

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- MARCH 18, 2024

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Carr, Heitman, Austin, Ozark, Koski, and Nistler. Also present were Chief Weber, and DPW Skubinna. Candy Lagerquist, Nick Dirkes, McKenzie DeGreek, Gregg Hunter, Kristie Brabeck, and Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering were also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson and City Attorney Pekovitch attended via Google Meets. There was no media representation.

Council Member Koski 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 March 18, 2024 in the amount of \$332,562.34, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$5,854.94, and the minutes of the March 4, 2024 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst closed the public meeting at 5:01 p.m. to conduct the public hearing on the HB355 funding application for the Hall Terrace/Hurley Drive Project. DPW Skubinna said this was on the list of potential projects for the council to decide on. It is currently in the design phase and coming together well. Mayor Karst said this project will address the water and sewer mains along with replacing the street. The estimated project cost is \$1.2 million and will be allocated between the water, sewer, and street funds. The HB355 money will assist with the funding gap in the street replacement. The city will have to be under contract with a contractor before December 31, 2024 with construction beginning in 2025. There was no one in attendance for or against this project. Mayor Karst then closed the public hearing at 5:06 p.m. and reopened the public meeting.

Mayor Karst stated the bid opening for the 1988 Pierce Fire Truck will now take place. Council member Ozark opened the one (1) bid received from Steve Fossum in the amount of \$1,875.00. Council member Koski made a motion to take the bid under advisement. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Nick Dirkes was in attendance to present the updated proposal from the hospital to purchase a portion of Hoyt Park for the construction of a parking lot. He said that he has been with FMDH for 18 years and in the CEO position for 18 months. The hospital proposed a purchase price of \$550,000.00. They would tentatively like to start the construction process in approximately 3-5 years, but will depend on the next legislative session. The parking lot would be constructed in phases. Both parties would enter into an agreement for use of parking spaces for the city pool. The city park would still be accessible to the public until construction begins. Nick mentioned the current drawing that he presented is just a draft, the actual design phase has not started yet. Also, the memorial for Melissa Greenhagen will stay where it is at.

Council member Koski made a motion to accept the recommendation from the hospital review committee meeting contingent on the public hearing that will be held. Council member Nistler seconded the motion. City Clerk Amundson explained the public hearing will be published on April 3rd and 10th with the public hearing for the sale of a portion of the Hoyt Park to the hospital held on April 15th. City Attorney Pekovitch said that the city can sell a portion of the park to the hospital, they have done it in the past. Council member Ozark abstained; motion carried.

City Clerk Amundson explained the two (2) findings in the fiscal year 2022-2023 audit. Both findings are repeat findings from last years audit. The first is the reserve account for the valley court apartments and the second is actuarial study for the fire relief association that hasn't been completed because of the cost. She said we are down to two (2) findings; last fiscal year the city had 5 findings in the audit. Council member Ozark made a motion to approve fiscal year 2022-2023 audit. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Council member Koski made a motion approving the January 2024 financials. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Council member Austin made a motion approving the advertisement for the part-time administrative assistant opening. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3160** – A Resolution Appointing Three (3) Firefighters of the Glasgow Fire Department for a Probationary Period of Six (6) Months – Julious Lopez, Jason Sillerud, and Travis Austin. Council member Nistler moved for the adoption of **Resolution No. 3160**. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr; whereby **Resolution No. 3160** was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3161** A Resolution of the City of Glasgow City Council Adopting a Fee Schedule. Council member Austin made a motion adoption **Resolution No. 3161**. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski. There was discussion on the \$100.00 fee for licensing dancing in bars. The council would like to remove this charge. City Clerk Amundson believes the licensing fees are

established in Montana Code; she will look into it in the morning and report back. She suggested adopting the resolution and fee schedule as it is currently written, and depending on the information provided, a resolution to remove the additional dancing fee can be adopted at later council meeting. Motion carried for **Resolution No. 3161**.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna said last week he had met with Great West for a kick off meeting for updating the SWIF plan. They did a tour of the levee and Great West just submitted a grant for another funding source to update the plan. There is no match required at this time. If there is the planning grant can be used as the match.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for personnel, water, cemetery, or grant. An Ordinance Committee meeting will be set on April 1st following the council meeting for review of the drafted ordinances City Attorney Pekovitch has completed.

Department Head Reports:

Chief Weber mentioned the driver feedback sign is almost up and running and will be placed down by the swim pool since demolition of the pool has started. He told the council that he has hired McKenzie DeGreek for the Victim Witness Advocate position at a training level. McKenzie then introduced herself.

DPW Skubinna reported the 1987 Transmission Main Crossing Project is underway and everything is going well. They are hoping to have it completed before the weather warms up. They are planning on making the connections to the current line next week. He said that the snow removal plan will be available for the council to approve at the next council meeting.

City Attorney Pekovitch said she will be in town tomorrow for court and will also meet with DPW Skubinna and the Police Department.

City Clerk Amundson told the council the application for the HB355 funding is completed and will submit it later this week after the minutes for the public hearing are completed and she will have the mayor sign the documents. She also emailed out RFPs to eight (8) accounting firms, she received one inquiry call, and they are due by Friday April 5, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. As soon as she receives them, she will set up a committee meeting to review them.

Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering gave an update on the swim pool demolition. He also inquired on when the construction of the bathhouse could be put out to bid. The council thinks after the public hearing on the 15th of April on the sale of a portion of Hoyt Park to the hospital.

There was no Mayor's Report.

Public Comment: Gregg Hunter was in attendance to let the council know he will be running for Senate District 15 this year. Candy Lagerquist asked how the downtown parking plan was coming along. City Attorney Pekovitch said she will be meeting with DPW Skubinna tomorrow to review the information that needs to be included in the ordinance.

Council member Nistler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor