Operators. Compensation of the position was discussed and Mayor Hanser shared information from the wage study currently being conducted. Councilperson Koczur would like to see how the compensation of all city employees will be paid without affecting the taxpayers and ratepayers of the utility systems. Councilperson Williams asked about the wage study. Mayor Hanser has received some draft information from the consultant and has copies available to share with the City Council. Councilperson Williams asked if the union had been notified and given opportunity to comment. Mayor Hanser stated she and Public Works Director Swan have communicated with the union representative but she hasn't received an MOU from the union. Public Works Director Swan stated he received the MOU this afternoon. Councilperson Jankowski commented that it may be premature to give a raise to an employee without seeing the new pay study matrix and finalizing the union contracts since the position is part of the city employee bargaining unit. Councilperson Miller stated the city still has to assign a pay grade to this position. Public Comment: Jason Martinez stated he is the Vice President of the city employee bargaining unit and he stated he has not seen a proposed MOU for this subject. Councilperson Miller restated her motion to approve the position description for a Lead Water

and Wastewater Plant Operator with a salary range of 27. Motion failed with all voting nay. Councilperson Jankowski made a motion to postpone action until the May 13<sup>th</sup> regular council meeting. Councilperson Miller seconded. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve Engineering Task Order No. 11 with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson for Lift Station Design in the amount of \$68,200. Councilperson Williams seconded the motion. No discussion. Public Comment: Ken Stokes stated he can't comment if he doesn't know what is being discussed. Mayor Hanser stated the agenda and related documents are available at City Hall prior to meetings for public review. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Administrative Matters:**

City Council went into Executive Session at 8:15 pm to discuss a personnel issue.

**Adjournment:**

Councilperson Jankowski moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Hanser adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer