

City Council Meeting
April 11, 2023

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

Absent: Councilmembers Mike Esser and Rose Hanser

Also Present: Police Chief Cory Hert, 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 Dudley moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion. No discussion. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 3/28/23 Regular Meeting
- Claims #29269-29322 \$99,234.38
- Payroll Summary 3/31/23 \$100,044.83

Department Reports:

Reports were presented by Police Chief Hert, City Attorney Sullivan, Public Works Director Zent and Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

The Colstrip School District has submitted an Amended Plat for the Isabel Bills Elementary School and MT Calvary Lutheran Church tracts in preparation of selling the portion of the tracts previously occupied by the Isabel Bills Elementary School. A potential buyer will be here tomorrow looking at the property.

Mayor Williams was contacted by an individual interested in opening a marijuana dispensary in Colstrip. Current City regulations prohibit the licensing of any business in violation of federal law. Mayor Williams recommends the City Council put the question to the voters of Colstrip whether to allow marijuana dispensaries within city limits.

The Rosebud County Commissioners have rejected the request and suggestions made by Mayor Williams regarding the Colstrip Cemetery. Another meeting is scheduled next week on April 19, 2023 regarding the cemetery and the meeting is open to the public.

Public Comment & Participation:

Jackee Beck, resident of Deer Lodge, MT, addressed the City Council regarding cannabis dispensaries. Ms. Beck explained how and why she got into the business. She currently has 15 stores in Montana. Last year she purchased commercial property in Colstrip and is interested in opening a dispensary. She did some research and found in the city council’s meeting minutes the adoption of Resolution 2022-R01, regarding state laws pertaining to the sale of marijuana. She is wondering what is the next step as she feels this resolution allows her to apply and receive a business license for a cannabis dispensary.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilmember Dudley moved to award the bid to COP Construction for the Olive Drive Sewer Replacement Project in the amount of \$146,920. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilmember Dudley asked when construction would start on this project. Public Works Director Zent said they don’t have a definite start date but indications are possibly not until late summer or early fall.
Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer