

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Austin, Koski, Heitman, and Carr. Council members Ozark and Nistler were absent. Also present were Chief Weber, Code Compliance Officer Dees, and City Judge Morehouse-Mix. Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering was also present. Those also in attendance include: Randon Stormer, Matt Austin, Madelyn House, Andy Fahlgren, Tess Fahlgren, Travis Young, Mark Berger, Jacob Dix, McKenna Clements, Sojourner Clements-Dix, Hope Jones, and Mary Fahlgren. City Clerk Amundson, City Attorney Pekovitch, Brianna Vine from Great Northern Development Corporation (GNDC), and City Grant Writer Beyers attended via Google meets. The media was represented by Michelle Bigelbach of the Glasgow Courier.

Council member Koski led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: There was no Public Comment.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for February 21, 2023 in the amount of \$131,839.68, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$1,709.37, and the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski and carried unanimously.

Brianna Vine from GNDC was in attendance to give the council a summary of accomplishments on the city's non-competitive grant. She said they were able to complete three (3) projects under this grant. At the start of the program the city received 18 applications. The housing board had met and prioritized them and each project had different needs. Brianna has met with City Grant Writer Beyers as she will be taking over the program. Ashleigh will be submitting a new funding application so this program can continue. Brianna said it's been a pleasure working with the city on this.

Brianna Vine then talked to the council about a mortgage program that cities can opt into so residents within the community can have access to it. She mentioned it's a zero percent deferred program that comes in behind other mortgages. It can assist with closing costs and down payments. The property owner will have to pay it back, but over a period of time. The council was in approval to move forward with this program. Brianna said that there are some resolutions that the city will have to pass and a city staff member will have to do an environmental assessment on each property that applies for this program. She will forward the documents that need to be completed to City Clerk Amundson so the council can approve them at an upcoming council meeting.

Council member Koski made a motion reappointing Tami Dunn to the Glasgow Housing Authority Board for another two (2) year term effective March 3, 2023. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the updated Code Compliance Officer Job Description. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr. Mayor Karst asked Code Compliance Officer Dees if he approved of the changes. He said he did. Motion carried.

Council member Austin made a motion approving Interstate Engineering to continue their building permit review services. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the quote received from Montana Technical Solutions to update the city's security firewall and wireless upgrades in the amount of \$1,195.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Council member Heitman made a motion approving the recommendation from the personnel committee to move Judge Morehouse-Mix from an hourly wage to a salaried. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Tess Fahlgren was in attendance to talk with the council about a constructing a skate park. She mentioned the communities around the state that already had skate parks and the benefits they provide. She updated them on the amount of money they have raised so far and the cost to build one is anywhere between \$150,000.00 and \$400,000.00 depending on the size. She stated that initially she wanted to request their money be held by the city, but after speaking with the mayor, it wouldn't be in the city's best interest so she retracted that request. So, instead she would like approval to build on city property. She mentioned Bundy Park, Alumni Park, and the location of the current skate park. That piece of property is owned by the county, but the county would be willing to enter into a lease with the city for that area. Mayor Karst told Tess that Alumni Park is owned by the School District and not the city. There was also discussion on insurance requirements and who would be responsible for maintaining and cleaning up the area. Mayor Karst inquired with City Clerk Amundson on the insurance requirement. She told them that she received information from MMIA and it wouldn't be a large expense to the city for coverage. Also, to have this coverage, the city would have to post rules and regulations for use of the skate park. Tess said that in other communities' people who use the skate parks usually keep it clean, so it shouldn't be an issue. Council member Austin made a motion to allow the committee to build a skate park on city property, but they would have to work

with DPW Skubinna and Street Foreman Runningen to see what the best option would be. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

-Levee Safety Committee Report – There was no report.

Mayor Karst stated Pam Heikens will replace Emery Brelje on the Police Commission to fill out his term. City Clerk Amundson said that a motion will have to be made to put this on the next agenda since it's not an action item for this meeting. Council member Austin made a motion to put this item on the March 6, 2023 agenda for approval. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously. Mayor Karst also mentioned the city is looking for members to sit on the planning board.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for personnel, water, or ordinance. Mayor Karst said that Danny has been busy at the cemetery. City Grant Writer Beyers said that she is working on additional funding applications for the city's CIP, she will be working on the non-competitive grant application, the T.A. sidewalk improvements application, and she has found additional funding to look into for the construction of the swimming pool. Chief Weber said that Grant Writer Ryan will be working on a Homeland Security Application.

Department Head Reports:

Code Compliance Officer Dees mentioned at the board of adjustments meeting the variance was approved with some conditions. The owner of the JC building is still researching options to have it demolished. He attended a pre-flood planning meeting at the weather service and mentioned there is a resident looking for land to start a community garden.

Chief Weber said both Grant Writer Ryan and Officer Dick are at a Crisis Intervention Training. Also, the hiring process will start on March 8, 2023 at 9:00 am and on March 15th both Stella and him are going to attend the job fair in Billings to see if they can recruit additional officers.

City Clerk Amundson told the council that Council Members Koski, Austin, and Heitman will be up for re-election in November. The candidate filing will open April 20th and close June 19th. She will send reminders out as it gets closer. She said she is working on the sewer cash flows for DPW Skubinna and she gave an update on the Valley Court Apartments transfer.

Public Comment: NONE

Mayor Karst then closed the regular council meeting at 5:44 p.m. to enter into an executive session to discuss litigation strategy

The regular council meeting was reopened at 6:17 p.m. Mayor Karst said that Chief Weber and City Attorney Pekovitch will contact the other attorneys involved and address the actions needed.

Council member Koski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey A. Amundson
City Clerk - Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor