

City Council Meeting November 14, 2023

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

Absent: Councilmember Wayne Dudley

Also Present: Chief of Police Cory Hert, Fire Chief Tony Reda, Public Works Director Pat Zent, City Attorney Michelle Sullivan 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 Rosander seconded the motion. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 10/24/23 Regular Meeting
- Minutes of 11/1/23 Special Meeting
- Claims #29939-30004 \$93,071.47
- Payroll Summary 10/27/23 \$111,070.90

Department Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

The Quality of Life Corporation requested a \$5,000 donation from the City of Colstrip for the 2024 Colstrip Days Celebration. The group plans on continuing in future years with the many additional activities and events that occurred during the 2023 centennial celebration. Liz Jensen, representing the Quality of Life, thanked the City Council for the donation.

Mayor Williams participated in a Zoom meeting sponsored by the Montana League of Cities and Towns regarding House Bill 355 that created the State-Local Infrastructure Partnership Act of 2023 that provides \$20,000,000 to cities and towns in Montana for maintenance and repair of existing infrastructure. A list of potential projects will need to be developed, a public hearing held and recommendations for project funding sent to the state. The City of Colstrip's share is \$159,833 and will require a 25% match.

There will be a recount in the Rosebud County Commissioners office on November 20, 2023, regarding the November 7, 2023, mayoral election.

Public Hearing:

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 7:23 pm for the establishment of an impound fee. No comments were received either orally or in writing. Mayor Williams closed the hearing at 7:24 pm.

Public Comment & Participation: None received.

Unfinished Business:

Councilmember Koczur moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-18, establishing an impound fee of \$30.00 per day per animal for the impoundment of animals.

Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business:

Councilmember Koczur moved to approve a lease agreement with Montana Moose Espresso for a term of two years for \$1,400 per year beginning April 21, 2023.

Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Rosander ask for clarification of the timeline of this lease. Mayor Williams explained currently there is no written lease in place as the last lease expired in April of 2023. However, Montana Moose did pay \$700 in May 2023 to continue the lease.

Councilmember Hanser asked about insurance coverage. Montana Moose has submitted a liability insurance endorsement with the City of Colstrip as an additional insured in the amount of \$1,000,000. Councilmember Rosander is willing to approve the lease but feels future lease agreements need more discussion.

Public Comment: Joe Novasio, 7423 Castle Rock Lake Drive, asked what the lease cost is and about insurance.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Koczur moved to approve the Dewatering Wells Discharge Agreement with Talen Montana for a five-year period expiring November 30, 2028. Councilmember Rosander seconded.

Discussion: Councilmember Hanser asked about the clause in Section 2 limiting the annual cost to \$3,000 but the monthly fee is \$270, which equates to more than \$3,000 per year. Mayor Williams explained the \$3,000 cap is for the sewer cleanings or additional work but does not include the monthly charge.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Rosander moved to approve the Monitoring Wells Lease Agreement with Talen Montana for 5 years beginning at \$1,500 per year with a 3% per year escalator.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment:

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer