

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- AUGUST 7, 2017

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Erickson. The following Council members were present: Heitman, Karst, Schoenfelder, and Sorensen. Council Members Carr was in attendance via phone and Council member Ozark was absent. Those also present were City Clerk-Treasurer Amundson, DPW Kompel, Police Chief Barstad, Sergeant Edwards, Lieutenant Gamas, and Officer Fischer. Larry Mires, Seth Runner, and Shelly Ramsey were also in attendance. There was no media representation.

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any agenda item: NONE

Council member Sorensen made a motion approving the consent agenda including, the payment of claims for August 7, 2017 in the amount of \$598,674.11, the payment of claims for Valley Court in the amount of \$3,551.57, the minutes of the July 17, 2017, Regular Council Meeting, and the minutes of the July 24, 2017 Special Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Council member Karst/ made a motion approving the Certificate of Survey for Lot B2, Rasmussen Addition for Hal Buerman. The motion was seconded by Council member Schoenfelder. DPW Kompel stated that the survey will be to allow a cell phone tower to be installed on this property. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Carr made a motion approving the new contract payment for fiscal year 2017-2018 to T&R Trucking in the monthly amount of \$19,350.84. The motion was seconded by Council member Karst, and carried unanimously.

Police Chief Barstad mentioned his department had interviewed three (3) people for the open Victim Witness Advocate position. All of the applicants were qualified for this position, but he wanted to recommend for hire Shelly Ramsey and the number one (#1) candidate and also give a conditional offer to Rachael McMurry if the other Advocate position were to become vacant. He would also like to be able to set the wage for this position and the grant will pay up to \$18.50 per hour. Council member Schoenfelder made a motion to hire Shelly Ramsey and give a conditional offer to Rachael McMurry and allowing Chief Barstad to set the wage up to \$18.50 per hour. The motion was seconded by Council member Sorensen, and carried unanimously.

Council member Sorensen made a motion approving the 15% increase for the street maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2017-2018. The motion was seconded by Council member Schoenfelder, and carried unanimously.

Council member Karst made a motion approving the annual membership dues to Two Rivers Economic Growth in the amount of \$600.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Larry Mires was in attendance to speak to the council about the city acquiring property adjacent to the levee along section lines 13 and 14. He has also spoke with other property owners along those section lines and they would be willing to sell to the city below market value. The appraised section would be an approximate cost of \$195,000 and the replacement value is \$515,000.00. There are 3 full lots with about 6 structures that can be eliminated and come into compliance with the SWIF plan. Larry had spoke with DNRC and GNDC to see if there were funding options available for the city to acquire this property and he is wondering if council is willing to support this. There will be a meeting on Wednesday August 16th at noon to discuss this. The meeting will include Council members Karst and Sorensen, DPW Kompel, and Larry Mires. Larry also talked about easements that will need to be completed for the property the county owns along the levee.

Old Business:

-Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Kompel mentioned Leslie Robinson from Gianforte’s office forwarded contact information to him on who to contact to assist with revising the Levee’s operations and maintenance manual.

- Update on GNDC noncompetitive grant – The housing board met on August 1st and has selected Roger Waarvik for the Building Inspector position and Viking Construction submitted their information for a contractor. The first project can get started as soon as the paperwork is in order.

Mayor Erickson stated the Montana Department of Transportation Agreement has been signed to allow them to install height detection equipment on Highway 2 to keep over height vehicles from turning under the underpass; there will be no cost to the city on this project. She has spoken to Nick Dirkes about why FMDH hasn’t signed on with MMIA for medical insurance; she should have an answer tomorrow. There is a meeting with the commissioners at 9:30 on Wednesday, she will attend the Two Rivers Meeting on Tuesday, and she also talked about having an employee appreciation luncheon like last year.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Water, Cemetery, or Grant. A personnel meeting will be set for the week of the 14th to discuss and review a new arbitration process for the union, the city has received an example from the City of Missoula. An ordinance committee meeting will be set to talk about updating the noise ordinance and how to address construction projects that are not being completed.

Department Head Reports:

City Clerk Amundson talked about the new fuel tax and how much the city’s first payment will be in March of 2018. The taxable valuation has been received and a mill this year is worth \$4,621.847 and the city is allowed to mill up to 274.13 mills for a total tax income of \$1,266,987. She will put together scenarios for the mills and set a meeting. The numbers for negotiations are complete and a meeting is ready to be set for that.

Police Chief Barstad mentioned between the police and sheriff’s department, there was good coverage for the fair and he has been working on budgets.

Officer Fischer talked about the program he is working on putting together to take the place of the SRO officer in the schools to bridge the gap between officers and kids. Kathy is looking for grant money to assist with costs that may arise.

DPW Kompel said that he is working on the DNRC report, budgets, and projected projects on the levee for the upcoming budget year. The street department will be crack sealing the next few days, then will work on pavement markings before school starts.

Public Comment: NONE

Council member Schoenfelder made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Sorensen the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Becky Erickson
Mayor