

**CITY OF COLSTRIP**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
Regular Meeting  
November 13, 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, City Judge Gail Beckham and City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards

**Consent Agenda:**

Councilperson Ellison moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Harbin seconded the motion. Discussion: Attorney Ryder clarified that the city could file a lawsuit regarding the defamation discussion but that he doesn't recommend it. Regarding Claims #10905, 10906 and 10907 Councilperson Palmer understands what the claims are for but doesn't agree taking tax dollars out of town. Councilpersons Harbin, Ellison and Hert voted in favor. Councilperson Palmer voted nay. Motion carried 3-1.

- a. Minutes of 10/23/07 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 11/08/07

**Bid Opening:**

The following sealed bids were received and opened by City Clerk/Treasurer Richards for the Fire Equipment Truck:

	<u>Chassis</u>	<u>Van Body</u>
Heberle Ford	\$24,920.00	\$40,995.00

The bids will be reviewed by the Fire Department 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, Police Chief Reinlasoder, Fire Chief Reid, Judge Beckham, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Morgan, City Attorney Ryder and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards gave departmental reports.

**Public Comment and Participation:** None.

**Mayor's Communications:**

Mayor Williams will be meeting with School Superintendent Harry Cheff and Police Chief Reinlasoder about the Safe Routes to School Grant Program. The program grants up to \$50,000 for projects relating to encouraging and/or enabling children to walk or bike to school.

The Tree Board has decided to partner with CPRD to install an irrigation system for watering trees at Chisholm Park. The city has a \$1,000 grant to put towards the cost of the project. The Tree Board will also be looking for projects to apply for a grant of up to \$25,000. A tree pruning workshop will be held tomorrow at noon with a Tree Board meeting afterwards.

Councilperson Palmer asked if the city has received any complaints about overgrown trees causing problems in the alleys. The city hasn't received any complaints but Mayor Williams has noticed some trees in town that need pruned as they are blocking street lights.

**Unfinished Business:**

Councilperson Ellison moved to reject the bid submitted by Water Control Corporation in the amount of \$51,259.00 for the UV Disinfection System. Councilperson Hert seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Ellison moved to accept the proposal from Water Control Corporation in the amount of \$48,759.00 for UV Disinfection Equipment. Councilperson Hert seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**New Business:**

Public Works Supervisor John Bleth contacted TCT West about entering into an agreement for the equipment the company has on city property. There is no written agreement for the tower TCT has on the city's water storage tank and the use of electricity. City Council directed Attorney Ryder prepare a lease agreement for council's consideration.

The committee comprised of Mayor Williams, Attorney Ryder, Councilperson Harbin, Councilperson Ellison and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards met regarding the Flexible Spending Account contributions leftover from previous years. After discussing options available the committee recommends the city return 80% of the leftover/unused contributions directing to the employees who participated in the plan on a year by year basis. The distributions would be divided up equally for each year an employee was a participant of the plan, as required by IRS regulations. Councilperson Palmer stated feels the employees are very fortunate to have this benefit, is not aware of any company in the private sector that has anything like this and was under the impression the unused contributions would be returned to the General Fund. Councilperson Harbin moved to have Attorney Ryder draft a resolution based on the committee's recommendation for plan years 2000-2006. Councilperson Ellison seconded the motion. No discussion. Councilpersons Ellison and Harbin voted in favor. Councilperson Palmer voted nay. Councilperson Hert abstained due to a conflict of interest; her husband is an employee of the city. Motion carried 2-1.

**Administrative Matters:**

Councilperson Ellison reported she has received several compliments on the Street Renovation Project on Olive Drive.

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

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer