

City Council Meeting
April 13, 2021

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilmembers Wayne Dudley and Greg Koczur

Absent: Councilmember Mike Esser

Also Present: Police Chief Cory Hert, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, Fire Chief Rob Pontius, City Attorney Gary Ryder and Assistant Public Works Director Pat Campbell

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

Consent Agenda:

Councilmember Koczur 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 3/23/21 Regular Meeting
- Claims Roster 4/8/21

Departmental Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Williams reported on various Senate Bills being considered by the Montana Legislature. SB 87, the Colstrip water bill, passed with an amendment. There are hearings tomorrow for Senate Bills 86, the Colstrip Remediation Bill, and 379 before the House Energy and Telecommunications Committee. SJ10, a joint resolution of both the house and senate, has passed second reading. This resolution urges Congress to appropriate funding for carbon capture. Senate Bills 265 and 266 have passed third reading.

Public Comment:

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC), reported the Energy Park Study is complete. The Regional Marketing Study and Broadband Feasibility Studies are almost complete. Colstrip Days is scheduled for June 25-27, 2021. Jim gave an update on House Bill 648, the commercialization of coal ash, Senate Bill 86 and SJ 3, a joint resolution requesting an interim study of the feasibility of nuclear reactors as a replacement for coal-fired boilers. Jim also reported there will be funds available from the American Rescue Plan Act for Broadband and Public Infrastructure projects.

Doug Whitney, engineer with KLJ Engineering, gave an update on projects KLJ is working on.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-R02, declaring surplus property and authorizing its disposal. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Executive Session:

City Council went into Executive Session at 7:42 pm to discuss the Surety Bond Claim against Travelers Insurance. City Council returned from Executive Session at 7:55 pm. No action was taken during executive session.

Councilmember Dudley moved to preliminary approve a \$125,000 settlement with Travelers Insurance regarding Karnath Contracting with final approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None received.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Adjournment:

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer