

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

December 17, 2002

A regular 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 7:00 p.m. on December 17, 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 asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

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

Mayor Johnson removed Resolution No. R02-86 and Resolution No. R02-87 from the agenda to be reconsidered at a later time.

## MINUTES:

Motion by Alderman Easton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 3, 2002, as presented, seconded by Alderman Poehls. Motion carried 8-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Montana Department of Transportation: Letter of December 4, 2002 regarding State Fuel Tax Allocations to Cities.

Air Pollution Control Board: Minutes of October 8, 2002; Activity Report for November 2002; Agenda for December 10, 2002.

**PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance No. O02-46: Ordinance amending Chapter 10.20.20 of the Laurel Municipal Code relating to school zone.**

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing.

Mayor Johnson asked three times if there were any proponents. There were none.

Mayor Johnson asked three times if there were any opponents. There were none.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of November 2002.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 12/08/02 totaling \$128,138.00.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
  - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of November 18, 2002 were presented.
  - City-County Planning Board minutes of December 5, 2002 were presented.
  - Public Works Committee minutes of December 9, 2002 were presented.
  - Council Workshop minutes of December 10, 2002 were presented.
- **Resolutions.**

**Resolution No. R02-83: Resolution accepting a grant from the Montana Department of Transportation for monies to be spent on DUI enforcement and authorizing the Mayor to sign said grant.**

**Resolution No. R02-84: Resolution accepting a grant for a motorcycle for the Police Department.**

**Resolution No. R02-85: Resolution relating to the purchase of equipment for the police motorcycle.**

**Resolution No. R02-88: A resolution authorizing the adoption and execution of the Second Amended Revised and Restated Workers' Compensation Risk Retention Program Agreement entered into between the Montana Municipal Insurance Authority and the City of Laurel dated as of December 1, 2002; and authorizing that the adoption and execution of any amendment thereto may be made by motion.**

**Resolution No. R02-89: A resolution authorizing the adoption and execution of the Second Amended and Restated Liability Insurance Coverage Program Agreement entered into between the Montana Municipal Insurance Authority and the City of Laurel dated as of December 1, 2002; and authorizing that the adoption and execution of any amendment thereto may be made by motion.**

The mayor asked if there was any separation of consent items. There was none.

Motion by Alderman Olson to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Alderman Dart. Motion carried 8-0.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:** None.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT):** None.

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

Mayor Johnson stated that advertisements were placed in the *Laurel Outlook* for vacancies on the Board of Appeals, the Police Commission, the Board of Health, and the Historical Board. A letter was sent to the present members requesting them to respond if they wanted to serve another term. One individual responded to the Board of Health position; however, the Board of Health informed the mayor that his term on the board does not expire until December 31, 2003. The individual was notified of the circumstances, and an ad was placed in the newspaper to explain the error. No responses were received for the other board and committee vacancies.

- **Ordinance No. O02-44: Ordinance amending Chapter 2.84 of the Laurel Municipal Code relating to City Cemetery.** Second reading.

Motion by Alderman Oakes to adopt Ordinance No. O02-44, seconded by Alderman Oakes, seconded by Alderman Poehls. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT):** None.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

Mayor Johnson stated that conversation regarding the water rate increase process has been going on. A proposal will be available for the council's review prior to the January 14<sup>th</sup> council workshop at 6:30 p.m. The resolution of intent will be on the council agenda on January 21<sup>st</sup>, the public hearing will be scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup>, and the council vote will be scheduled on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The city has been in contact with the Department of Natural Resources, which administers the State Revolving Fund that we are working with to provide the bonding mechanisms to support the loan for the intake. Public notice must be published three times, and written notification must be mailed to all water users.

Mayor Johnson reminded the council that the new meeting time of 6:30 p.m. would begin with the January 7<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

Alderman Easton mentioned that he has been involved in the discussions on the water rate increase. Mayor Johnson stated his appreciation of Alderman Easton's participation.

Alderman Olson asked regarding a council retreat in January. Mayor Johnson stated that a council retreat is tentatively scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> and asked for suggestions of issues for the agenda. The same format will be followed and the location of the retreat will be announced.

Alderman Olson stated that this is the one-year anniversary of this administration's term. He thanked the administration for the opportunity to be more informed in order to make better decisions for the City of Laurel.

Mayor Johnson thanked Alderman Olson for the comments.

Alderman Mace requested opportunities to visit the water intake site and to receive updates with the project engineer. Mayor Johnson will check into the possibilities.

The City of Laurel's HOME Grant application was unsuccessful. Official notification has not yet been received.

Alderman Dart mentioned that work did progress on the double gutter situation in Cherry Hills Subdivision.

Mayor Johnson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:**

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

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Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2003.

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John E. Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer