

City Council Meeting
February 11, 2020

Present: Mayor John Williams and Councilmembers Pat Campbell, Mike Esser, Wayne Dudley and Greg Koczur

Also Present: City Attorney Gary Ryder, Police Chief Cory Hert, 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:

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

- Minutes of 1/28/20 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 2/7/20

Departmental Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

In response to Eugene Wier's suggestions under Public Comment at the last City Council meeting, Mayor Williams provided the City Council with the current regulations the City of Colstrip has in place regarding medical marijuana. Ordinance No. 2010-03 prohibits the public display and/or consumption of medical marijuana use and Resolution No. 2010-R03 prohibits the licensing of retail establishments to sell medical marijuana.

Mayor Williams asked Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson to revise the Raw Water Feasibility Study with additional information from Dan Negethon and accurate electrical costs. Copies of the revised study were distributed to council members.

Public Comment:

Jim Atchison, Executive Director of SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation, reported SEMDC continues reviewing proposals for the Broadband/Fiber Optics Study, Regional Marketing Plan, Business Innovation Center and other projects.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilmember Esser moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2020-01, adopting updated building codes and other related codes. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Attorney Ryder noted currently the only code being enforced by the City of Colstrip is the Residential Building Code. The building inspector requested all of the related mechanical, electrical and building codes be adopted also.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Esser moved to approve a 5-year contract renewal with Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson for engineering services. Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: Jim Atchison encouraged the City Council to approve the contract renewal.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Campbell moved to table the Water Tower Lease Agreement with Wispwest.

Councilmember Esser seconded.

Discussion: Councilmember Campbell asked if this tower will be on the new water tank. Mayor Williams explained the tower is on the current zone 3 water tank and has been for several years. Mayor Williams has contacted Wispwest about relocating the tower to the new storage tank but has not received a response yet.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Koczur moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-R03, writing off uncollectible Solid Waste Special Assessments for years 2016-2019. Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Clearwater Energy Resources/Orion has submitted a draft conditional use permit and variance application for the installation of an electric transmission line. More information was requested from the applicant including a site plan. The line would enter city limits on the north end of town along Highway 39 and connect to the electric substation on the east side of town by the power plant.

Administrative Matters:

Councilmember Koczur will not be present at the February 25, 2020 council meeting.

Adjournment:

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer