

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- APRIL 15, 2024

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Carr, Heitman, Austin, and Ozark. Council member Nistler attended via conference call. Council member Koski was absent. Also present were Captain Edwards, and Recreation Director Casterline. Charlie Plant, Jeanie Markle, Jan Swanson, Georgie Kulczyk, Rene Clampitt, Kristie Brabeck, Matt Austin, Tess Fahlgren, Mark Berger, Nick Dirkes, Dave Nixdorf, Brenda Koessl, Ann Kulczyk, Lynette Svingen, Ashley Markle, Maggan Walstad, Drew Markle, Randon Stormer, Kevin Taylor, Whitney Swanson, Cynthia Reitler, Angela Kemp, Pam Heikens, Kathleen Nenninger, and Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering were also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson, City Grant Writer Byers, City Attorney Pekovitch, and Michelle Bigelbach of the Glasgow Courier attended via Google Meets.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: Ashley Markle stated that she has concerns with the green space that would be remaining in Hoyt Park after the construction of the new swimming pool, the potential skate park being located there, and the hospital purchase of a portion of the park. Jeanie Markle mentioned Hoyt is the only park located on the south side for kids to go to and if most of the park is taken up by the skate park and a parking lot, there wouldn't be much space left for the kids to play.

Council member Carr made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for April 15, 2024 in the amount of \$1,241,669.25, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$1,935.20, and the minutes of the April 1, 2024 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst closed the regular meeting at 5:05 p.m. to conduct the public hearing on the FMDH purchase of a portion of Hoyt Park. Nick Dirkes from FMDH introduced himself to those in attendance. He said he had met with the city a few months back to start the discussion of purchasing a portion of Hoyt Park to construct a parking lot for the hospital for a possible future expansion of the services the hospital provides. He explained that the drawings that he has are conceptual and if the purchase of the property goes through then an engineer would be hired to complete the drawings to scale. The memorial for Melissa Greenhagen will stay where it is at. Mayor Karst mentioned the parking lot construction is still 3-5 years out. He was asked if the hospital building would be expanded into the park. Nick said this hasn't been an option and will only be a parking lot. The street can't be built over since there are city water and sewer lines that run under it. Mayor Karst said this could be a multi-phased project. This would also be a shared parking lot with the city, where the spaces closest to the swimming pool would be used for the city. Nick also stated that there would be an agreement drawn up between FMDH and the city for the use of those parking spaces. Maggan Walstad said even though the city would lose green space with the parking lot, there is potential for the city to create an additional green space within the city limits. The hospital is an intricate thing for the community. Rene Clampitt said the city is required by Montana Code Annotated to have a park space in each subdivision and constructing a parking lot all the way to the swimming pool is a little much, since this is the only park located on the south side of town. Drew Markle asked if there was an option to purchase any property on the other side of the levee to construct a parking lot. Nick said this could be talked about with the hospital board to see if would be an option. It was also asked if a multi-level parking garage could be an option so there wasn't so much of the park being purchased. This would have to be looked into. Since there were no other comments on the potential purchase of a portion of Hoyt Park, Mayor Karst closed the public hearing at 5:29 p.m.

Council member Ozark made a motion to approving calling for bids for the City of Glasgow's repurchase agreement for June 1, 2024 to May 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion to approve conducting the Yard of the Week again this year. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman and carried unanimously. Mayor Karst also stated that community clean up week will be starting and there are a couple of dumpsters located around town.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – The next meeting will be held in May along with the quarterly meeting.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for personnel, water, or cemetery. City Grant Writer Byers updated the council on the grants she has been working on for the housing program, Sullivan Park Trail, and the swimming pool. Captain Edwards said the Montana Board of Crime Control will be conducting an audit on the city's Victim Witness Advocate grant. Mayor Karst gave an update on the last ordinance committee meeting.

Department Head Reports:

Captain Edwards mentioned the two (2) employees who are still in training and Sergeant Dick will be moving into the Misdemeanor Probation position.

City Clerk Amundson gave an update on the one audit proposal that was received. She said the proposal came in almost \$30,000.00 higher than what we paid last year for auditing services. She did speak with City Attorney Pekovitch and the city has the right to refuse the proposal.

There was no Mayor's Report.

Public Comment: Charlie Plant wanted to know why the skate park has to move from where it's currently located at. Mayor Karst recommended that he has that discussion with the Skate Park committee who is in attendance tonight following the meeting.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor