

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

October 19, 2004

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 Ken Olson at 6:30 p.m. on October 19, 2004.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:            Dick Fritzler  
   Kate Stevenson            Mark Mace  
   Gay Easton                 Daniel Dart  
   Jennifer Johnson         John Oakes

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:            Doug Poehls

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

Mayor Olson asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

## MINUTES:

Motion by Alderwoman Johnson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 5, 2004, as presented, seconded by Alderman Dart. Motion carried 7-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of September 2004.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 10/10/04 totaling \$131,870.87.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of September 21, 2004 were presented.

--Insurance Committee minutes of October 7, 2004 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of October 12, 2004 were presented.

- **Resolutions.**

**Resolution No. R04-108: Resolution authorizing participation in the Montana Municipal Insurance Authority Employee Benefits Program and authorizing the execution of the Memorandum of Intent to participate in such Program and such other documents as may be necessary to effectuate participation in such Employee Benefits Program.**

**Resolution No. R04-109: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to issue and execute Task Order No. 5 to Morrison Maierle Engineering to prepare a Wastewater Rate Study for the City of Laurel, Montana.**

The mayor asked if there was any separation of consent items.

Alderman Mace removed item 5. b., Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 10/10/04 totaling \$127,420.83, from the consent items.

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve the remaining consent items as presented, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments:** None.
- **Request by Craig and Lenaya Reeder for annexation of Lots 6 through 15, Block 2, Mathis Subdivision.** (Public hearing was held on October 5, 2004.)

Motion by Alderwoman Stevenson to approve the request by Craig and Lenaya Reeder for annexation of Lots 6 through 15, Block 2, Mathis Subdivision, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Budget/Finance Committee Mission Statement:**  
The City of Laurel Budget/Finance Committee monitors and evaluates the condition of the city's budget and finances. This committee also provides internal control and oversight, and assistance on budgeting for the city departments, and assists in the development of the Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion by Alderman Easton to approve the Mission Statement adopted by the Budget/Finance Committee, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Olson thanked the Budget/Finance Committee for their efforts in preparing the mission statement.

- **Set public hearing date for November 16, 2004 for zone change from Residential Tracts to R7500, R6000, and Neighborhood Commercial for Elena Subdivision, 2<sup>nd</sup> Filing.** A copy of the proposed zoning is available for public review at the Public Works Department.

Motion by Alderman Oakes to set the public hearing date for November 16, 2004, for the zone change from Residential Tracts to R7500, R6000, and Neighborhood Commercial for Elena Subdivision, 2<sup>nd</sup> Filing, seconded by Alderman Mace. Motion carried 7-0.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 10/10/04 totaling \$127,420.83.**

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve the Payroll Register for PPE 10/10/04 totaling \$127,420.83, seconded by Alderman Dart.

Alderman Mace explained that a glitch in the numbering system of the payroll checks occurred after the agenda was distributed. The final total of the payroll register should be \$131,870.87.

Motion by Alderwoman Stevenson to amend the motion to read \$131,870.87, seconded by Alderman Dart. Motion carried 7-0.

A vote was taken on the amended motion to approve the Payroll Register for PPE 10/10/04 totaling \$131,870.87. Motion carried 7-0.

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

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

- Review of Committee Minutes: None.

Alderman Easton thanked the council for allowing him to be out of the state recently.

Alderwoman Johnson recently attended a Drug and Alcohol Task Force meeting. Mike Heely and Fritzie Walker, the assistant Laurel Middle School principal, contacted Kristyn Lundgren, who set up a Billings Coalition for Drug and Alcohol. Alderwoman Johnson ended up leading the meeting with Josh Middleton. She had an opportunity to promote the formal structure of the organization,

and an individual was designated to take official minutes. Alderwoman Johnson stated that it is moving in a positive fashion.

Alderwoman Johnson recently received a fax from the Montana Board of Crime Control regarding a grant writing workshop. She attended a two-day grant workshop through Big Sky Economic Development Council and it was great. She will contact Gary Colley, the chairman of the fire department's grant writing team, to give him the information.

Alderman Mace stated that a couple people have asked him regarding the status of the street project by the post office.

Mayor Olson explained that the asphalt is tentatively scheduled to be done on Thursday and Friday this week. It has been necessary to let the ground dry out due to the recent rain, and cure time was needed for the curb and gutter work.

Mayor Olson attended the memorial service and interment ceremony for Officer Dustin Black, and he stated that it was quite impressive. To know that our city was able to have our police force in full there because of the volunteerism of the other departments around the area shows just how deep that brotherhood of emergency responders runs. Because of the amount of volunteer time, at no cost to the city, to make sure that Laurel was protected, both the ambulance and the police were able to attend in full. Mayor Olson stated that this is a true credit to the leadership we have, and he thinks Chief Musson did a wonderful job in that regard. Mayor Olson stated that we will certainly miss Officer Black, who was one of those fortunate people that impacted a lot of lives. Mayor Olson has authorized Chief Musson to go forward with the process to hire another officer. The officers who were there certainly sent their appreciation back to the City of Laurel for allowing them to be there.

Mayor Olson commented that the council retreat held on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> was one of the better workshops. The council addressed several important items. The attorney and the mayor are reviewing concerns regarding the council agenda, and this item will be presented at the council workshop on October 26<sup>th</sup>. A goal-setting session will be scheduled in January 2005. Mayor Olson thanked the council for their attendance at the session.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Alderman Dart to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Alderman Oakes. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 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 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2004.

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Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer