

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- JULY 6, 2020

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Erickson. The following Council members were present: Karst, Ozark, Nistler, and Young. Council members Carr and Heitman attended by phone. Those also present were DPW Kompel, Utility Billing Clerk Frueh, City Attorney Sullivan, Assistant Director of Public Works Cook, Officer Nolan, Judge Gilbert, Assistant Chief Edwards, and Lieutenant Gamas. Drew Markle and Brian Austin were also in attendance. The media was represented by AJ Etherington from the Glasgow Courier.

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any agenda item: NONE

Council member Nistler made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for July 6, 2020 in the amount of \$361,993.02, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$1,690.47, and the minutes of the June 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark and carried unanimously.

Council member Karst made a motion approving the April and May 2020 Financials. The motion was seconded by Council member Young, and carried unanimously.

Assistant Chief Edwards mentioned there were around 9 applications for the open position and it was narrowed down to three (3) that were very highly qualified; Jewel scored the highest. Council member Young made a motion to hire Jewel Etherington for the Victim Witness Advocate position. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Nistler reported on the Personnel Committee meeting. He stated that Judge Gilbert was in attendance to inquire on hiring a part – time court clerk with her retirement coming up in the near future and didn't want to leave the city in a bind. Then the committee discussed a different position within the city water department, similar to an internship, where it would help getting someone on board and it would only require one (1) certification instead of three (3). Council member Ozark inquired on what certification would this employee need and DPW Kompel said it would only be in distribution. We are not looking at hiring another operator, it would just be a shift in personnel. Council member Nistler made a motion approving the new job description for the Water Department. The motion was seconded by Council member Karst, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson mentioned it was the recommendation from Judge Gilbert to hire a part-time court clerk at \$14.50 per hour and about 20 hours per week and with overhead it would be about a \$22,000.00 per year cost to the city. Council member Ozark made a motion to hire a part-time city court clerk. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson inquired on how the Recreation Department handles their seasonal employees. Council member Karst stated a few years ago when the council had decided to bump seasonal employees to \$10.00 per hour, then for the pool employees, they receive a \$.10 per hour increase when they return and if they receive their WSI certification, it's another \$.25 increase. So according to the matrix, summer employees at the recreation department would start at \$10.53 per hour. Since the matrix has been approved, it will now need to be implemented for summer employees.

Council member Ozark reported on the Wage Compensation meeting that was held on June 30th and the changes to the matrix, including the changes to the Recreation Department Employees and decreasing Bob and Stacey's increase in pay. The committee met with the police department and they had given some recommendations that the committee is going to take under advisement and meet next week, then come back with a recommendation to the full council for approval. Council member Ozark made a motion approving the recommendation of changes to the wage matrix and scale excluding the Glasgow Police Department. Council member Young seconded the motion. Council member Karst voted against; motion carried.

Mayor Erickson updated the council on the meeting for the Armory and why the city is looking at only a one (1) year lease with Sandpoint Properties. Council member Karst made a motion approving the one (1) year lease agreement between Sandpoint Properties and the City of Glasgow for the Police Department from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for a total amount of \$25,800.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Karst mentioned the Nemont email is cheaper, but he would like to go more with the Wix.com, since it would have the cityofglasgowmt.com at the end of each email. It would be for fourteen (14) employees at an annual cost of \$840.00. Council member Karst made a motion for the city to move from the Hotmail account to a Wix.com email account. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark, and carried unanimously.

Council member Karst updated the council on the updates to the Weedy Lot Ordinance including an increase in fines. Mayor Erickson introduced and offered for adoption for First Reading – **Ordinance No. 968** – An Ordinance Amending No. 936 To Define Nuisance Weeds, Weeds Deemed A Public Nuisance, Duties of Public Works Director, Notice Procedure, To Provide a Penalty for Failure to Comply, and Cost of Removal Thereby Amending Sec. 10-20 Through 10-26 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glasgow, Montana. Council member Karst

moved for the adoption of **Ordinance No. 968** for first reading. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler; whereby **Ordinance No. 968** was adopted for first reading. The second reading will be at the July 20, 2020 council meeting.

Mayor Erickson said she had already given her report on the Armory, but will keep the council updated. City Attorney Sullivan is working on the demand letter for Kois Brothers dealing with the street sweeper, and the County Commissioners meeting is now moved to 9:30 am on Wednesday.

Unfinished Business:

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

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Water or Cemetery.

Assistant Chief Edwards said that Kathy has found a brick and mortar grant for the Armory purchase, but it's only for \$45,000.00. She is still looking for other funding options.

Council member Karst said that they are making progress on the daycare ordinance. City Attorney Sullivan mentioned it wasn't ready for this meeting, but it will be on the next council agenda. The committee is also looking into nuisance properties such as junk lots. The committee also discussed the fence issue and are still looking into it and hope to get it addressed at the next ordinance meeting set for Monday the 13th at 4:30 pm.

Department Head Reports:

DPW Kompel didn't have much to report on. Council member Ozark inquired about the 2nd Avenue South and sidewalk project. DPW Kompel said he will be meeting with Century later this week for 2nd Avenue South and will have a better timeline after that. The sidewalk project is a different crew, and they are looking at late this summer to start this.

Assistant Chief Edwards went over the calls for service over the last two weeks.

City Attorney Sullivan said she has issued a demand letter for a new street sweeper. She also wrote a memo for Ted McIntyre wanting to connect to the city sewer and the council can use this as a guide for the future for anyone else who may want to connect. She filed 18 criminal complaints so residence would take action on their weedy lots and we are seeing results.

Judge Gilbert thanked the council for approving hiring a court clerk and will get started on advertising by at least August 1st.

Public Comment: Brian Austin was in attendance to talk about his building project out by the VFW. He was looking for a contingency to approve his plat and doesn't want to wait until the meeting on the 20th, he would like to break ground as soon as possible, because he wants to be cutting meat there this fall. DPW Kompel mentioned he did not receive all the feedback yet from the examining surveyor. A special council meeting was set for 5:00 pm on Monday July 13th to address this issue.

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

ATTEST:

Alicia Frueh
Utility Billing Clerk

Rebecca Erickson
Mayor