

City Council Meeting February 27, 2024

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

Also Present: Police Chief Cory Hert, Assistant Fire Chief Ethan Gardner, 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. Discussion: None. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 2/13/24 Regular Meeting
- Claims #30279-30301 \$121,361.66
- Payroll Summary 2/16/24 \$108,822.32

Department Reports:

Reports were presented by Police Chief Hert, Assistant Fire Chief Gardner, Public Works Director Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

The Class B Divisional Basketball Tournament was recently in Colstrip at the High School with a couple thousand people in attendance. Police Officers were in attendance at each session and fire department volunteered also to provide security. No major issues were experienced and Mayor Williams expressed his appreciation to all those who make these types of events successful.

The resolution regarding the Local Government Review has been sent to the County Clerk & Recorder. The ballot question will be on the primary election ballot in June and if the majority votes in favor of conducting the review, study commissioners will be elected in November during the general election. Recorded webinars are available for review for those interested. Mayor Williams explained the government review is not a review of the city's elected officials or employees, taxes, fees, assessments, election procedures, planning, zoning or other operational policies and procedures. It is a review of the form of government and other government forms available.

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality held two meetings last week at City Hall. At the Water Feasibility Study meeting it was reported there are no plans on inspecting the water pipeline. The next meeting will be in July.

Notice of award has been received on the Coal Board Grant for the PASER Study.

A public hearing will be held during the next meeting on March 12th regarding the \$159,000 HB 355 State-Local Infrastructure Program

Mayor Williams will be attending the Executive Forum in Sidney the rest of this week.

The Public Works Committee met last week to discuss garbage collection policies and they also reviewed city code for solid waste management and water/wastewater utilities. Minor changes and corrections were identified and will be presented to City Council at a future meeting.

Public Comment & Participation:

Tracee Raymond Waples has an issue with the city's garbage collection policy of one can per residence and city employees coming onto her property to inspect garbage cans. Two cans were removed from her property without prior notification. She previously paid for three cans on three different lots but due to a city policy, two cans were removed. She doesn't understand why she can't have more than one can. Ms. Waples submitted information and pictures to the City Council for their review.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilmember Rosander moved to approve the Colstrip Cemetery Policies as submitted by the Colstrip Cemetery Board.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Dudley asked if this would require two meetings to adopt. Since this is a resolution and the rates were already adopted per state law, only one meeting is necessary.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Hanser moved to approve the purchase of a 2024 Dodge Durango Police Vehicle in the amount of \$42,626.00 from Billion Auto Group.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Koczur moved to approve the Amended Memorandum of Understanding with Rosebud County reducing the monthly payment from \$500 to \$112 per month for VOIP telephone services.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.