

City Council Meeting
March 12, 2024

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

Absent: Councilmember Wayne Dudley

Also Present: Assistant Police Chief Kris Egan, Fire Chief Tony Reda, City Attorney Michelle Sullivan, City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards and Lead Streets/Shop Operator Ric Siemers

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 Koczur seconded the motion. Discussion: None. No comments from the public received. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 2/27/24 Regular Meeting
- Claims #30302-30363 \$86,121.66
- Payroll Summary 3/1/24 \$85,070.43
- Journal Voucher Nos. 2023-08, 2023-09 & 2023-10

Department Reports:

Reports were presented by Assistant Police Chief Egan, Fire Chief Reda, City Attorney Sullivan, Lead Streets/Shop Operator Siemers and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

A couple of projects need finalized so that the City of Colstrip can receive the grant money to replenish the city's water and sewer funds.

A Planning Grant was submitted in the amount of \$40,000 to update the city's growth policy.

The Rosebud County Commissioners requested information on the City of Colstrip's major upcoming capital projects. Their request is in anticipation of a \$50 million grant from the Department of Energy in conjunction with the large transmission project in development by Grid United. If awarded, this grant will be administered by the Montana Department of Commerce and reallocated to the counties of Rosebud, Custer and Fallon and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

The Insurance Committee, comprised of representatives of the employee bargaining units and city administration, met last week to discuss changes made by MMIA to the group health insurance plan.

Mayor Williams will be attending the quarterly Montana Coal Board meeting later this week to update them on the city's projects.

Mayor Williams will be scheduling a meeting next month to discuss the Water Feasibility Study prior to the meeting in July with the power plant owners.

Mayor Williams shared Rosebud County's resolution regarding the Local Government Review question on the June primary election ballot.

Public Hearing:

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing regarding House Bill 355/State-Local Infrastructure Partnership Program at 7:16 pm. Public Works Director Zent recommends utilizing these funds on the North End Water Loop Project. Jim Atchison spoke in favor of utilizing these funds on the North End Water Loop Project and any water/sewer projects that improve the city's infrastructure

No other comments were received either orally or in writing. Mayor Williams closed the hearing at 7:19 pm.

Public Comment & Participation: None received.

New Business:

Councilmember Rosander moved to select the North End Water Loop Project for the HB 355 State-Local Infrastructure Partnership Program application.

Councilmember Hanser seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Rosander moved to table the acceptance or rejection of the Business Innovation Center bids received and opened on March 5, 2024.

Councilmember Hanser seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: Jim Atchison, Executive Director of SEMDC, spoke in favor of tabling the bids for now in order to review the bid more and review options.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Hanser moved to approve, upon receipt of a written contract and legal review, contracting with Cushing Terrell for Master Planning Services at the Colstrip Cemetery in the amount of \$21,600 and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.

Councilmember Koczur seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: Dan Negethon, Colstrip Cemetery Board Chairman, submitted copies of the board's activities since the board was created last year.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer