

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- TUESDAY JANUARY 17, 2023

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Austin, Ozark, Nistler, Koski, and Heitman. Council member Carr was absent. Also present were Chief Weber, DPW Skubinna, Code Compliance Officer Dees, and Grant Writer Ryan. Maggan Walstad, Taylor Zerbe, and Kyla Wall were also in attendance for the pool committee. Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering was also present. City Clerk Amundson and City Attorney Pekovitch 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: Maggan Walstad asked Mayor Karst if agenda items 5 and 6 could be switched so she can give a background on the pool fundraising and expenses before the council declines the bid from Corland Construction. Mayor Karst agreed to this request.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for January 17, 2023 in the amount of \$70,243.85, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$2,122.04, the minutes of the January 3, 2023 Regular Council Meeting, Resolution No. 3125 – A Resolution Establishing Budgetary Authority in the City County Library Fund for the Receipt and Expenditure of Monies Received from Valley County Friends of the Library, and Resolution No. 3126 – A Resolution Establishing Budgetary Authority in the National Children’s Alliance Grant Fund for the Receipt and Expenditure of Monies Received from the National Children’s Alliance. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Maggan Walstad was in attendance for the pool committee and gave a background on the pool fundraising and expenses from the last 3 ½ - 4 years. She mentioned when the pool committee received the one bid from Corland Construction, they are still short about 2 million dollars. She stated that after talking with DPW Skubinna and City Clerk Amundson that a municipal bond is unable to be pursued at this time. DPW Skubinna said that with the city’s current debt according to Montana Code Annotated he does not recommend going with the bonding option. Council member Koski inquired if the city would be able to get a no interest loan through USDA Rural Development to be paid back over a 10-year period with the help of Norval or Nemont. One of the concerns with that, is how would the payments for the loan be made. There was discussion on the bid that the city received and the two largest costs were the new pool house and the parking/drop off area. The council asked if remodeling the pool house would be an option, as that seemed to be less of an expense. Kaden Bedwell from Interstate said that could be an option. DPW Skubinna also talked about the parking/pull out area. The current area the city has to work with is about 65’ and it could be done. Kaden said he would redo the plans and put the project back out to bid and that could be completed by early summer.

Council member Koski made a motion to accept the swim pool committee’s recommendation to decline the bid for the construction of the swim pool that was received from Corland Construction and have Interstate Engineering revise the plans to include remodeling of the pool house instead of demolition and building a new one. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Council member Koski made a motion to approve applying for the FWP Grant for the Homerun Pond upgrades that is due on January 31, 2023. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman. DPW Skubinna mentioned this is the first piece of upgrading our trail system. We can apply for up to \$75,000.00 with a \$7,500.00 match from the city. If the city is approved for this funding, it can be tied into a Transportation Alternative Grant to extend the city’s trails. Motion carried.

Mayor Karst stated the council meetings in February will be Monday the 6th and Tuesday the 21st due to the President’s Day Holiday.

Unfinished Business:

- Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna said he is drafting a letter to the Corps inquiring on the information he was supposed to receive from the November 22nd meeting.

There was no Mayor’s Report.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Ordinance or Water. A Personnel Committee Meeting has been set for 4:30 p.m. on Monday January 23, 2023. Mayor Karst gave an update on the grave warmer that the Cemetery Department has purchased. Grant Writer Ryan updated the council on the equipment grant the city was awarded and is currently working on the new VOCA grant application that is due the end of this month.

Department Head Reports:

Code Compliance Officer Dees mentioned another variance board meeting will be set soon to discuss a variance for a garage. He talked about the home-based business license application that was received and approved. He’s mailed out more snow letters and he will be attending the building codes conference in Missoula coming up in March.

Chief Weber said he's been dealing with parking and internal issues. Also, there will be a training at the police department tomorrow.

City Clerk Amundson stated she's been working on getting tax forms completed before the end of the month. She also gave an update on the conference call she had with USDA Rural Development on the Valley Court Apartments.

DPW Skubinna updated the council on the transmission main project. He is still working on the inventory fleet replacement schedule and will meet with department heads to review it. The lead and copper mailing will go out in tomorrow's mail and he said that Marco tied in their new transmission main last week. He is also going to start the floodplain manager training.

Public Comment: NONE

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

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey A. Amundson
City Clerk - Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor