

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- JULY 21, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Carr, Ozark, Heitman, Koski, Nistler, and Austin. DPW Skubinna was in attendance. Mark and Kristie Brabeck, Devin Rasmusan, Russell Leader, Candy Lagerquist, and Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering were also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson, City Attorney Pekovitch, and Brandt Lee from Advanced Engineering attended via Google Meets. Michelle Bigelbach of the Glasgow Courier was in attendance.

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 July 21, 2025 in the amount of \$493,174.60, Valley Court claims in the amount of \$4,585.70, and the minutes of the July 7, 2025 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin and carried unanimously.

Russell Leader was in attendance to talk to the council about receiving water service to his house on Airport Rd. He would like to extend a 2" water line to the 3 hangers at the airport, then to continue that water line to his house. He said that the council had received his email from 2022 and it wasn't financially feasible to connect to the 12" main, but would be more affordable to come off the 2" line he is suggesting to be ran to the hangers. Council member Ozark mentioned the current city water line that is along Airport Road services the current hangers that are there now. There is one hanger being constructed now and the other two places are for future construction. Russell stated that they would install curb stops for all 3 spots at the time the line would be installed, so they wouldn't have to dig it up again in the future. Kristie Brabeck said that according to the Airport Board they would like water on the further side mainly for fire suppression. Russell said the proposed line wouldn't be big enough for fire suppression. In the airport's masterplan, if there is ever federal funding available, a 6" line is included in the document to install along airport road and have 3 fire hydrants installed for fire suppression. DPW Skubinna explained that this is a pretty complex issue and first and foremost to find out what the city's role is in all of this. The first question that has arose is whose system is it because in 1985 the city gave that system to the county when it was a city-county municipal airport, so is it the city's responsibility to review this. The second piece to this that has been discussed frequently is does the city provide services to properties that aren't annexed into the city. Then if Russell did want to annex, his current house structure doesn't meet city code. DPW Skubinna also said that City Attorney Pekovitch has been in contact with representatives from The Boeing Company and in the agreement, it says that the city can't sell water outside the city limits that is located in the 1991 agreement. If the water system that is located on the airport property actually belongs to the city, then he would look into city and state codes along with what DEQ would require and if a 2" line would meet all of the codes and regulations to be a city main. Also, in city code there can't be multiple connections to services that run off of one main, each would have to have a separate service line. Council member Ozark said the city is currently selling water outside the city limits to the airport, which is not on city property. They then talked about when the Stat Air building was put up and Mark Brabeck stated that's when the new water line was installed along side the current service line. Mark also talked about the electricity that will be brought up to the airport, which will be installed by boring under the taxiway. There was further discussion on who owns the water infrastructure at the airport and that the city will provide services according to the agreement between the city and county. Council member Ozark stated that if the conclusion is that the county owns the infrastructure at the airport, then they could do what they wanted with it. Then the city's decision would be if they wanted to allow Russell to have water services. Council member Ozark asked if it was possible within the next two weeks to get a legal determination on this issue. City Attorney Pekovitch read the portion of the Marco contract where it states that the city can use the lower pipeline to provide water to residents within the city. Council member Nistler said the most important thing that needs to be figured out is who owns the infrastructure and what both the airport agreement and the Marco agreement will allow the city to do. Council member Ozark asked if this could be tabled until the next meeting, so the city has more answers after City Attorney Pekovitch talks with the county attorney. Mark Brabeck then mentioned that MDU will be doing a major replacement and will have boring companies who are licensed and insured performing the work. City Attorney Pekovitch asked DPW Skubinna, if the city does own the water main at the airport, wouldn't the city require a 6" main to be installed off of the current water main that is up there. DPW Skubinna said there are two things going on; one is a shared service is not allowed; and secondly to meet DEQ standards it would have to be 6" in diameter. There was more discussion on the cost difference of installing a 2" line vs a 6" line, DEQ standards, and hiring an engineer. Discussion continued on installing only one service line at this time instead of trying to install all 3 and bringing in a larger water line, and the timeframe of grants. The attorneys will meet to review the agreements and who owns what. If the city does not own the line, then they will have to go to the commissioners to ask for approval. If it's the city's line, then a decision will have to be made at that time. This will be on the next agenda for further discussion and findings.

Council member Nistler made a motion approving the Amended Plat for Rhodes First Addn. to the City of Glasgow SW1/4NE1/4, S.12, T.28N, R39E., PMM, City of Glasgow, Valley County Montana for Kirk and Eileen Miller. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Council member Carr made a motion to approve the renewal of City Attorney Pekovitch's contract for another two (2) year period effective August 8, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst stated that Dawn's background check came back good and the city is ready to fill that position in the city office since it's been vacant since October. Council member Nistler asked if City Clerk Amundson had any opinion on the applicant. She just said she thinks she will do good and see how things go. Mayor Karst mentioned that the starting wage will be around \$22.00 and City Clerk Amundson will do a job evaluation after 6 months and see if she's capable enough to stay in the position and maybe one day she can take her position. Council member Nistler made a motion to approve the hiring of Dawn Daubner for the Deputy Clerk position. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously. Her first day will be Monday July 28th.

DPW Skubinna explained the reasoning for the amendment to the agreement. He stated that there were services provided that were outside of the original scope of the agreement. There were some changes made on the project that included rearranging the valley gutter, adding an additional approach, and revising the right-of-way and encroachments. Council member Nistler made a motion to approve the amendment #1 to the professional services agreement for Advanced Engineering in the amount of \$16,500.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst told the council that Devin from the parks department is in attendance and he has brought to the mayor's attention that there are members of the public using Bear Coulee just below Northern Heights that the city uses for snow removal and they left their garbage behind. Devin would like to have some fencing installed to try to keep the public out of that area. DPW Skubinna said that it's a nuisance to go up there and clean up the trash and there is a stormwater retention area up there also. If the trash were to be washed down into that structure there could be a larger issue that arises. Council member Nistler wanted to know what type of fencing they would like installed. Devin stated that there is a 3-strand barbwire fence that is up there, but it has been ran through. Council member Austin made a motion to install a fence at Bear Coulee. The motion was seconded by Council member Heitman. They then discussed what budget the fencing should come out of. They decided that they would like it to come out of the sewer budget, since there is a storm water drainage system up there. Motion carried.

Council member Nistler left at 6:13 p.m.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna told the council that the levee committee meeting will be on July 23rd at 2:00 p.m.

Committee Reports: There were no reports Personnel, Water, Ordinance, Grant, or Cemetery.

Department Head Reports:

DPW Skubinna mentioned he received a picture today about 5 to 5 with asphalt being laid at the Hall Terrace/Hurley Drive project. The project was ahead of schedule, but with the rain, it was difficult to start the paving portion of this project. The water department did some extra sampling out at the lagoon and we will be in compliance with DEQ for the end of June. He updated the council on the notification system to be able to get information out to the public quicker. He gave a listing of projects he would like the council to prioritize during the budget sessions.

City Attorney Pekovitch said that she will be doing some water research and the court docket is the fullest it's ever been.

Kaden Bedwell from Interstate Engineering gave an update on the pool construction project. Council member Ozark asked if there was a tentative opening date set. Mayor Karst said the pool committee would like to have it open yet this year, even if it's only for a couple of weeks.

DPW Skubinna stated he forgot to mention that a street committee meeting needs to be rescheduled. A few of the street committee members won't be available for a bit. DPW Skubinna reported on why he was requesting a committee meeting. He wants to know if the city wants to require both a performance and payment bond for just street patches and maintenance work. He also mentioned that the difference in quotes is about \$35,000.00 just for the bonding. Council member Austin said there is a lot of additional stuff that could be done for that difference. DPW Skubinna agreed and said if there was a glitch, the city could be on the hook for the asphalt if the contractor didn't pay for it. City Attorney Pekovitch said that is something that can be built into the contract; to hold a portion of his payment until he shows proof that he has paid for the materials. The council member agreed to move forward with updating the contract to hold a percentage of the payment until proof of payment for materials is received.

Mayor Karst talked about the issues that have been happening at the bulk water station. He will also put a request into DIS to check the internet signal back at the bulk water station. He updated the council on the Food Bank. They decided not to go with the property up by the police department because they were concerned with the traffic on Airport Road. They are looking at acquiring the property next to their current building, but since it's zoned residential, they will have put in a request for a zoning change to commercial. DPW Skubinna said that they were in and he assisted them and gave them an application for the zoning change request.

Public Comment: Candy Lagerquist voiced her frustration on the water that had to be shut off at the Rundle building and the surrounding businesses weren't given any notice. They also weren't notified when the water was turned

back on. Council member Ozark wanted to know if there was a timeframe that they are supposed to have their sidewalk completed. He also stated his frustration with the lack of parking spaces because of it. Kaden wanted to know if there has been any update on the FWP shooting range. Mayor Karst and DPW Skubinna said they have not heard any updates on it.

Council member Koski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor