

City Council Meeting December 10, 2024

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

Also Present: City Attorney Michelle Sullivan, Planning/Zoning/Code Official Kami Egan, Police Chief Cory Hert, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards and Public Works Director Pat Zent

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards completed Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of 11/26/24 Regular Meeting
- Minutes of 12/2/24 Special Meeting
- Claims #31156-31208 \$148,530.92
- Payroll Summary 12/6/24 \$104,660.96

Department Reports:

Reports were presented Police Chief Hert, Zoning/Planning/Code Official Egan, City Attorney Sullivan, Public Works Director Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

Grid United grant presentation at the Schoolhouse History and Art Center tomorrow.

Coal Board meeting this Thursday. Coal Board staff has recommended not to fund this city's grant application for the Business Innovation Center. Senator Ankney, Mayor Williams, Jim Atchison,

Notice has been received from the United States Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement regarding a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for continued mining operations at the local coal mine's Area F.

Public Comment & Participation:

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, explained SEMDC has \$4.3 million in committed grant funds for the Business Innovation Center (BIC). Another \$327,000 is needed to match the EDA Grant so a grant application was submitted to the Coal Board to provide the required match. The first grant awarded by the Coal Board in 2022 has not been fully expended and they will not allow two grants to be open at this same time for the same project. A close out report was submitted in order to obtain the second grant but the close out request has not been approved yet. The Coal Board staff recommended not funding the second grant request since the

first grant has not been closed out. The remaining funds from the first grant that were not expended will either go back to the state or the coal fund. The lost grant revenue from the first Coal Board grant will be provided by Avista.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer

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