

City Council Meeting October 14, 2025

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilmembers Greg Koczur, Wayne Dudley and Rose Hanser

Absent: Councilmember Jack Rosander

Also Present: Planning/Zoning/Code Official Kami Egan, City Attorney Michelle Sullivan, Public Works Director Pat Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards completed Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

Councilmember Hanser moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 09/23/25 Regular Meeting
- Claims #32074-32149 \$618,176.34
- Payroll Summary 9/26/25 \$125,860.76

Department Reports:

Reports were presented by Planning/Zoning/Code Official Egan, Public Works Director Zent, Attorney Sullivan and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Williams has notified Montana Moose Espresso that their current lease expires on October 22, 2025. He has not received a response or request to renew the lease yet.

Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority has denied liability on behalf of the City of Colstrip in regards to the drainage/flooding claim submitted by the property owners at 2085 Vista Drive.

Mayor Williams will be attending the Montana League of Cities and Towns Conference in Billings the rest of this week.

The Colstrip power plant owners are working on a motion to amend the power plant and city's water right to submit to the Montana Water Court to include Castle Rock Lake and expand the municipal use to include additional areas in town. Mayor Williams and Attorney Sullivan do not feel there is any reason to object. However, the city may request the city's portion of this water right be increased to reflect the actual use by the city, especially in the summer months.

A Water Stakeholders meeting is scheduled for November 19th.

Public Comment & Participation:

Jim Atchison, Executive Director of Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, updated the City Council on construction of the Business Innovation Center. Jim and Gary Parry attended and served on panels at the Energy & Critical Materials Summit at the College of Mines and Engineering in Butte last week. An Energy & Economic Summit is coming up this week that Jim will be attending. Due to the lack of housing in Rosebud County, Jim is working with the county commissioners to apply for a \$30,000 grant to conduct a housing study.

Unfinished Business:

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve Resolution No. 2025-R19, adopting the 2025 Growth Policy.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: Jim Atchison, Executive Director of Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, stated SEMDC is in full support of the adoption of the updated growth policy.

Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business:

Councilmember Koczur moved to approve Resolution No. 2025-R20, authorizing the submission of an Infrastructure Planning Grant to the Montana Coal Endowment Program to develop a Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report.

Councilmember Hanser seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Public Comment: None

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Williams reopened the meeting to discuss changing the first meeting in November due to the Veterans Day Holiday. Consensus was to meet on November 12th at 7:00 pm.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer