

City Council Meeting January 24, 2012

Present: Mayor Rose Hanser and Councilpersons Tom Jankowski, Evan Stewart, Lawretta Miller and John Williams

Also Present: City Attorney Gary Ryder, Fire Chief Ryan Reid, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, Police Chief Larry Reinlasoder, Public Works Director John Bleth and Building/Planning Official Jan Morgan

Mayor Hanser called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, City Clerk/Treasurer Richards called the Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

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

- a. Minutes of 1/10/12 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 1/18/12
- c. December Treasurer's Report

Departmental Reports:

Reports were given by Police Chief Reinlasoder, Fire Chief Reid, Attorney Ryder, Public Works Director Bleth, City Clerk/Treasurer Richards and Building/Planning Official Morgan.

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Hanser thanked the Public Works Department for all of their work during the past week dealing with all of the snow and ice.

Mayor Hanser thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting and reminded everyone that all of the meetings are open to the public and are posted at least 48 hours in advance.

Public Comment and Participation:

Rick Harbin, Executive Director of Colstrip Park and Recreation District, received the amended Interlocal Agreement Extension for the monitoring wells and reported it is on the agenda for the next CPRD Board meeting the first of February. Mr. Harbin thanked the Public Works Department for assisting them during the snow storm. Mr. Harbin asked if CPRD needs permission to encroach on City property during their Wildhorse Park Project, to please let him know what they need to do.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Williams moved to proceed with soliciting public proposals that would be eligible for Community Transportation Enhancement Program (CTEP) Funding. Councilperson Stewart seconded

the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Williams feels the project proposed by CPRD is appropriate for CTEP Funding and is something the City of Colstrip should partner with CPRD on completing. Councilperson Stewart agreed with Councilperson Williams' comments and feels the city should open this up for other proposals from the public. No objections were made. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-02, declaring authorized signers on the city's bank accounts. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Colstrip City Employee Unit of the Montana Public Employees Association. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Jankowski stated there was good negotiating on this contract and the employees have voted to ratify the contract. Councilperson Stewart had questions regarding employees serving in public office, wage increases, and information technology (IT) pay. Darcy Dahle, Montana Public Employees Association Field Representative, stated the section regarding employees serving in public office refers to employees serving on the City Council and would prohibit them from being a member of the union. The annual wage increases would be based on the highest paid member of the bargaining group. The contract would not constrain the city from obtaining outside IT services and doesn't bind the city to using union employees. Councilperson Stewart suggests defining IT services. Councilperson Williams noted on page 20 the verbiage should be "eligible medical related expenses" instead of "any medical related expenses". Councilperson Williams asked about the cost of placing employees into their appropriate wage grid based upon years of service upon ratification instead of phasing it in. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards provided additional information as to the cost and how it can be funded. The ratification date was discussed and the union had no objection to February 1' 2012. Councilperson Stewart moved to amend the motion to insert a February 1, 2012 ratification date. Councilperson Jankowski seconded. No discussion. Amendment carried with all in favor. Motion carried as amended with all in favor.

The following Committee/Board Assignments were made:

Budget/Finance	Williams	Jankowski
Public Safety	Jankowski	Stewart
Public Works/Utilities	Williams	Jankowski
Personnel Committee	Stewart	Miller
Zoning Commission	Miller	
Tree Board	Jankowski	
SouthEastern Montana Development Corp.	Williams	

Councilperson Williams moved to appoint Bonnie Prince to the Rosebud Conservation District as a representative for the City of Colstrip. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Williams commented the city has the opportunity to appoint two members to this board and the district suggested appointing Mrs. Prince due to her involvement and knowledge. No objections were made. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Stewart moved to refer Resolution No. 01-R50 to the Public Works Committee. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Stewart moved to refer the Police Commission Handbook to the Public Safety Committee. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Williams moved to place the Departmental Policy Resolution on the city council's next meeting agenda. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Administrative Matters:

Councilperson Stewart recommended that each of the committees meet to appoint a Chairperson that would be responsible for preparing meeting agendas, serve as the point of contact, schedule meetings, etc.

Councilperson Williams reported the Montana Coal Board meeting has been rescheduled to this Friday, January 27th. The members will be arriving the day before for a tour of Otter Creek and some board funded projects in Lame Deer.

Adjournment:

Mayor Hanser adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer