

City Council Meeting  
January 9, 2024

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

Also Present: Police Chief Cory Hert, Planning/Building/Zoning Official Kami Egan, City Attorney Michelle Sullivan, Public Works Director Pat Zent, Fire Chief Tony Reda and City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards completed Roll Call.

**Oath of Office:** City Clerk/Treasurer Richards administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmembers Wayne Dudley and Jack Rosander and Mayor John Williams.

**Consent Agenda:**

Councilmember Hanser moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilmember Rosander asked about the water bills for the city's boulevards. Clerk/Treasurer Richards explained this is the base rates charged during the months the water is shut off. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 12/27/23 Regular Meeting
- Claims #30133-30187 \$180,906.79
- Payroll Summary 12/22/23 \$105,628.23
- Journal Voucher 2024-01

**Department Reports:**

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

**Mayor's Communications:**

City Attorney Michelle Sullivan will be presenting a training on Montana's Open Meeting & Right to Participate laws prior to the next regular city council meeting on January 23 at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Williams has contacted the Rosebud County Commissioners regarding an amendment to the Telephone System Memorandum of Understanding to reduce the charge to the city now that City Hall has been removed from the county's system and on our own system.

Mayor Williams will be attending a Montana League of Cities and Towns Board Meeting in Helena next week.

The City of Colstrip will be receiving funding through SEMDC from the wind farm in the amount of \$30,000 to go towards water. This is the third payment we have received. Another \$20,000 will be received from the wind farm and the City of Forsyth will also be receiving \$20,000.

Mayor Williams is still working on a new Monitoring Wells Agreement and Dewatering Wells Agreement with Talen.

**Public Hearing:**

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing on the establishment of cemetery fees and charges at 7:23 pm. No comments were received orally or in writing. Mayor Williams closed the hearing at 7:24 pm.

**Public Comment & Participation:**

Jody Williams thanked the Mayor and City Council for all of their hard work during the past year and wished them the best in the new year.

**Unfinished Business:**

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-01 for the establishment of Cemetery Fees and Charges. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Hanser thanked the Cemetery Board members for all their work putting this together.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

**New Business:**

Councilmember Dudley moved to confirm the appointment of Penny McPherson as Colstrip City Judge. Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams administered the Oath of Office to Judge McPherson.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer