

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- JANUARY 16, 2024

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Koski, Heitman, Austin, Ozark, and Nistler. Council member Carr was absent. Also present were DPW Skubinna, Chief Weber, Grant Writer Ryan, Captain Edwards and City Attorney Pekovitch. Candy Lagerquist, Tess Fahlgren, Monica (Mona) Vine, Jason Partridge, Jerald "Juice" Fisher, and Pam Heikens. The media was represented by Michelle Bigelbach of the Glasgow Courier.

Mayor Karst stated that City Clerk Amundson would not be attending tonight's meeting, as there was a death in her family, so tonight's meeting will be recorded.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: NONE

Council member Koski made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for January 16, 2024 in the amount of \$70,131.72, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$1,110.81, and the minutes of the January 2, 2024 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin and carried unanimously.

Council member Koski made a motion approving the October and November 2023 Financials. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst asked DPW Skubinna if we were ready to award the Raw Water Transmission Main River Crossing project to Thompson Contracting. DPW Skubinna thanked the council tabling this item a couple weeks ago. He said we've had a little more information and got some more things done in the last two weeks. And at this point in time, I'd like to recommend proceeding with awarding the face bid, which was crossing two and four. We ran into some 11th hour challenges with getting the crossing right behind the street shop permit with the Corps of Engineers. The cost of the #2 and #4 crossing will be \$1.8 million. We will be able to use our ARPA funds and not have to tap into the funding package. So, because of what the Corps of Engineers is doing this is going to put this back a year or two and increase the cost (additional cost to redesign, pay a contractor who would have been here to do all three at once, and look at funding for a new project). Council member Ozark made a motion to award the base bid to Thompson Contracting (for crossings #2 & #4). The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption the second reading of **Ordinance No. 982** – An Ordinance Adopting and Enacting a New Code for the City of Glasgow, Montana; Providing for the Repeal of Certain Ordinances Not Included Therein; Providing A Penalty for the Violation Thereof; Providing for the Manner of Amending Such Code; and Providing When Such Code and This Ordinance Shall Become Effective. Council member Nistler moved for the adoption of **Ordinance No. 982** for second reading. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski; whereby **Ordinance No. 982** was unanimously adopted for second reading.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption the second reading of **Ordinance No. 983** – An Ordinance Amending Section 16A-4(4) of Ordinance No. 860 to Change the Minimum Age Requirements of Members of the Police Department of Glasgow, Montana, and thereby Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glasgow Montana. Chief Weber stated he would like the capped age of 40 removed from the ordinance, since any officer who applies for the position has to complete multiple examinations to be considered for the position. Council member Heitman moved for the adoption of **Ordinance No. 983** for second reading. Council member Nistler seconded the motion; whereby **Ordinance No. 983** was unanimously for second reading.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3153** – A Resolution Appointing a Firefighter of the Glasgow Fire Department for a Probationary Period of Six (6) months – Bryon Messig. Council member Heitman moved for the adoption of **Resolution No. 3153**. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin; whereby **Resolution No. 3153** was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption Resolution No. 3154 – A Resolution Calling for Bids for the sale of City Property in the City of Glasgow. Mayor Karst explained this is the former Anderson property on Francis Street. He had asked a local realtor what lots this size have been selling for and they had told him around \$20,000.00. Mayor Karst said that a minimum bid amount will have to be set. It was asked how much the city spent to demolish the house. It was approximately \$8,000.00. Council member Nistler would like to see the proceeds from the sale be earmarked to assist others in the future to demolish abandoned properties, if they do not have the financial means to do so and they deed the property to the city. Council member Austin made a motion to set the minimum bid price at \$15,000.00 and earmark the proceeds for future projects that require demolition. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion appointing Jerald "Juice" Fisher to the police commission for a three (3) year period effective January 17, 2024. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin asked to have a Personnel committee meeting to review the qualifications of the Police Commission members and it was asked that City Clerk Amundson set the meeting.

Council member Koski made a motion to hire Monica (Mona) Vines for the open police officer position. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin. Chief Weber, Council member Koski and Police Commission member Heikens all spoke highly of Monica; motion carried.

Mayor Karst performed the Oath of Office for Monica Vines.

Mayor Karst stated the meetings in February will be on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> due to the Presidents Day Holiday.

Unfinished Business:

-Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna stated there will be a quarterly meeting tomorrow at 2:00 with the committee meeting at 1:30. They will be discussing the DNRC hydrology report and some other things. One or both of our consultants will be present with the status of our CDBG funding for the SWIF. It should be a productive meeting.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for water, cemetery, or grant. Both a personnel and ordinance committee meeting will need to be set.

Department Head Reports:

DPW Skubinna said that the power issues over the weekend knocked out the Bulk Water Plant. We have some other items that all went out across the water system at the same time. He will look into the cost and see if MMIA will cover the damages. We will be doing snow removal on Thursday and probably Friday of this week.

Chief Weber said that he has been working with Phillips County on their CAC grant like we submitted.


City Attorney Pekovitch has been working on the marijuana ordinance and a few other things.

There was no Mayor's Report.

Public Comment: Tess Fahlgren has an ordinance ready for the council, but is concerned about the address to list for the Skate Park. Mayor Karst told her that the address will be adjusted at the time of the approval by the council. She just needs to submit it to the City Office or email it to City Attorney Pekovitch. She also had questions about an MOU between her group and the council. Council member Koski will look for a template for Tess to pattern for the MOU to follow. The group will need to have their rules put together for the skate park too.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Robert Weber  
Chief of Police  
(Recorded the city council meeting)

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Rod Karst  
Mayor