

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- AUGUST 20, 2018

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Erickson. The following Council members were present: Heitman, Nistler, Carr, Karst, and Ozark. Council member Schoenfelder was absent. Those also present were City Clerk Amundson, Street Foreman DeGreeck, Acting Police Chief Gault, Judge Gilbert, and City Attorney Helland. Members of the Glasgow Police Department that were present include: Kathy Granger, Rene Jones, Tasha Mix, Shelly Ramsey, Sergeant Edwards, Officers Nolan, Fisher, and Ames. The media was represented by A.J. Etherington of the Glasgow Courier. Members of the public in attendance were Kenneth Evenson, David Pippin, Madelyn House, Bob and Avis Needham, Kristie Brabeck, Patty Armbruster, Mary Fahlgren, Shirley & LeRoy Siefert, Diana Turner, Marc Wethern, Tyler Viste, Janice Swanson, Larry & Betty Cote, Ken & Cil Borseth, Clay Berger, Bridget Stiverson, Janice Hodges, Casey Edwards, Karla Johnson, Shauna Stringer & family, Karen Grewe, Johanna Mersen, Carolyn Bachtold, Alyce Tracy, Angie & Kevin Wersal, Sandra Cople, Kelsey Swisley, Clint Helms, Candy Lagerquist, Larry Rasmusan, Gilbert Mogan, Heidi, Carol, and Richard Gault, Michele Hirsch, Tisa Seiler, Danelle Murch, Sherriff Vern Burkle, Bob Potter, James & Susan Walling, Sean Heavey, Mary Armstrong, Keith & Ruth Myhre, Nicole & Amy Nelson, Keirsten Wethern, Gary Wageman, Janice & Steve Lawrence, Dan Taylor, Amy Wood, and Dylan Jensen.

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any agenda item: Diana Turner was in attendance inquiring if a street sign could be placed at the end of her street that would include a school crossing and 15 mph. There are many children who frequent this area, and a lot of speeding cars. Mayor Erickson told her to set up a meeting with the Police Department and we will see what can be done.

Council member Karst made a motion approving the consent agenda including, the payment of claims for August 20, 2018 in the amount of \$320,275.95, the Valley Court Apartment Claims in the amount of \$235.03, and the minutes of the August 6, 2018 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Carr, and carried unanimously.

Council member Nistler made a motion appointing Acting Police Chief Gault to the Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson swore in Police Chief Gault.

Council member Carr made a motion reappointing Dain Christianson to the Library Board for another five (5) year term effective August 21, 2018. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler and carried unanimously.

Council member Karst made a motion approving the Extension #23 letter agreement between Montana Aviation Research Company (MARCO) and the City of Glasgow. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman and carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson introduced and offered for adoption the first reading of **Ordinance No. 960** – An Ordinance Authorizing Officers of the Glasgow Police Department to Arrest Persons Committing Crimes within City Limits, to Arrest Persons Committing Crimes within Five Miles of the City Limits, and to Arrest Persons Committing Crimes along the Line of Water Supply for the City of Glasgow. Council member Karst made a motion adopting **Ordinance No. 960** for first reading. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler. Council member Ozark inquired on the concerns the City Police Department currently had before this ordinance was written. Chief Gault stated it's more of a liability issue at this time on what the insurance would cover if the city department was responding to a call for assistance outside the city limits. With this new ordinance it would include Highland Drive, Airport Road, Scottie Pride Drive, and the Fairgrounds. Sherriff Burkle is happy to see both of the departments working together, but he would like to see the rules and guidelines spelled out in this ordinance. County Attorney Jensen also felt this was of a concern. Council member Ozark made a motion amending the initial motion of adopting **Ordinance No. 960** for first reading and to table **Ordinance No. 960** until the specific concerns are included in the revised ordinance. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr; whereby **Ordinance No. 960** is tabled until a revised one is presented.

Mayor Erickson introduced and offered for adoption the first reading of **Ordinance No. 959** – An Ordinance Allowing Chickens within the City Limits of Glasgow and the Rules for Permitting. Council member Ozark made a motion adopting **Ordinance No. 959** for first

reading. The motion was seconded by Council member Karst. Of the community members in attendance 19 spoke either for or against the proposed chicken ordinance for first reading. The seven members who spoke for the ordinance, their comments are as follows: It's a positive thing where children can raise them from a chick to an adult and have responsibilities, these can make great pets for those who are allergic to dogs and cats, they can assist with those who may have mental health issues, can be used for an educational experience, and only a small percent of the community may invest in chickens. Some people who spoke stated that they wouldn't want to have chickens, but let those who want them, have them. Having chickens could make a positive experience for someone, change is not a bad thing, let's give it a chance and see what happens, maybe those who want chickens could work through the program at the fairgrounds. Those who were against the ordinance, their comments included: they carry many diseases, they are not clean animal, they will bring in additional predators especially skunks, our law enforcement has enough to deal with, there are ordinances that are not enforced now, chickens are mean, and having chickens in backyards will affect property values. Other comments that were made include: Maybe the residents that are interested in having chickens should contact a rancher or farmer and see if they could rent a portion of their property for this, maybe the city should allow them, but only in certain areas, or include that an approval letter from the neighbors would need to be signed before a permit is issued, we already have an animal problem, why should we add chickens in to the mix, and one member said it should just go to the vote of the people. There was discussion on maybe allowing temporary permits and if the owner doesn't follow the ordinance, the annual permit wouldn't be issued, the volunteer committee that would do coop inspections to make sure they are up to regulations, and if the chickens were removed from the property, who would take them. Council member Ozark inquired on how much it would cost to invest in the chickens and coops. Madelyn said that the initial cost could be anywhere from \$250.00 and up depending on the cost of the type of chicken the person was looking for and type of materials used to build the coop. Mayor Erickson thanked everyone in attendance for their input and comments. She then asked each council member for their comments and votes on this issue. Council member Ozark said that he was pretty adamant about not having chickens within the city limits when this was first brought to the council and is still on the fence about it, he was told once to never be afraid of change, it's a fresh idea for Glasgow and those who brought it up need to be treated with respect and they worked within the system to try to get things done correctly and gave credit to Madelyn for all the work she had done, he said that if this ordinance doesn't pass, he will make sure it goes to the people to vote in 2019, with that being said he votes yes. Council member Karst voted no. Council member Carr said that he grew up on a ranch/farm that had chickens and agrees with what Council member Ozark stated, it needs to go to the vote of the people and he votes no. Council member Nistler said that there are pros and cons with this issue, but also voted no. Council member Heitman mentioned he hasn't heard many positives from those who had spoke to him, he votes no. The first reading of **Ordinance No. 959** does not pass with a vote of 1 yes's and 4 no's.

Mayor Erickson stated the September Council meetings will be on Tuesday the 4th and Monday the 17th due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Unfinished Business:

- Levee Safety Committee Report – NONE
- Update on GNDC noncompetitive grant – NONE

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Personnel, Grant, Ordinance, Cemetery, or Water.

Department Head Reports:

Mayor Erickson reported that she had met with the Commissioners and had talked about the Keystone Pipeline, she met with Tester's Chief of Staff, she will have a recommendation from the Cemetery Committee Meeting on the next agenda, and she will be attending the LEPC meeting.

Chief Gault stated he attended a meeting on the Keystone Pipeline at the Cottonwood and construction should be starting next March. There will be two man camps and his department is being proactive with trainings to deal with the protesters that will come along with it.

Street Foreman DeGreek said the crosswalk signs are up and they are working on painting the crosswalks before school starts.

City Clerk Amundson mentioned a meeting needs to be set to discuss the mills and how much the council wants to allocate this year. It was decided to put this on the September 4th agenda for discuss and decision.

City Attorney Helland will be meeting with the County Sherriff's department, the County Attorney, and the City Police Department on the 5 mile jurisdiction ordinance and will be researching what constitutes an emotional support animal.

Public Comment: AJ Etherington thanked the council for allowing the civil process to happen with the proposed chicken ordinance. Madelyn House also thanked the council for this. Council member Ozark congratulated Chief Gault and said that he will be leading a good crew.

Council member Nistler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rebecca Erickson
Mayor