

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- JUNE 21, 2021

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Mayor Erickson. The following Council members were present: Karst, Nistler, Heitman, and Carr. Council member Ozark attended via conference call. Those also present were Captain Edwards, City Attorney Sullivan, and Assistant City Clerk Frueh. Betty Stone, Lisa Koski, Maggan Walstad, Taylor Zerbe, and Steve Hamilton were also in attendance. Chris McDaniel representing the Glasgow Courier was in attendance.

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: Steve Hamilton inquired about the applications for the open city council seat. Mayor Erickson stated that she will report on that later in the meeting.

Council member Carr made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for June 21, 2021 in the amount of \$143,198.91, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$72.71, the minutes of the June 7, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, and Resolution No. 3069 – A Resolution Establishing Budgetary Authority in the Park Beautification Trust Fund for the Receipt and Expenditures of Monies Received from Donations. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Maggan Walstad and Taylor Zerbe were in attendance to update the council on the status of the new swim pool. Maggan mentioned they are looking at having a public meeting tomorrow night to update the public on their fundraising efforts. She said as of May 31<sup>st</sup> between fundraising and pledges they are at \$1.424 million dollars and have \$10,000.00 in matching funds for upcoming fundraisers. The estimate that was received from Interstate Engineering around 3 years ago was \$2.775 million to build a new pool and bath house. The updated estimate from this spring is now \$3.2 million for a 6 lane pool. Taylor had handed out information on a possible levy. Maggan also commented on the ARPA funds that may be able to be used towards the pool if the council would be willing to apply for them. The pool committee will continue to fundraise, but also want to look into other monies. They applied for a 501 (c) 3 and should have an answer from the IRS by mid-July. This status would also assist in receiving grants to build the pool.

Betty Stone and Lisa Koski were in attendance to talk to the council about updating the downtown street lights. Lisa stated that there are communities around the state that have the decorative lights and they wanted to pursue them. They received an estimate back from Cushing Terrell Architects out of Billings that came in around \$800,000.00 to do the upgrades on twelve (12) city blocks. She talked about the meeting that was held with DPW Kompel and Lana from Northwestern Energy. Currently, the city can't apply for CDBG funding for replacing the light poles because they are owned by Northwestern Energy. Lisa inquired if the city would consider taking ownership of the downtown lights. Mayor Erickson asked Lisa if she could research how much it would cost the city to maintain these lights if we were to take them over. Betty would like the city to consider starting with two (2) blocks on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to 4<sup>th</sup> Street and she said that Lana from Northwestern Energy suggested 3 light poles per block. Betty also mentioned that if we proceeded forward with this project, the wiring would be run underground and get rid of the overhead wires. Mayor Erickson suggested putting together a work session with Two Rivers, the Chamber, and the council to discuss numbers and a timeframe to complete this. Betty will contact Cushing Terrell Architects for a new estimate for replacing lights for a two (2) block area instead of the initial twelve (12) blocks.

Betty then gave an update on the Wayfinding signage and where the directional signs and new kiosks will be installed.

A short recess was taken. Council member Carr left the meeting around 5:00 p.m.

Council member Karst made a motion awarding the city's gas and diesel for fiscal year 2021-2022 to Ezzie's Wholesale, Inc. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Nistler made a motion to open the water/wastewater position. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson stated the council met in a work session last week to discuss the Police Chief position and the council agreed to advertise both in and out of state for a one (1) month period. Council member Nistler made a motion to advertise for the Chief of Police position. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

- Levee Safety Committee Report – No Report
- Update on GNDC noncompetitive grant – No Updated Report

Mayor Erickson stated the meetings in July will be on Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> and Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

Mayor Erickson said that City Clerk Amundson is working on the advertisement for the Chief of Police position and will be advertised on the Montana League of Cities and Towns website, Department of Justice Website, Job Service, and a couple of larger newspapers. The Judge interviews will be held on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m., a meeting with

the County Commissioners will be next Wednesday and they will be discussing the dirt bike area, and the Governor will be at Scottie Day Care on Saturday if any council members want to attend. Mayor Erickson would like to advertise until July 6<sup>th</sup> for the vacant council seat. She mentioned there is an open library board position to fill, and would like to put on the next council agenda to have another free land fill drop off day. She also mentioned that City Clerk Amundson is looking into the Covid days that some employees did not use and is suggesting giving those employees an additional two days of vacation. This will be on the July 6<sup>th</sup> agenda for approval.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Personnel, Water, or Cemetery. Captain Edwards reported on the VOCA grant. Next Ordinance Committee Meeting will be on July 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. before the council meeting.

Department Head Reports:

Captain Edwards reviewed the calls for services for the past two (2) weeks.

City Attorney Sullivan mentioned she has some hearings and trials coming up. She has met with the police department and a complainant on a grievance.

Public Comment: Steve Hamilton just wanted to confirm that a letter of interest would be sufficient for the open council position. Chris McDaniel from the Courier said that having a free land fill day monthly is a good thing and this will also give him time to put it in the paper.

Council member Nistler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Karst the meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Alicia Frueh  
Assistant City Clerk

Rebecca Erickson  
Mayor