

City Council Meeting
January 26, 2021

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

Also Present: 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 1/12/21 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 1/21/21
- Journal Voucher No. 2021-02

Department Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

The District Court has denied the preliminary injunction to stop coal mining in Area F at the Westmoreland Coal Mine. Mining can continue in Area F while litigation is pending.

Mayor Williams plans on going to Helena to testify in support of Senate Bill 86 & Senate Bill 87.

Talen Energy responded to the City's proposal on Raw Water Transportation. The City did not agree to the 17% proposed increase and requested the rate remain the same or a 2-3% increase. Talen has denied the City's request.

Public Comment:

Doug Whitney, engineer with KLJ Engineering, updated the City Council on Public Works projects.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilmember Esser moved to approve contracting with Gardner Maintenance and Construction for cleaning services at city facilities.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Dudley asked what the anticipated cost will be for this contract. Mayor Williams responded he does not think contracting for the service will cost much more than what the City was expending on a part-time employee.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Campbell moved to approve Task Order No. 32 with KLJ Engineering for a 5-year Capital Improvements Plan in an amount not to exceed \$55,393.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Esser moved to approve Task Order No. 33 with KLJ Engineering for an On-Site Review of Water Treatment Buildings in an amount not to exceed \$29,613.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Campbell moved to provide up to two weeks of paid leave for reasons related to COVID-19, with the exception of the 2/3 rate of pay when an employee cannot work due to childcare or school closure, until March 30, 2021 as outlined in the proposed COVID-19 Leave Directive.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Koczur moved to authorize the purchase of fireworks for the Colstrip Days celebration in the amount of \$24,000.

Councilmember Esser seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Adjournment:

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer