

City Council Meeting  
October 10, 2023

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

Also Present: Planning/Zoning/Code Official Kami Egan, Assistant Fire Chief Ethan Gardner, City Attorney Michelle Sullivan, Public Works Director Pat Zent, Deputy Clerk Krista Hazel 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 approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion. No discussion. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 9/26/23 Special Meeting
- Minutes of 9/26/23 Regular Meeting
- Claims #29851-29897                   \$324,565.00
- Payroll Summary 9/29/23           \$114,185.23

**Department Reports:**

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

**Mayor's Communications:**

The City of Colstrip is receiving an award at the Montana League of Cities and Towns Conference later this week for the lowest average claims in the Workers Compensation Insurance Program. The Mayor plans on providing the city employees with some type of recognition.

Based on a request and discussion at the recent Zoning Commission meeting, Mayor Williams is recommending the speed limit around Rye Park be lowered from 25 mph to 15 mph. In accordance with the Colstrip City Code, a public hearing will be held during the next regular meeting and a decision will need to be made whether to proceed with an ordinance changing the speed limit.

Tomorrow is a Montana Department Environmental Quality meeting regarding the power plant's remediation of the ash pond.

Mayor Williams will be attending the Montana League of Cities and Towns conference the remainder of this week.

Mayor Williams recognized the local Beautification Committee for their clean-up efforts and voiced his appreciation to this group of volunteers.

**Public Comment & Participation:**

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC), reported SEMDC's attorney has returned the management and other agreements for the Business Innovation Center. Jim will forward them to City Attorney Michelle Sullivan this Thursday or Friday for her review prior to them being submitted to the City Council for consideration.

Pat Campbell, 4417 Remington Drive, asked about the workers compensation award. He also asked about cleaning up properties/mobile homes. He doesn't think we should get involved in that unless the city starts over in the trailer court.

**New Business:**

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-16, intent to increase the monthly dewatering wells rate from \$60 per month to \$90 per month.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Rosander moved to approve Task Order No. 40 with KLJ in the amount of \$39,000 for a PASER Study. Councilmember Hanser seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Dudley asked for clarification on what this is for. Mayor Williams explained it is a study of the city's streets. Public Works Director Zent also stated it will help him set up a schedule and planning for street repairs and/or reconstruction. The study will evaluate the conditions of the streets and help prioritize street work. They will also recommend what exactly should be done, how to do it and an estimated cost. Mayor Williams stated this is a planning document and will assist in grant funding requests.

Public Comment: Joe Novasio, 7423 Castle Rock Lake Drive, stated its not just the surface of the streets but what is under the surface. He feels it is important to utilize a professional engineer and is in favor of this study.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Hanser moved to approve Task Order No. 4 with Municipal Infrastructure Consultants in the amount of \$9,800 for Sludge Management consulting at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Hanser feels Mr. Whitney is very experienced, especially with the city and KLJ Engineering, and supports this task order.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer