

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- APRIL 21, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Carr, Ozark, Koski, and Austin. Council member Heitman attended via conference call. Council member Nistler was absent. Chief Weber and DPW Skubinna were also in attendance. Rene Clampitt, Annette Wageman and Madelyn House were in attendance. City Clerk Amundson and City Attorney Pekovitch attended via Google Meets. There was no media representation.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: Madelyn House was in attendance to make sure she was being appointed to the planning committee for the Growth Policy and Downtown Revitalization Plan as the representative of the Glasgow Downtown Association. Council member Koski said that the meetings will be open and anyone can attend.

Council member Koski made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for April 21, 2025 in the amount of \$379,391.71, Valley Court claims in the amount of \$247.74, and the minutes of the April 7, 2025 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst read the Front-line Worker Appreciation Proclamation.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption at first reading **Ordinance No. 991** – An Ordinance Amending Section 40-26 of Ordinance No. 938 to Change the Rules and Regulating the Use of Water in Glasgow, Montana, and Thereby Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glasgow Montana. Mayor Karst mentioned this ordinance will keep the water bills in the property owners name and not be transferred into the tenant's name for rental properties. Council member Koski moved for the adoption of **Ordinance No. 991** for first reading. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin; whereby **Ordinance No. 991** was unanimously adopted for first reading. Second reading of **Ordinance No. 991** will be held at the May 5, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

Council member Ozark made a motion approving the call for bids for the City of Glasgow's repurchase agreement for June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr and carried unanimously.

Council member Koski made a motion appointing Lori Stormer to fill the remaining term of Dillon Hughes until March 4, 2030 on the Housing Authority Board. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Council member Carr made a motion appointing the following members to a committee to review the Growth Policy and Downtown Revitalization Policy for revisions to recommend to the City of Glasgow's Planning Board: Council member Koski, Shyanne Wallace, DPW Skubinna, Madelyn House, Jennifer Robley, Rob Brunelle, and Brenner Flaten. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst said the yard of the week will be done differently this year, where the council will pay for the chamber bucks, but the beautification and tree committee will select the yard of the week winners. Council member Koski will email the beautification committee to let them know. Council member Ozark made a motion approving the yard of the week. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst stated that things have changed with the 4th of July fireworks display. Last year he assisted with overseeing the display. The fire department is willing to do it again this year, but everything needs to go through the city and someone from the city oversees it. There was discussion on the process of how it works and if it would cost the city money. There is a separate fund set up for the cost of the fireworks that's run through the chamber. Council member Heitman told Council member Ozark that the fireworks display has never cost the city money since it's volunteers that handle it. Council member Ozark said that he doesn't remember the city having to take over the responsibility for it. Council member Heitman will be the fire department's liaison and the city. After further discussion Council member Ozark moved for the approval for the City of Glasgow to oversee the 4th of July fireworks. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst mentioned that Recreation Director Casterline, the Recreation Board, and himself have been meeting with the security camera company Verkada. They would like to have the recreation center go to a 24/7 facility. Mayor Karst talked about the issues they are having with the current system. He also said that the recreation board has taken out a loan before and City Clerk Amundson would like to request interest rates from local financial institutions. Council member Ozark wanted to know how the Recreation Board can take out a loan without the city council's approval. City Clerk Amundson explained the last time the recreation department wanted to take out a loan to do some improvements that it was approved by the city council to request local interest rates. Council member Koski made a motion to request interest rates to finance a new camera system, with the final approval coming from city council. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark, and carried unanimously.

City Attorney Pekovitch said in the executive (closed) session they met with the other attorney to discuss litigation strategies and no action has been taken at this time.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna updated the council on the Environmental Justice grants to assist with funding projects on the levee. He also said HB7 only funded 12 entities and we were ranked at number 13. There is another grant opportunity that he is working on directly with representatives from congress. Council member Koski told DPW Skubinna there may be some Tourism grant money available for the levee.

Committee Reports: There were no reports Water, Personnel, Cemetery or Grant. City Attorney Pekovitch said that DPW Skubinna emailed her some minor changes on two (2) ordinances that are in the works. She will review the changes and email them to City Clerk Amundson for the next board meeting.

Department Head Reports:

DPW Skubinna said that there are two (2) interviews scheduled on Wednesday for the Water/Wastewater Supervisor position and references to check on a third candidate. The Hall Terrace/Hurley Drive project is underway and progress reports are being uploaded to the city's website. He is also working on contracts for the project behind Eugene's and the Division Street sewer project. He's been contacted by an anonymous donor who would like to help the city with upgrades to Candy Cane Park. They are working on locating three (3) large American elm trees and solutions for irrigation.

Mayor Karst mentioned Officer Williams graduated from the Academy and is back to work and the background check on the one applicant for the open police officer position has been done, they will have to complete some testing and interview with the police commission.

City Attorney Pekovitch stated the police department has been being proactive, she's been working with DPW Skubinna on a few things and day to day stuff. She also gave an update on the Rundle sidewalks.

Mayor Karst thanked the council for doing a great job when he was out of town. He said the recreation department was awarded \$60,000.00 from the Washington Foundation for the outdoor fitness area. There was also an update on the progress of the swim pool construction.

Public Comment: Annette Wageman was in attendance to ask about safety on the Hall Terrace project, since one of her renters has small children. DPW Skubinna said that any trenches that are open during the day will be covered before the contractor leaves the job site for the day. Madelyn House asked the mayor if he could sign the Arbor Day Grant Proclamation again this year. Madelyn also suggested the city create an updated website. Council member Ozark stated that budget time will be coming up and at that time the city can possibly allocate money towards an updated website. Discussion continued on updating the website and it was also suggested for the city to possibly start a Facebook page. Council member Koski said that Valley County Clean Up week has started. There was talk on how nice the skate park looked and when the pool construction is completed, Hoyt Park will be a nice area for Glasgow. They also talked about the Shred Safe event coming up in June, the location of the fitness area, and signage and benches for the skate park. Annette Wageman also asked about who installed the locking system for the civic center. DPW Skubinna stated this week he has a pre-meeting for the cyber infrastructure security agency to come and do a physical assessment of our facilities next week. They should be able to provide recommendations for integrating the new camera system for the recreation department. Council member Ozark asked if the city has a security system at the water plant. DPW Skubinna said that the water department is locked and there is a number code that has to be entered to get into the building.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark the meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor