

City Council Meeting
July 26, 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, and Planning/Zoning Official Denise Sisson

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

- Minutes of 7/12/16 Special Meeting
- Claims Roster 7/22/16
- Journal Voucher No. 2016-07

Departmental Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

A Deer Management meeting will be held next week. The local Game Warden and a representative from Fish & Game will be present. The public is invited to attend and participate.

The annual Golf Outing/Team Building Event with CPRD will be held on August 25th. Council members are invited to participate with the employees.

Work on finalizing revisions to the minimum monthly water and sewer fees will hopefully be complete soon. Mayor Williams stated this change will only affect six utility accounts.

Public Comment:

Jim Atchison, Executive Director at SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation and resident at 7405 Castle Rock Lake Drive, gave the annual SEMDC membership presentation. He encouraged the City to renew its membership by paying the membership dues.

Unfinished Business:

Councilperson Koczur moved to reject the bids received for the Willow Avenue Reconstruction Project. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: None
Public Comment: None received.
Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Engineering Task Order No. 21 with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson in the amount of \$276,354.00 for the Zone 3 Water Storage Tank. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.
Public Comment: None received.
Motion carried with all in favor.

Doug Whitney, engineer with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson, explained the water tank elevation is too low and the tank is too large. The tank is also not in very good condition. The failure rate of the tank is escalating and needs replaced soon. The cost to replace the tank is estimated at \$2.2 million.

Attorney Ryder discussed the recent Montana Supreme Court decision to reverse the jury award regarding the Reinlasoder vs. City of Colstrip wrongful discharge lawsuit. The case is not final since Mr. Reinlasoder has filed an appeal of the Supreme Court's decision. There is also a couple of outstanding issues related to the case. Mr. Reinlasoder's attorney filed a suit due to a public records request he made for the attorney's fees paid by MMIA in defending this case and denied. A federal court case is also pending and a hearing will be held in Seattle the first part of September.

Adjournment:

Councilperson Koczur moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Esser seconded the motion. Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer