

City Council Meeting  
August 11, 2009

Present: Councilpersons Rick Harbin, Betty Jo Ellison, and Evan Stewart

Absent: Mayor John Williams and Councilperson Dan Becker

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

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

**Consent Agenda:**

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

- a. Minutes of 7/28/09 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 8/05/09

**Departmental Reports:**

Department Reports were given by Police Chief Reinlasoder, Zoning/Code Enforcement/Building Inspector Morgan, Attorney Ryder and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards in addition to written reports provided in Council's packets from Public Works Supervisor Bleth.

On behalf of the Colstrip Chamber of Commerce, Councilperson Harbin complimented and thanked the police department, public works department and fire department for their assistance during Colstrip Days and the fireworks display.

Councilperson Harbin asked about criminal activity at Castle Rock Lake and whether citizens with complaints or concerns should contact the city police department or county sheriff's department, since the lake is outside city limits. Police Chief Reinlasoder stated the city's police department can respond within 5 miles of city limits so either department can be contacted. However, the county doesn't always have a deputy available in Colstrip so the police department would probably be called for assistance.

Fire Chief Reid acknowledged the retirement of Jerry Blythe from the Colstrip Volunteer Fire Department. Jerry has over 20 years of service volunteering in fire departments in Montana, 16

of those with Colstrip. Over the years, Jerry has served as Fire Marshall and in charge of the Crime Prevention Program. Chief Reid presented Mr. Blythe with a plaque and thanked him for his service.

**Public Comment and Participation:**

Jim Atchison, Executive Director of SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation, made his annual membership presentation to the City Council. Mr. Atchison reported on the projects SEMDC has been involved with this past year, area economic activity, and the Energy Open being held in Colstrip later this week. Councilperson Ellison moved to renew the city's membership with SEMDC at \$1 per capita. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Harbin asked about SEMDC's Grant Administrator Julie Korkow assisting the city with a coal board grant for a new senior citizen's bus. Mr. Atchison stated SEMDC has not been formally approached about that but if the City Council would like SEMDC to do so they would be happy to help.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Due to a lack of information and understanding of the Water Treatment Plant Filter to Waste Modification project, Council President Harbin tabled the Engineering Task Order No. 8 with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson.

Councilperson Ellison moved to approve replacement of the rotor power supply at the Wastewater Treatment Plant by Colstrip Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$6,900. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. No discussion. Councilperson Ellison abstained due to a conflict of interest; she is employed by Colstrip Electric. Councilpersons Stewart and Harbin voted in favor. Motion carried.

**Administrative Matters:**

The Budget/Finance Committee will be meeting this Thursday at noon at City Hall regarding the 2009-2010 fiscal year budget.

The Fountain committee meets next Wednesday at noon at City Hall.

Council President Harbin adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.