

City Council Meeting December 23, 2024

Present: Councilmembers Jack Rosander, Wayne Dudley, Greg Koczur and Rose Hanser

Absent: Mayor John Williams

Also Present: Public Works Director Pat Zent, Planning/Zoning/Code Official Kami Egan and Southeastern Montana Development Executive Director Jim Atchison

Councilmember Hanser called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Deputy City Clerk Hazel completed Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion. No discussion. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 12/10/24 Regular Meeting
- Claims #31209-31255 \$220,718.87
- Payroll Summary 12/20/24 \$114,630.10

Department Reports:

Public Works Director Zent shared that the Public Works crew repaired a service line leak at 821 Olive this morning that showed up over the weekend. He also spoke to the Engineer/Inspector on the boring this morning on the North End Water Loop project. They are currently broke down because of issues with pulling the casing through. They are hoping to have this taken care of within the next couple of days.

Public Comment & Participation:

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, reminded the City Council that there is a Colstrip Legislative Reception on February 3, 2025. He encourages all to attend.

Councilmember Hanser asked Mr. Atchison to review what had happened with the Coal Board grant request that was denied for the Business Innovation Center (BIC). Mr. Atchison explained that SEMDC has \$4.3 million in committed grant funds for the BIC. There is another \$327,000 needed to match the EDA Grant so a grant application was submitted to the Coal Board to provide this needed match. Since the first grant awarded by the Coal Board in 2022 has not been fully expended, this request was denied due to the board not allowing two grants to be open at the same time for the same project. The City of Colstrip did try to rescind the first grant application, hoping that would help get the second application approved. Once the denial was received on the second grant application, the City of Colstrip withdrew the request to rescind the first application. Mr. Atchison also shared that there is an offer from Avista for \$150,000 that will be helpful but will continue to look for funds.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Councilmember Hanser adjourned the meeting at 1:16 p.m.

Krista Hazel, Deputy City Clerk

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