

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- DECEMBER 4, 2023

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Koski, Heitman, Austin, Ozark, Carr, and Nistler. Also present were DPW Skubinna, Street Foreman Runningen, Chief Weber, Captain Edwards, and Deputy Clerk Frueh. Keirsten Wethern, Ezekiel Osborne, Randon Stormer, Candy Lagerquist, Rene Clampitt, Madelyn House, Maggie Fahlgren, Andy Fahlgren, Tess Fahlgren, Mark Berger, Matt Austin, Travis Young, Karen Breigenzer, Sally Figmaka, Sharon Bergstrom, Mary Fahlgren, Georgie Kulczyk, Debra Greibel, Brett Johnson, Lori Stormer, Janice Swanson, Sean Bennett, Bob Stormer, Marc Wethern, Sonya Roche, Mitchell Buechler, Hillary Buechler, Drew Henry, Archer Henry, Kyla Burns, Tim Ryan, Hope Jones, Nickolas Dirkes, Carolyn Bachtold, Aaron Hlad, Eric Feit, and Zack Burner. City Clerk Amundson, and City Attorney O'Brien attended via Google Meets. The media was represented by Michelle Bigelbach of the Glasgow Courier.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: Mayor Karst stated that the public comment for the skate park will be held when that agenda item comes up. There was no public comment on any other agenda item.

Council member Koski made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for December 4, 2023 in the amount of \$119,334.27, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$2,329.08, and the minutes of the November 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the amended plat of tracts B1, C, and D of Holter Addition in the SE ¼ section, Township 28 North, Range 39 East, Principal Meridian Montana, City of Glasgow, Valley County for Big Iron Properties, Farm Equipment Sales, Inc and Farm Equipment Properties, LLC. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman. DPW Skubinna said that the plat has been reviewed and it adjusted the borders of the property. Motion carried.

Council member Carr made a motion to approve cancelling outstanding checks in the amount of \$3,223.05 from 2017 to 2022. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski. Mayor Karst said multiple attempts have been made to contact the people the checks were issued to without success. Motion carried.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3152** – A Resolution Appointing a Firefighter of the Glasgow Fire Department Following Completion of Probation for Cody Tarver. Council member Austin moved for the adoption of **Resolution No. 3152**. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman; whereby **Resolution No. 3152** was unanimously adopted.

Council member Ozark made a motion to purchase chamber bucks in the amount of \$100 for full time employees and \$50.00 for part time employees. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler and carried unanimously.

Tess Fahlgren started the discussion for the skate park location. She said the non-profit foundation has received \$141,698.00 in donations to date. The skate park committee needs a set location so they can apply for additional grant money. Back in July the committee met with a few members of the city council to look at potential locations and Bundy Park would be the best fit. It has access to shade, water, and restrooms. The committee knocked on 30 doors including 8th and 10th Avenue North. There were residents against this location because of the noise factor. Tess said it wouldn't be any louder than kids playing in the park. Tim Ryan inquired on how the drainage for the bowls of the skate park design would be handled. Sally Figmaka asked what type of drainage would it allow for since the park doesn't drain properly now. Matt Austin thinks the skate park would most likely divert the drainage, but wouldn't add any additional and a drain would be installed at the bottom of the bowl. Tim Ryan would prefer the skate park at Bundy due to the location to Flips and the amenities the park offers. Travis Young had a better drawing of what the skate park would look like. At the Bazaar that was held recently he had spoken to approximately 75 people and answered any questions they had. He said the skate park isn't only for skateboarding; people use it for roller blading, skating, and bikes. He also mentioned they want to improve the pavilion and add new playground equipment that wouldn't infringe on the open park area. Madelyn House also agreed that Bundy would be the best location for safety purposes. Zack Burner was in attendance to voice his concerns about the youth baseball program that utilizes Bundy Park for practices and up to 4 teams use it at a time. Debra Griebel talked about the opposition that occurred when the Valley Event Center was being built; now the hockey program is thriving. She is for the kids having a place to skate. Eric Feit explained that there will be less room for baseball practices once the skate park is built. Sally Figmaka wanted to know how close the new slide will be to the street closest to the museum, she also wanted to know who is going to maintain the skate park and what are the costs for repairs or upgrades when that time comes. They don't want the cost for this passed on to the taxpayers of the city. Jan Swanson voiced her opinion on the skate park; she's not against it, she just doesn't want it located in Bundy Park. She said that both the Museum and the school had asked for a portion of Bundy Park and the council said no. Andy Fahlgren said that he also went around to each proposed location and said that if \$300,000.00 was going to be put into a location for upgrades; Bundy would be the best place. Matt Austin told those in attendance that the maintenance costs would be lower than the cost to mow the park. Nick Dirkes commented he has nieces and nephews that use Bundy to practice and suggested trying to revitalize the unusable practice fields. Drew Henry was

for the skate park and using Bundy Park for it. Candy Lagerquist wanted to know if there were any plans for parking yet. She wants to make sure that the exit to the car wash isn't blocked, so people are able to use it. There was discussion on who would be maintaining and cleaning the park from litter. Bob Stormer said that area does have some parking issues since school is in session until 4 p.m. He complemented all of the groups that are doing great things in the community when it comes to activities for the kids to do. Mayor Karst said that he has talked with the county commissioners to see if the old skate park would be an option to use; they said as long as it was leased by the city and they had the insurance coverage and it was maintained. He also said that some of the neighbors that were asked about the skate park in Bundy had said they were against it; and when the committee initially came to the city requesting to use a portion of a park everyone who was asked had said yes. Council member Ozark stated back in 2022 the council voted to allow a skate park on city property; he also looked at the initial proposed locations and Bundy was the best. The city has insurance coverage for the parks regardless if there is anything on it or if it's vacant. He would like the skate park committee to have an engineering study done to address any drainage issues there may be if the skate park is built in Bundy. Council member Nistler is not against having it in Bundy. Council member Austin also agreed; he went on the tour of the parks and the skate park would only take up about 3% of the park and Bundy would be the best place. Council member Carr is in favor of moving forward like Council member Ozark suggested. Council member Koski applauds the committee for trying to bring more activities to the community. Council member Heitman suggested looking into going back to the original location of the skate park that is at the fairgrounds. Tess wanted to know if they could get a decision tonight on the location. Mayor Karst said the council has agreed to an engineering study to be completed. Georgie Kulczyk asked if the neighbors don't like the next proposed location will we be in this situation all over again. Tess expressed her feelings on wanting more city participation in the process and she explained the issues with the old skate park and how it was determined to not be a safe skating place.

Unfinished Business:

-Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna stated the monthly meeting was held in November and they now have a full committee. A grant application has been submitted to update the SWIF plan. There is no date set for the next meeting.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for personnel, water, cemetery or grant. An ordinance committee meeting needs to be set.

Department Head Reports:

Chief Weber stated his department has been busy, he's given two conditional job offers, and as of December 1st boats and campers were supposed to be off of the city streets. Any remaining on the street will be ticketed and could be towed if not removed.

Street Foreman Runnigen said they have been hauling material and rebuilding brooms for the street sweeper.

DPW Skubinna told the council he's been busy focusing on the raw water transmission main project and bid opening will be next week. Also, the slide located in Bundy Park will be removed in the near future.

There was no mayor's report.

Public Comment: There was an inquiry on when the broken water line near Northern Heights by the fire hydrant was going to be repaired. DPW Skubinna said it will be repaired in the spring.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk - Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor