

City Council Meeting
July 12, 2016

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilpersons Greg Koczur, Jolene Verlanic and Mike Esser

Absent: Councilperson Tom Jankowski

Also Present: City Attorney Gary Ryder, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, Police Chief Cory Hert, Public Works Director Swan, Planning/Zoning Official Denise Sisson and Fire Chief Rob Pontius

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

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Koczur moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 6/28/16 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 7/8/16
- Journal Voucher Nos. 2016-06

Departmental Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Williams introduced Russell Murphy, the city's new Building Inspector. He is a resident of Miles City and works in general construction and on the family ranch.

Mayor Williams was interviewed today by several media sources and received a call from Governor Bullock regarding the announcement of the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Colstrip Power Plant by 2022.

Mayor Williams will be attending a legislators meeting in Billings this Thursday sponsored by the Montana League of Cities & Towns and MMIA.

Western Foundation for Resources will be in Colstrip tomorrow conducting interviews of Colstrip residents and Mayor Williams.

Public Comment:

Pat Campbell, 4417 Remington Drive, asked Mayor Williams to share any information he has regarding the closure of units 1 & 2 at the power plant. Mayor Williams shared his opinion that the

closure is due to the threat of lawsuits and not because of the age and condition of the power plant. He feels Puget is misinforming their legislature and the public that are receiving the benefit of low-cost electricity as a result of coal production.

Jim Atchison, Director at SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation and resident at 7405 Castle Rock Lake Drive, helped host a Power Summit on June 29th with Big Sky Economic Development Authority, Snowy Mountain from Lewistown and Beartooth from Joliet. More than 40 people were in attendance from Yellowstone County, Billings and Eastern Montana and heard from three experts from NorthWestern Energy, Talen and Western Energy. Colstrip Units 1 & 2 is the first item on the agenda at the Legislative Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee meeting in Helena this Thursday and Friday. The meetings are available on the state's website and comments can be submitted online. SEMDC would like to give their annual membership presentation at the City Council's next meeting on July 26th.

Unfinished Business:

Due to the bids for the Willow Avenue Reconstruction Project coming in so high above estimate, Mayor Williams recommends delaying the project until Spring and re-bidding it then. No action was taken at this time.

New Business:

Councilperson Koczur moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-R10, declaring surplus property.

Councilperson Esser seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Adjournment:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer