

City Council Meeting
June 25, 2019

Present: Mayor John Williams and Councilpersons Jolene Verlanic, Mike Esser, Greg Koczur and Pat Campbell

Also Present: Attorney Ryder Gary Ryder, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, and Police Chief Cory Hert

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

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Esser seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 6/11/19 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 6/19/19

Departmental Reports:

Reports were given by Police Chief Hert, Attorney Ryder and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Williams reported on the Montana Coal Board meeting last week. The Colstrip School District was awarded \$473,550 and the Colstrip Medical Center was awarded \$55,000. We will begin the process of a grant application for a new Snorkle Fire Truck for our fire department.

Budget presentations will be made at the City Council's next regular meeting.

Mayor Williams met with the American Legion about the landscaping around the city's new electronic information sign. They are very receptive to the idea and will participate.

The Montana Coal Council invited Mayor Williams to speak at their annual meeting on July 16th in Billings.

Mayor Williams met with representatives of Orion Renewable Energy regarding a wind farm planned in the Northern part of Rosebud County. A transmission line and transmission structures are proposed to be constructed within Colstrip city limits. Construction would begin next year. Orion would like a 50% tax abatement from Rosebud County during the first 5 years and then declining tax abatements during the following five years. Public Hearings will be held in Colstrip on July 24th and Forsyth on July 29th. The tax rate for a wind farm is 3%; the power plants are taxed at 6%.

Public Comment:

Eugene Wier, 4216 Sweetgrass Drive, thanked the City Administration, Police Department and Public Works Department for their support during the Colstrip Days Motorama.

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC), reported the Colstrip Community Impact Foundation is taking applications for two open positions on their board. Jim may have some items for the next City Council meeting agenda including the Colstrip Land & Business Development Plan and an application to the Big Sky Trust Fund.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-R04, declaring surplus property. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Administrative Matters:

City Council went into Executive Session at 7:35 pm to discuss litigation matters. City Council returned from Executive Session at 7:50 pm. No action was taken during or after the executive session.

Adjournment:

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:51 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer