

City Council Meeting  
July 23, 2024

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilmembers Jack Rosander and Wayne Dudley

Absent: Councilmember Rose Hanser and Greg Koczur

Also Present: Zoning/Planning/Code Enforcement Officer Kami Egan, Police Chief Cory Hert, Fire Dept Administrative Assistant Jaylene Allison, City Attorney Michelle Sullivan, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards and Public Works Director Pat Zent

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 Rosander seconded the motion. Discussion: None. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 7/9/24 Regular Meeting
- Claims #30671-30788                      \$204,434.65
- Payroll Summary 7/5/24                \$140,614.13

**Department Reports:**

Reports were presented by Police Chief Hert, Zoning/Planning/Code Enforcement Officer Egan, Fire Dept Administrative Assistant Allison, City Attorney Sullivan, Public Works Director Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Police Chief Hert introduced the city's newest Police Officer Herbert Posenjak. Officer Posenjak was hired in May and will be attending the Montana Law Enforcement Academy this fall.

**Mayor's Communications:**

Coal Board grant applications are being prepared for Crack/Chip Sealing in the amount of \$200,000 and Water Main Replacement Cedar/WWTP in the amount of \$481,670.

Bid Opening on the North End Water Loop project is this Friday, July 26, 2024.

A Planning Board Meeting has been scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

There is a possibility for a Montana Emergency Tourism Assistance Grant. A new police vehicle or new extrication equipment for the fire department are eligible under this grant.

Mayor Williams sent a letter to Talen regarding the raw water cost formula. The city is waiting on an easement from the power plant owners for the North End Water Loop project.

A Deer Management Plan meeting will be July 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm at City Hall.

**Public Comment & Participation:**

Jim Atchison, Executive Director of Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC), discussed the Coal Board grant awarded to the City of Colstrip for design costs of the Business Innovation Center (BIC) and part of this grant has been drawn. The BIC will be rebid this fall as the initial bids were far above the estimate. A grant extension request will need to be submitted to the Coal Board. A request for additional funding was submitted to the EDA. EDA is requiring a 20% match before they will approve the additional funds. SEMDC is requesting the City of Colstrip sponsor another Coal Board grant in the amount of \$330,000 to provide the match. Jim also reported that SEMDC has received \$500,000 from the Big Sky Economic Trust Fund to provide loans to qualified small businesses. The banquet and golf tournament for the Energy Open on August 8 & 9 are full and a large crowd expected for the conference.

**New Business:**

Councilmember Rosander moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-R06, establishing compensation for all city employees and officials for FY 2024-2025.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer