

City Council Meeting
May 9, 2023

Present: Mayor John Williams, Councilmembers Rose Hanser and Wayne Dudley

Absent: Councilmember Greg Koczur

Also Present: Police Chief Cory Hert, Assistant Police Chief Kris Egan, Fire Chief Tony Reda, 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 Hanser moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion. No discussion. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 4/25/23 Regular Meeting
- Claims #29358-29403 \$151,921.43
- Payroll Summary 4/28/23 \$104,274.06
- Journal Voucher Nos. 2022-06 thru 2022-08

Department Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Williams administered the Oath of Office to new Colstrip Police Officer Kyle Kirby.

Mayor Williams participated in the EPA Mercury and Air Toxic Standards hearing via Zoom today which could potentially shut down the local power plants and coal mine in 2028. Mayor Williams, along with representatives of the Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, Labor Unions, Chamber of Commerce, Westmoreland Coal, NorthWestern Energy, and Senator Usher spoke in opposition to the standards.

Public Comment & Participation: None received.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-R03, Budget Transfers for fiscal year 2022. Councilmember Hanser seconded the motion.

No discussion.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Hanser moved to approve the Special Event Permit submitted by the Miner House for a street dance during Colstrip Days on June 23, 2023 on Cherry Street. Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion

Discussion: Councilmember Dudley commented the applicant stated in their permit request they have contacted the police department and asked Police Chief Hert to verify this. Chief Hert stated he was not contacted but has no issues with the permit request.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve the Law Enforcement Center Lease with Rosebud County beginning July 1, 2023, in the amount of \$45,000 for the first year with a 2% increase each year thereafter. Councilmember Hanser seconded the motion

Discussion: Councilmember Dudley asked if this is typical of what has been done in the past or something new? Mayor Williams responded it is similar to the current lease agreement but the amount currently is just under \$27,000 per year with a 1.5% increase each year. Attorney Sullivan pointed out there is a termination clause in the agreement with one year's notice and that the cover letter states the lease agreement is non-negotiable. She does not have any problems with the lease agreement from a legal standpoint.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Dudley nominated Jack Rosander for appointment to the City Council.

Councilmember Hanser seconded the nomination. Mayor Williams asked for any other nominations.

No other nominations were made. All those present voted in favor of the appointment of Jack Rosander to the Colstrip City Council. Mayor Williams administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Rosander.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer