

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

November 22, 2002

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Bud Johnson at 4:30 p.m. on November 22, 2002.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:            Lauren Van Roekel    Doug Poehls  
   Ken Olson                Mark Mace  
   Gay Easton             Daniel Dart  
   Dan Mears              John Oakes

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:            None

Mayor Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Mayor Johnson thanked the council for attending the special meeting.

- **RESOLUTION NO. R02-80: A resolution accepting the bid and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with COP Construction, Inc., for the new river intake and raw water pump station.**

Motion by Alderman Easton to approve the Resolution No. R02-80 accepting the bid with COP Construction for the new river intake and raw water pump station, seconded by Alderman Mace.

Mayor Johnson called the council's attention to the information contained in the press release regarding oversight of the project and the financing. The initial financing is in place, and information regarding a rate proposal is under consideration.

Alderman Mace questioned whether the previously purchased pumps were included in this bid. The pumps were separate, and the bid would have been higher if the pumps were included.

Alderman Van Roekel asked regarding the second opinion provided by another engineering firm. Mayor Johnson stated that the second engineering firm concurred with the original proposal that was received. The contractor's estimated values seem to be in line, and the original differences are a result of the approach to the construction techniques and methods in the river. There are some discrepancies in costs of materials, which resulted as the difference being a low estimate.

Alderman Poehls asked regarding the estimated rate increases. Mayor Johnson stated that it would be premature to give a rate increase estimate at the moment, as the necessary data has not yet been compiled.

Larry McCann agreed that we needed to finish our discussions with the State of Montana before finalizing a rate increase. Mayor Johnson introduced Karen Fagg, President of HKM, and thanked her for attending the meeting.

Alderman Easton stated that, even though the loan is not in place yet, COP Construction would be able to begin the project.

Mayor Johnson stated that there needed to be some timeliness to the process, and this special council meeting addressed that need.

A vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

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Cindy Allen, Secretary

Council Minutes of November 22, 2002

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2002.

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John E. Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer