

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- APRIL 7, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Council President Ozark. The following Council members were present: Carr, Nistler, Koski, Heitman, and Austin. Candy Lagerquist and Matt Poole were in attendance. City Clerk Amundson, DPW Skubinna, and City Attorney Pekovitch attended via Google Meets. There was no media representation.

Council President Ozark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: NONE

Council member Koski made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for April 7, 2025 in the amount of \$138,827.59, Valley Court claims in the amount of \$1,762.37, and the minutes of the March 17, 2025 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Council President Ozark introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3194** – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glasgow, Montana, Designating Glasgow Area Chamber of Commerce, A Non-Profit Corporation, as the Local Non-Profit Convention and Visitors' Bureau in Glasgow, Montana. Council Member Koski said that Glasgow has qualified as a destination marketing organization and will receive funding in the amount of \$21,000.00 from state bed tax and the chamber will be the managing organization for it, but they had to have a corporate resolution completed and it will become effective July 1, 2025. This money will be used for advertising the Glasgow area. Council member Heitman moved for the adoption of **Resolution No. 3194**. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler; whereby **Resolution No. 3194** was unanimously adopted.

City Clerk Amundson stated the only portion of the audit she included in the packets was this year's audit findings and the full audit is available if the council wants a copy of it. Also, after it is approved it will be uploaded onto the city's website. She explained that there were additional audit findings this year, due to having a new auditing firm and they do things a little different than our previous auditors. Some of the audit findings will be removed next year after implementing some changes within this fiscal year. Council member Koski made a motion approving the fiscal year 2023-2024 audit. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

DPW Skubinna said he would like to hire as many summer laborers as possible, since it's been an issue in the past. City Clerk Amundson stated the starting rate is usually around \$11.49, but at one of the special council meetings last year, it was going to be left up to department heads to increase their summer help up to \$14.00 per hour. The summer help that returns each year receive an additional \$.25 raise. Council member Heitman inquired on how many DPW Skubinna would like to hire. He mentioned there is usually two (2) for the levee and one (1) or two (2) for the parks department. City Clerk Amundson said we usually hire two (2) for the levee, two (2) for the parks, one (1) for the street department if needed, and the cemetery already has two (2) of their summer employees returning this year. Council President Ozark suggested the wage comp committee review the starting wage for seasonal employees. Council member Austin made a motion approving the hiring of summer laborers. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Council member Heitman made a motion approving the Park Permit request from FMDH for the Shred Safe Event to be held on May 3, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

DPW Skubinna mentioned having a water/sewer rate study completed is one of the backbones of operating utilities is to make sure the rates are appropriate, to have capital improvement program, and to address what operations and maintenance are being completed and which ones are being deferred. There are loan and grant opportunities that the city doesn't qualify for because our rates are low. Council President Ozark asked who would do this study. DPW Skubinna said that he has a few consultants that are already prequalified for this and he could reach out to them and start a discussion on what this would look like for the city. The estimated cost could be between \$50,000.00 and \$60,000.00 to have this study completed. Council President Ozark said that the council will be giving approval for DPW Skubinna to move forward with the rate study, but the contract would have to come to council before final approval. Council President Ozark then asked City Clerk Amundson when the last rate study was completed. She said Montana Rural Water had assisted us with setting rates when the sewer lagoon was renovated back in 2012. Council member Heitman made a motion to approve having a water/sewer rate study done as long as the contract for services comes before the council. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna stated that the phase two (2) of the Mountain and Plains Environmental Justice Grant has been submitted and the project has been declared eligible.

Committee Reports: There were no reports Water, Personnel, Cemetery or Grant. An Ordinance Committee meeting will be held following this meeting.

Department Head Reports:

Clerk Amundson told the council that she had included the new medical rates for fiscal year 2025-2026 in the packets for their information. There was a 12.2% increase in rates. She is recommending when the wage comp committee reviews summer laborer starting wages to take a look at the MMIA insurance amounts and see what the wage comp may want to do since the increase is \$107.00. Council President Ozark asked what plan the city offers. City Clerk Amundson said we are on the Bridger plan which is 80/20.

DPW Skubinna updated the council on the two (2) quotes he had received to repair the hydrant behind Eugene’s and the one quote he has received so far to replace the Division Street sewer. He said with the vacancy savings with not having a water/sewer supervisor would cover about half the cost of the lowest quote he received for the hydrant repair. There will not be an issue to cover the cost of the sewer replacement on division. DPW Skubinna mentioned the hydrant could be buried for the time being, but it’s probably not the best solution. Council President Ozark said that he would like the council to weigh in on that. They think it’s not a good idea to have a non-working hydrant back there. There was discussion on the budget and if there is money available. City Clerk Amundson said she will look at the overall water budget in the morning and will send out the information via email to the council. Money in the fund can be moved around, the city just can’t overspend the bottom line. Council President Ozark appointed himself and Council members Austin and Koski on the committee for the hydrant dig.

City Attorney Pekovitch said she’s been busy with the police department and court. A plan needs to be put together to deal with the Rundle sidewalk. It was mentioned that the owner of the Rundle is in town and Candy said that the owner has been in contact with Rod Lambert and is waiting to hear back from him.

There was no Mayor’s report.

Public Comment: Candy told the council that in front of the Toad the curb is crumbling by the ramp that was done by Scanlan during the downtown parking project. DPW Skubinna said that it would be a warranty item that the contractor can take care of.

Matt Poole was in attendance and told the council that he had attended the preconstruction meeting for the Hall Terrace/Hurley Drive project. He talked about the new valley gutter that will be installed to mitigate some of the water issues in that area, but is concerned that it will push the water onto his lot that he owns. He would like to develop that lot, but is unsure of what he is going to build at this time. He voiced his frustration of only being able to have a 20’ driveway approach when other properties in the area have larger ones. He also talked about how expensive city taxes are and they hinder new development within the city limits. Council member Nistler asked Matt how big of a driveway is he requesting. Matt stated that it would depend on what he decides to build and what street he would want access from. The 20’ driveway approach ordinance was completed in 1991. It was also stated that a variance could be done for a larger driveway. Council President Ozark told Matt to continue to work with DPW Skubinna on the valley gutter issue and he stated the City of Glasgow has not run a levy in years or had a levy on the ballot increasing taxes. DPW Skubinna and Matt will meet next week to discuss the valley gutter portion of the Hall Terrace/Hurley Drive project.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

ATTEST:

*Stacey A. Amundson*

Stacey Amundson  
City Clerk-Treasurer

Stan Ozark  
Council President