

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- JUNE 16, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Nistler, Carr, Ozark, Heitman, Koski, and Austin. Recreation Director Casterline, Captain Edwards, Sergeant Dick, and City Grant Writer Byers were also in attendance. Rene Clampitt, Kristie Brabeck, Sean Heavey, Matt & Lisa Baxter, Candy Lagerquist, and Owen Thompson were also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson, DPW Skubinna, City Attorney Pekovitch, and Tori Smith from Verkada attended via Google Meets. There was no media representation.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: Sean Heavey stated he was in attendance for another matter on the agenda, but he noticed agenda item #6 and said that there are other qualified people in the city that could install a camera system for the civic center and swim pool. Recreation Director Casterline was unaware that there was anyone else locally that could do this. Sergeant Dick wanted to make a comment on agenda item #10; he would like the council to table it and discuss it at a wage comp committee meeting. Mayor Karst said that the MMIA insurance affects other employees and not just the police department and it needs to be in place before the new fiscal year starting July 1.

Council member Carr made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for June 16, 2025 in the amount of \$539,819.09, Valley Court claims in the amount of \$2,151.58, the minutes of the June 2, 2025 Regular Council Meeting, the minutes for the June 2, 2025 Executive Session Minutes, **Resolution No. 3199** – A Resolution Establishing Budgetary Authority in the Capital Projects Fund for the Glasgow Recreation Department for the Receipt and Expenditure of Monies Received from Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital and the Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital Foundation, **Resolution No. 3200** – A Resolution Establishing Budgetary Authority in the Capital Projects Fund for the Glasgow Recreation Department for the Receipt and Expenditure of Monies Received from Montana Dakota Utilities Foundation and **Resolution No. 3201** – A Resolution Establishing Budgetary Authority in the Capital Projects Fund for the Glasgow Recreation Department for the Receipt and Expenditure of Monies Received from AARP. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski and carried unanimously.

Council member Ozark opened the one (1) bid received from Ezzie's Wholesale Inc for the city's gas and diesel for fiscal year 2025-2026; No 1 Diesel (red), rack price plus add on \$2.9338, No 2 Diesel (red), rack price plus add on \$2.3838, unleaded rack price plus add on \$2.7278. Mayor Karst mentioned since it's the only bid the city received, City Clerk Amundson said the city can accept it. Council member Nistler made a motion to award the fiscal year 2025-2026 fuel bid to Ezzie's. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Tori Smith from Verkada was in attendance via Google Meets to give the city council a presentation on the camera system for the Civic Center and Swim Pool. She said this is a project that her and Recreation Director Casterline have been working on for the past seven (7) months to do a full security reset. She reviewed the scope of the project and the reasoning to have electrified doors. The goal of the recreation center is to be open 24/7. She then explained why this project should be done through Verkada. It decreases unauthorized access to the buildings and theft, the city can go unstaffed on the weekends and still be secure, it can be a revenue generator since there would be 24/7 access, and the city can be alerted when non-members enter in the building with members. She then went over the drawings of where the cameras would be located and which doors would have entry access for each building. Tori also stated that Verkada is the only one with a ten (10) year warranty on their hardware. If anything were to break or quit working, they would send out a new part within 48 hours and K12 Montana would come in and replace it. The total cost of the project including the hardware, licensing, and installation will be \$77,303.00. This project is also under a five (5) year licensing agreement after the five years the renewal cost will be approximately \$19,000.00 for another five (5) year term. She said that if the council agrees to move forward the next step would be the installation process which takes about four (4) weeks which would be completed by K12 Montana and then Tori would provide the training and support. Mayor Karst asked if we received any quotes for financing and Recreation Director Casterline said we received a quote from Independence Bank and at a 5-year period it would be 5.25% and a 7-year period 5.50% for the \$77,303.00. Council member Austin asked if that money would come out of the recreation department's budget. Mayor Karst said yes. Council member Ozark asked Tori to explain the licensing fees again. She said since all of the data is stored in the cloud that's what the licensing fee is for. Recreation Director Casterline said that he has tried working with other local vendors with no forward movement. Council member Nistler asked Sean how quickly they could put a bid together since they are local. Sean said that they could do everything that Verkada does, but without the licensing. Since Recreation Director Casterline has been working on this for seven (7) months, he doesn't want to intrude, but to keep him in mind for the future for any other camera upgrades the city may need. Council member Koski made a motion to move forward with the camera system from Verkada. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Lisa Baxter explained the reason the amount was lower than it used to be is when they had to rebid the animal contract, they were under the assumption that another party was interested in it, so they just want to go back to what they were originally paid for the past 13 years; so, it's not an actual increase to the contract. Council member Heitman made a motion to increase the animal contract to \$625.00 per month effective July 1, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3198** – A Resolution of the City of Glasgow, Montana, Establishing A Capital Projects Policy. Council member Austin made a motion adopting **Resolution No. 3198**. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski; whereby **Resolution No. 3198** was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3202** – A Resolution of the City of Glasgow, Montana Establishing a Written Procurement Policy. Council member Heitman made a motion adopting **Resolution No. 3202**. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler; whereby **Resolution No. 3202** was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Karst stated on agenda item #10 Sergeant Dick asked that the council table it and go into negotiations for their portion of the health insurance and City Clerk Amundson requested that the MMIA portion of the health insurance be approved that was recommended by the wage comp committee and paying \$900.00 towards the insurance even though it increased to \$984.00. Council member Nistler made a motion to accept the MMIA insurance for all other city employees, excluding the police department. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr. Sergeant Dick explained during negotiations last year, they had brought up the in-lieu of benefits to move from \$900.00 up to \$1,000.00 based on the fact that they assumed it would be increasing the next fiscal year and if it were to increase the next fiscal year, they could come in and renegotiate the in lieu of benefits. Council member Ozark asked if this was in the contract. Council member Austin asked if the wage comp committee agreed to discuss it or agreed to raise it. The members of the wage comp committee and Sergeant Dick couldn't remember what the agreement said exactly. Council member Ozark stated if the council agreed to it, then it would be in the agreement, he doesn't have a problem increasing it, if that's what it says in the contract. Council member Austin said if in the contract they would agree to discuss it; then it's totally two different things. Council member Koski stated that she feels that the police department shouldn't get an increase an under value the rest of the city employees. She also said that if the wage comp committee agreed to revisit it, they can. Mayor Karst asked if they wanted just the wage comp committee to review this or the whole council. Council member Austin suggested the entire council since they would have to vote on it anyway. They mentioned having a special meeting to discuss this. Council members Nistler and Carr withdrew their initial motion. Council member Austin made a motion to table the insurance approval until it can be discussed. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Carr approved the wage comp committee recommendation to continue the police hiring incentive for another year effective June 18, 2025 to June 18, 2026. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman. Mayor Karst asked Captain Edwards how effective this incentive has been. He said that it hasn't been a deciding factor for those who have hired on with the police department, but it could've swayed them to go another way if it wasn't in place. Motion carried.

Council member Nistler made a motion to approve the renewal of Pioneer Community Development's (Ashleigh Byers) grant writing contract from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 with an annual increase of \$5,000.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst mentioned the current materials the Rundle is using for their sidewalk replacement is not in accordance with the current city code. The ordinance has been referred to the ordinance committee to review and make changes. The owner of the Rundle understands that the city could request him to remove the current materials and replace it with concrete. Council member Koski mentioned that the pavers he is using can shift. Council member Nistler said that as long as the owner knows he only has a certain timeframe to fix any that have moved, then he is ok with it and it assists him with going back to the original look from when the building was built. Council member Carr made a motion to allow the Rundle to continue to use the pavers for their sidewalk replacement. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman. DPW Skubinna did not have any issues with the materials being used, but also wanted to make sure that when the ordinance is revised that it has a section that if any other material is to be used, it would be on a case-by-case basis that would have to be approved by council. City Attorney Pekovitch agreed with what DPW Skubinna stated. Motion carried.

Mayor Karst said that the council did meet in an executive session where they discussed litigation and have extended a settlement offer in regards to this particular case and has been tentatively accepted, but it has not been dismissed yet. Once the suit is dismissed then more details can be given.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – The next meeting will be held in July and will be meeting with DNRC.

Committee Reports: There were no reports Personnel, Water, or Cemetery. City Grant Writer Byers mentioned the remaining money from LWCF has come through. She also wanted to know if she should pursue additional money from LWCF for a splash pad. Mayor Karst said after the pool project is completed, then we can regroup and have that discussion. Captain Edwards talked about the Mason Moore grant the police department was awarded to assist with the purchase of new tasers. Mayor Karst mentioned City Clerk Amundson is working on scheduling an ordinance committee meeting.

Department Head Reports:

DPW Skubinna inquired on how to proceed with the water/wastewater supervisor position. Mayor Karst asked the council how they would like to move forward; if they want him to just fill a water position or the supervisor position. Council member Carr believes the city should take it's time in filling the supervisor position. Council member Nistler wanted to know how many water applications we had. Mayor Karst said that it was advertised as a supervisory position and not an operator position. The council would like a water committee meeting set to discuss the next steps for a water department position.

Recreation Director Casterline talked about the fitness court and how it's funded completely by different grants and is working on getting bids for the concrete portion of the project. He also said the summer recreation programs started today.

Captain Edwards said the staffing at the police department is getting better.

City Attorney Pekovitch mentioned the police department is being proactive. She reviewed a plat aggregation and went to MMIA summit this past week and they were happy to hear the city put a park permit in place and are requiring insurance for any events held in the parks.

Mayor Karst reminded the council of the invitation to the Interstate Engineering open house that is coming up later this month.

Public Comment: Owen Thompson was in attendance to update the council on the project he completed for his Eagle Scout program. They assembled the playground equipment up at the police department on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. There were 13 people who assisted and it took them about 6 hours to complete. They also talked about the possibility of installing a fence around the playground at a later date. Rene Clampitt was in attendance asking about if City Attorney Pekovitch had had a chance to look at the merger deed and if it's something the council would be interested in instead of the re-platting of lots the city currently requires. City Attorney Pekovitch said that he has talked with City Attorney O'Brien and it would save a lot of the upfront costs of surveying properties. If in the future the property owner would want to split the properties, it then would have to be surveyed. Candy Lagerquist wanted a status update of the hole that's at the bottom of Cemetery Hill. DPW Skubinna said the contractor is in the process of welding together the pipe as the first part of this project. There was also discussion on the intersection at 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> North and that it needs to be fixed as soon as possible because it's becoming a hazard.

Council member Carr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin the meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

*Stacey A. Amundson*

Stacey Amundson  
City Clerk-Treasurer

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Rod Karst  
Mayor