

City Council Meeting  
October 8, 2019

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

Also Present: Attorney Ryder Gary Ryder, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, Public Works Director Bryan Swan 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 9/24/19 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 10/1/19

**Departmental Reports:**

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

**Mayor's Communications:**

Mayor Williams, Attorney Ryder and Clerk/Treasurer Richards attended the Montana League of Cities & Towns Conference in Billings last week. It was an excellent conference. Next year's conference will be held in Kalispell.

The Controls System at the Water Treatment Plant needs replaced. The current system is approximately 15 years old. A Coal Board Grant may be submitted to assist with the cost of a new system.

Mayor Williams invited the City Council to attend a luncheon being held this Friday, October 11 at City Hall to recognize employees who have been employed for 20 years. The City will also recognize the 15-year anniversary of the formation of the City's Police Department and those employees with 15 years of service.

A grant application was submitted for Phase 3 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Delivering Local Assistant Program. SEMDC and Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson wrote and submitted the grant on behalf of the City of Colstrip.

Councilperson Campbell was told by an employee at the power plant that once units 1 and 2 are shut down, Castle Rock Lake will be partially drained. He asked if this was true. Mayor Williams is not aware of any decrease in the water level due to the closure of the units.

**Public Comment:**

McKenzie Butcher, engineer with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson, reported a walk-through was held yesterday on the 2019 Road Reconstruction project with no structural or engineering issues found. Substantial Completion was reached today. Councilperson Campbell asked about the striping on Power Road. McKenzie explained during striping of part of the road the operator of the striping machine missed three of the marks due to the sun in his eyes. This paint is only temporary so the issue will be resolved when the permanent paint is sprayed.

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, reported SEMDC is preparing a grant application to the Montana Coal Board for the City of Colstrip for a Fiber-Optics Assessment and Business Plan in the amount of \$27,500. SEMDC completed and submitted the application to the Delivering Local Assistance program for the City of Colstrip in the amount of \$415,000. 160 other applications were submitted but the City of Colstrip is only competing with the other applicants in Rosebud County. Jim thanked the City of Colstrip for sponsorship of the Energy Open Conference and Golf Tournament and submitted a recap of the conference for council's review. Councilperson Campbell recognized and thanked Mr. Atchison for all of his work and commitment to the community and City of Colstrip.

**New Business:**

Councilperson Verlanic moved to award the bid to Titan Machinery for the purchase of a Sewer Jet Vac Truck in the amount of \$397,129.00. Councilperson Campbell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Verlanic thanked Public Works Director Swan and Lead Water/Wastewater Operator Dan Becker for the research done and recommendation on this purchase.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Fire Chief Rob Pontius has prepared criteria for a used aerial ladder truck. State law requires bids be requested for any purchase over \$80,000. There currently are no trucks available in the state. Also, since we will be purchasing a used truck it will need to be looked at by Fire Department personnel and possibly a deposit made to the dealer in order to hold it until the City completes the bidding process required by Montana state law. Mayor Williams and Attorney Ryder will meet with Fire Chief Pontius to discuss the issues. Councilperson Verlanic moved to table the aerial ladder fire truck purchase. Councilperson Campbell seconded the motion.

Discussion: No discussion.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Esser moved to reject the bid received for the Salt Shed. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: No discussion.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Campbell moved to approve Change Order No. 3 to the Zone 3 Water Tank Contract with Maguire Iron in the amount of \$11,188.00. Councilperson Esser seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Councilperson Verlanic abstained due to conflict of interest. Councilpersons Koczur, Esser and Campbell voted in favor. Motion carried.

**Administrative Matters:**

Councilperson Koczur asked if the flag on top of the water tank is weather resistant and if it will be lighted. The flag will be lighted.

**Adjournment:**

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:48 pm.

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer

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