

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- MAY 19, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Nistler, Koski, Ozark, Heitman, and Austin. Council member Carr was absent. Chief Weber and City Attorney Pekovitch were in attendance. Candy Lagerquist, Ed Malone, Kent & Darcia Schindler, Dylan Sander, Rene Clampitt, Dane Anthony, Drew Henry, Michele Hirsch, Bill Hayner, and Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering were also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson attended via Google Meets. Michelle Bigelbach was in attendance for the Glasgow Courier.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Karst stated that before the meeting gets started, agenda item numbers 5 & 6 will be stricken since there was an issue with the police commission not having a quorum for Cory Sager's hiring. He would also like to strike item #16 as he feels the council is not ready to do the first reading of the ordinance, but they will still take public input on it when they get to that agenda item.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: NONE

Council member Austin made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for May 19, 2025 in the amount of \$302,432.13, Valley Court claims in the amount of \$866.00, the minutes of the May 5, 2025 Regular Council Meeting, and striking items 5, 6, and 16 from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski and carried unanimously.

Approval to hire Cory Sager for the open police officer position was stricken from the agenda as there was no quorum for the police commission to approve his hiring.

Mayor Karst to perform the oath of office for Cory Sager was stricken from the agenda.

Council member Koski made a motion approving the financials for January and February 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Ed Malone explained every five (5) years all jurisdictions need to update their hazard mitigation plan and submit it to FEMA for their approval and if they don't approve it, it will come back to be revised until they approve it. The state has hired an engineering firm to draft the plan and then all jurisdictions need to sign off on it. Ed said the full mitigation plan is 65 pages long, but is available to review if requested. Council member Austin made a motion approving the resolution adopting the 2025 Eastern Montana Region Hazard Mitigation Plan that was drafted by DES. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Koski made a motion approving the call for bids for the city's gas and diesel for fiscal year 2025-2026. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst said that in the council packet is the information for change order #6 to modify the floor elevation in the shallow end of the swimming pool along with the email and text responses that approved this previously so the contractor could continue on the project. This agenda item is to ratify the approval for public record. Council member Koski made a motion ratifying the approval of change order #6 in the amount of \$85,123.77. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman. This change order will add an additional six (6) weeks to the project. Council member Ozark asked Kaden what the cost includes under site services in the amount of \$2,479.33. Kaden wasn't sure exactly what was included in that cost. Motion carried.

Council member Nistler moved to approve the park permit for the Skate Park grand opening event to be held on June 14, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

The wage comp committee recommendation is to increase seasonal employee wages as it's been difficult to compete with other businesses in town that hire at a higher starting wage. Council member Nistler made a motion approving the wage comp committee's recommendation to increase seasonal employees starting wage for summer recreation instructors to \$13.00, lifeguards to \$14.00 and head lifeguards and laborers to \$14.50. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the wage comp committee recommendation to increase the returning seasonal employees amount from \$.25 to \$.50. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Council member Nistler made a motion approving the wage comp committee recommendation to increase the Utility Billing Clerk's wage to \$16.26 with retro pay back to April 3, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

City Clerk Amundson explained that she had included her recommendation in the council packets and even though Independence Bank's interest rate was a little higher, they charge fees on their business banking account and it

would offset the higher rate. This was only her recommendation and it's ultimately up to the council on what they would like to do. Council member Ozark made a motion to award the City of Glasgow's repurchase agreement to Opportunity Bank for June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst said that for item #16, the large vehicle ordinance, they will take public input on it and will have up to three (3) minutes to talk and requests that those in attendance don't repeat what others had to say. He understands that it wasn't fully completed by the ordinance committee when it was sent on to DPW Skubinna and then to City Attorney Pekovich and obviously there are some concerns on it. He also stated the city's biggest concern is the safety aspect of large vehicles and where they parked close to the street corners making it a blind corner for oncoming traffic. When it was suggested in the ordinance to park 80' from the corner; Kaden had brought to the mayors' attention that his lot isn't 80' wide. Mayor Karst also mentioned the issues with fences and hedges that are located on corner lots. Another issue is residents putting their slide outs out and leaving them out for long periods of time. He also said up in the highland area the streets are narrow and it's not just the parking of campers, it's also utility trailers. Kaden Bedwell told the council he remembered issues from a few years ago with people living in campers with their slide outs out and power cords running across the sidewalks. He is against the entire ordinance as it's currently written, he also wanted to know if any of the council had asked Chief Weber for any incident reports that stemmed from having large vehicles parked on city streets. Mayor Karst mentioned that the ordinance committee will work on coming up with a solution that will work for everyone and he knows that Miles City bans parking of large vehicles on all city streets. Dane Anthony voiced his concerns of having to park his larger vehicles on another empty lot that he owns in town that is not located near his home. Darcia Schindler asked if the 48-hour parking rule was currently in effect. Mayor Karst said that the 48-hour rule is currently not in effect. City Attorney Pekovitch mentioned it's only the 5-day parking that is in effect for all vehicles. The current ordinance in effect states that all trailers, boats, and campers need to be removed from the streets from December 1 to April 1 each year. Mayor Karst thinks it would be best to schedule an ordinance committee meeting and deal with just this ordinance after it's been reviewed by the public to give additional input. Drew Henry inquired on the process for this ordinance and what the community would expect for public input opportunities. Mayor Karst told Drew that the ordinance committee will sit down and discuss any changes, then it goes to the city attorney for her legal advice on it, then it comes back to the ordinance committee after any other changes are made and reviewed again; all of this happens before it comes to the council before the first reading. Then when it comes to the council for first reading it also gives the community another option for input and the council can take that into consideration to make additional changes to the ordinance before the second reading. After the second reading of the ordinance and council approves it, then it will go into effect 30 days after. Discussion continued on this ordinance about definitions of trailers. City Attorney Pekovitch inquired if those present were wanting an ordinance that is more or less restrictive and wanted input on the 48-hour parking. Darcia also asked if the 5-day parking ordinance was enforced. Chief Weber said it is enforced, but it's mainly complaint driven. City Clerk Amundson will set an ordinance committee meeting and get it posted.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – NONE

Committee Reports: There were no reports Personnel, Water, or Cemetery. Mayor Karst mentioned the recreation department received another \$15,000.00 from AARP to go towards the fitness center. An ordinance committee meeting will be set.

Department Head Reports:

Chief Weber mentioned the playground equipment at the police department should be installed in the next few weeks. The potential new hire was not able to attend tonight's meeting because the final portion of the hiring process couldn't be completed. So, the hiring will be on one of the June 2025 agendas.

City Attorney Pekovich said that Code Compliance Officer Dees will be working on the junk lot letters that will give residents 30 days to clean it up or the court process will begin.

There was no mayor's report.

Public Comment: Rene Clampitt mentioned she had two things. The first is Glasgow has always required a survey to combine lots that they have purchased and the State of Montana allows them to do a merger deed and she has one drafted because she is merging two lots in Yellowstone County; she gave a copy to City Attorney Pekovitch to see if it's something that could work for Valley County. She also talked about the Planning Board meeting that was held at Matt Poole's property and it came down to the width of the road which he thought was 62' or 63'. After the meeting was over Rene pulled the plat for that area and it's only a 50' road. There are very few streets in Glasgow that are wider than that. Candy Lagerquist inquired on the hole that is located towards the end of Cemetery Hill and wanted to know when that was going to be fixed. Mayor Karst said there was a contractor that was supposed to start working on it today, but had to delay it due to the weather. She also inquired on the barricades on 4th and 8th. Mayor Karst mentioned they are waiting for it to dry out to replace the fill that was used and repair it. He also talked about the one on Francis Street and that the project behind Eugene's was supposed to begin today also. Kaden mentioned that a couple of years ago he let Jory and Rod know if they needed assistance with the GPS to let Interstate know because they like to help out in the community with the kids programs.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor