

City Council Meeting December 23, 2019

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

Also Present: Fire Chief Rob Pontius, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards and Public Works Director Bryan Swan

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

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Esser 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 12/10/19 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 12/19/19
- Journal Voucher No. 2020-02

Departmental Reports:

Reports were given by Fire Chief Pontius, Public Works Director Swan and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

The annual financial report and audit report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 have been completed and submitted to the state. Copies are available in the City Clerk/Treasurer's Office.

Mayor Williams thanked Councilperson Verlanic for her service on the City Council.

A water leak at the power plant has been repaired. The water had been leaking for some time. Due to the location of the water meters that serve the power plant, the water was not metered. City Employees estimate the amount of water lost is 21 million gallons, which calculates to \$54,390. The leak caused additional expenses to the lift station operation and wastewater treatment plant since the majority of the water went into city's wastewater system. The City will be looking at relocating the water meters to avoid this type of situation in the future.

The Montana Coal Board approved the city's grant application for a Broadband Feasibility Study. The grant application was written by SEMDC and the project will be administered by SEMDC.

Public Comment:

Doug Whitney, engineer with Kadmas, Lee and Jackson, reported on projects they have been working on. The scum pump for the wastewater treatment plant was shipped last week. Upon installation of this pump, this will complete the project. The High Service Pump project is complete with the final pay application on tonight's claims roster for approval. They are also working on the water supply issue for the City of Colstrip and control system report for the Water Plant.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Verlanic moved to confirm the appointment of Penny McPherson as City Judge for a four-year term. Councilperson Campbell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Verlanic thanked Judge McPherson and stated she has heard good things. Councilperson Koczur asked if a report could be published in the newspaper regarding the number and type of violations that the court handles.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Verlanic moved to approve Change Order No. 4 to the contract with Maguire Iron for the water storage tank, a decrease of \$30,105.00. Councilperson Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Verlanic noted the clause in the change order that states the contractor will reimburse the City for unexpected costs should a failure occur to the existing tank during the project shut-down period.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Koczur moved to approve Amendment No. 3 to Engineering Task Order No. 21 with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson in the amount of \$30,105.00. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Campbell asked how the numbers were calculated. Mayor Williams explained the City of Colstrip agreed that instead of liquated damages being assessed to the contractor on the water storage tank project, any additional costs due to the winter shut down would be paid by the contractor. The engineers are anticipating \$30,105 in additional costs due to the project not being finished on time. The contract with Maguire Iron has been reduced by the same amount (previous motion).

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Esser moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-R24, declaring surplus supplies and equipment and authorizing its disposal. Councilperson Verlanic seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Administrative Matters:

Councilperson Campbell reported the operating engineers ratified a six-year contract with Westmoreland Mining.

Adjournment:

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer