

City Council Meeting
August 13, 2019

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

Also Present: Public Works Director Bryan Swan, Planning/Zoning/Code Official Kami Egan, Fire Chief Rob Pontius, 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 Koczur seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 7/23/19 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 8/9/19
- Journal Voucher No. 2019-07

Departmental Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

A Deer Management Plan meeting was held last week at City Hall. The decision was made to continue with the current plan as is with no additional permits being issued. No issues were reported from last year.

The annual Energy Open is Thursday and Friday of this week in Colstrip.

Mayor Williams attended the National League of Cities & Towns League Directors meeting in Big Sky last week. Mayor Williams gave a presentation along with Jim Atchison of SEMDC, Rosebud County Commissioner Doug Martens, Senator Duane Ankney, Gordon Criswell of Talen and Jack Standa of Westmoreland.

Public Hearing:

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 pm for the Environmental Review & Assessment Categorical Exclusion. The City of Colstrip will be submitting a grant application for \$25,000 to the Montana Coal Board for a Community Marketing Plan.

Jim Atchison, SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation, addressed the type of project and stated it will not affect the environment.

Mayor Williams closed the hearing at 7:17 pm.

Public Comment:

Carl Jackson, engineer with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson, updated the City Council on several projects including the Zone 3 Water Storage Tank and 2019 Road Reconstruction on Homestead Boulevard and Main Street. Warranty work has been completed on the Willow Avenue Project from last year. Carl also addressed the Chip Seal Project. Councilpersons Koczur and Verlanic voiced concerns about driveways, curb and gutter, drainage, the flagging and traffic control. Councilperson Verlanic does not recommend contracting with the contractor again based on the poor traffic control, signage, and creating unsafe conditions for both the public and their employees. They also have left the roads unpassable during weekends for recreational vehicles. Councilperson Campbell commented he has concerns and is not overly impressed with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson. He also commented that contractors need to be scrutinized closer due to all the issues with several projects. Attorney Ryder, Mayor Williams and Carl explained that under state law the city has to accept the lowest responsible bidder on projects over \$80,000. There is a process to not hire the lowest bidder but it is not easy. Carl thanked the City Council for their comments and feedback and will follow up on their concerns.

Jim Atchison, South Eastern Montana Development Corporation, reminded the City Council about the 16th Annual Energy Open later this week in Colstrip and encouraged them to attend.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Resolution No. 2019/R06 declaring a Categorical Exclusion to the Environmental Review and Assessment requirements of the Montana Environmental Policy Act. Councilperson Campbell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Koczur moved to approve Resolution No. 2019/R07 Purchasing Procedures, Authority and Limits. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Campbell moved to approve Resolution No. 2019/R08 Budget Transfers for fiscal year 2018-2019. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Resolution No. 2019/R09 increasing the threshold for capital assets. Councilperson Campbell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Resolution No. 2019/10 increasing the credit limits for the city's corporate credit cards. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Koczur moved to table Engineering Task Order No. 28 with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson until consulting with Hydrometrics since they have 1,000 wells in the area. There was no second to the motion and Councilperson Koczur withdrew his motion.

Councilperson Campbell moved to approve Engineering Task Order No. 28/Raw Water Investigation of Costs at an estimated cost of \$9,953. Councilperson Esser seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Verlanic asked if Bill Pascoe could look at the perpetuity of the transportation of water to Colstrip. The power plant owners created a fishery with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks with Castle Rock Lake so there is an issue there in addition to the impact to humans.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Koczur moved to approve Change Order No. 2/Zone Water Storage Tank in the amount of \$340 to investigate the installation of a flag pole on top of the tank.

Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Campbell asked if a state flag could be added also. The engineers will be asked to include this in their investigation.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Campbell moved to approve the preliminary budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Adjournment:

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer