

City Council Meeting
May 23, 2017

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilpersons Tom Jankowski, 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 Bryan Swan and Planning/Zoning Official Kami Egan

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 Koczur seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 5/9/17 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 5/19/17

Departmental Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

An Open House was held last week regarding the Willow Avenue Reconstruction and Wastewater Treatment Rehabilitation Projects.

Mayor Williams shared Entitlement Share Payment information for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017. The City will receive \$919,366.00 during fiscal year 2018.

The appeal filed by Mr. Reinlasoder for court costs in his lawsuit against the City was denied and he has been ordered to pay \$5,453.

Public Comment:

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:23 pm for the creation of the Colstrip Street Lighting District. Mayor Williams, City Clerk/Treasurer Richards and City Attorney Ryder provided information regarding the transfer of the current street lighting district created by Rosebud County in 1998. The Rosebud County Commissioners have requested the City of Colstrip take over the administration of street lights in Colstrip. Pat Campbell, 4417 Remington Drive, is in favor of the creation of the Colstrip Street Lighting District and also in favor of assessing a little extra to set aside for improvements. Mayor Williams closed the hearing at 7:45 pm.

Jim Atchison, Executive Director of South Eastern Montana Development Center, commented on the street lights currently being installed in Ashland. This suggestion was made at a CEDS meeting a few

years ago and is now being completed. Jim reported the Economic Diversification Strategy is complete, which was a suggestion also made at a CEDS meeting in Colstrip. The study was made possible by three grants, including the Coal Board grant sponsored by the City. The study has six main goals with seventeen strategies to achieve those goals. Copies of the study were provided to the council members and are available on SEMDC's website.

New Business:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve the Special Event Permit submitted by the Miner House for a Colstrip Days Street Dance on June 24, 2017. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Koczur moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-R05, Sick Leave Policy Amendment to allow conversion of excess sick leave to the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-R06, to allow common law/domestic partners of employees to participate in the city's group health insurance plan. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Koczur how this matter came up. The Insurance Committee met in April and made the recommendation. MMIA's insurance plan does allow it with certain requirements that must be met. There will be no additional cost to the City if this is allowed.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve the purchase of street signs from Billings Construction Supply in the amount of \$13,900.48. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Verlanic thanked Public Works Director Swan for his department replacing the street signs in town.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Administrative Matters:

Councilperson Koczur would like something done about the cracks in sidewalks since they are a trip hazard.

Adjournment:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Esser seconded the motion. Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer