

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

July 5, 2005

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 July 5, 2005.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Fritzler Doug Poehls
 Kate Stevenson Mark Mace
 Gay Easton Daniel Dart
 Jennifer Johnson Norm Stamper

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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 Alderman Fritzler to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2005, as presented, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Agenda for June 23, 2005; Minutes of June 9, 2005.

Montana Department of Commerce: Letter regarding Montana Commerce Department Grant offering \$200,000 for tourism infrastructure projects.

Letter of June 27, 2005 to Jan Faight, Laurel Volunteer Ambulance, regarding 2006-07 emergency medical service inspection.

Newsline: June 2005 Newsletter of the Montana Department of Transportation

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- Preliminary Budgets for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 for all City Funds (First public hearing held June 21, 2005; continued to July 5, 2005).

Mayor Olson opened the public hearing.

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

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

Motion by Alderwoman Stevenson to continue the public hearing on the Preliminary Budgets for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 for all City Funds to July 19, 2005, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- Additional Mills levied for Permissive Medical Levy Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 (First public hearing held June 21, 2005; continued to July 5, 2005).

Mayor Olson opened the public hearing.

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

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

Motion by Alderman Easton to continue the public hearing on the Additional Mills levied for Permissive Medical Levy Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 to July 19, 2005, seconded by Alderman Mace. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims for the month of June 2005 in the amount of \$465,163.40.**

A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 06/19/2005 totaling \$127,365.58.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of June 7, 2005 were presented.

--Laurel City Council and Yellowstone County Commissioners Joint Meeting minutes of June 27, 2005 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of June 28, 2005 were presented.

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

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT):

Bob Robinson, 916 Washington Avenue, spoke regarding Iron Horse Station Subdivision. He received a copy of the Planning Board's public hearing notice in the mail, but he will not be able to attend on Thursday. Bob contacted nine of the thirteen people who received the letter, and nine people are very much opposed to rezoning the property, especially the six lots that the developer wants zoned as commercial. He is not against the subdivision or the housing; however, he does not agree with rezoning for the multiple duplexes or the commercial property, which consists of the first six lots on the east side of the main road that goes in off Washington Avenue.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

Laurel Library Board:

Mayor Olson appointed Bruce McCullough to a five-year term ending June 30, 2010, on the Laurel Library Board.

Motion by Alderwoman Johnson to approve the appointment of Bruce McCullough to a five-year term, ending June 30, 2010, on the Laurel Library Board, seconded by Alderman Poehls. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

Laurel Airport Authority:

Mayor Olson reappointed Roy Zahm to a five-year term, ending June 30, 2010, on the Laurel Airport Authority.

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve the reappointment of Roy Zahm to a five-year term ending June 30, 2010, on the Laurel Airport Authority, seconded by Alderman Stamper. A roll call

vote was taken on the motion. Aldermen Mace, Stamper, Easton, and Fritzler and Alderwomen Johnson and Stevenson voted aye. Aldermen Poehls and Dart voted nay. Motion carried 6-2.

- **Resolution No. R05-61:** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Montana Department of Transportation to provide for street cleaning on the primary road system in the City of Laurel.

Motion by Alderman Poehls to approve Resolution No. R05-61, seconded by Alderman Mace. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R05-62:** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Montana Department of Transportation to provide for street cleaning on the primary road system in the City of Laurel.

Motion by Alderman Fritzler to approve Resolution No. R05-62, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R05-63:** Resolution to approve a consultant contract between the City of Laurel and Cumin Associates for the provision of professional planning services.

Motion by Alderman Easton to approve Resolution No. R05-63, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R05-64:** Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an amended Management Agreement between the City of Laurel and the Laurel YMCA for management of the swimming pool at Thomson Park.

Motion by Alderman Dart to approve Resolution No. R05-64, seconded by Alderman Mace. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Aldermen Poehls, Mace, Dart, Easton, and Fritzler and Alderwomen Johnson and Stevenson voted aye. Alderman Stamper abstained from voting as his wife is a paid employee of the YMCA. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R05-65:** Resolution of the City Council to appoint Nathan Tubergen to temporarily perform the duties of the newly-created administrative assistant position.

Motion by Alderman Stamper to approve Resolution No. R05-65, seconded by Alderman Dart. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R05-66:** A resolution amending Resolution No. R03-103 extending the contract with Olness and Associates for auditing services through fiscal year ending 2007 and authorizing the Mayor to sign said contract for the City of Laurel.

Motion by Alderwoman Stevenson to approve Resolution No. R05-66, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Alderman Poehls stated that the 4th of July program was terrific and the fireworks were wonderful.

Alderman Mace also commented on the great 4th of July activities and asked that the crew and staff be commended on a job well done.

Alderman Dart stated that this was one of the best fireworks displays he has ever seen. He suggested that the city should be aware of what the City of Billings does regarding limiting private fireworks displays.

Alderwoman Johnson mentioned that Big Sky Economic Development Authority has scheduled two free workshops on August 18th. The topics are Economic Census Data and Community Analysis Using Census Data. Registration information is available at the Montana Department of Commerce's website.

Alderman Easton commented on the recent joint meeting with the Yellowstone County Commissioners and their staff. He stated that it is really progressive to have a working relationship between the county government and city government, and this is the first time there has been interest in that much cooperation. To meet with the county commissioners and their staff on a quarterly basis regarding problems the city might encounter is a step forward. Alderman Easton commended Mayor Olson for supporting the meeting, and he is looking forward to the next session.

Mayor Olson commented on the impact that the city will receive from the county as development continues between Billings and Laurel, Park City and Laurel, and north and south. He looks forward to the tremendous opportunity of interacting with the county.

Alderwoman Stevenson recently had an opportunity to visit with a law professor regarding water rights and they discussed the importance of Laurel's access to water. She thanked the city staff and crew for working so hard to install the playground equipment.

Mayor Olson stated that the playground equipment was installed along with all the other effort that was required on a day-to-day basis. Some partnering was done with the MDT to allow the parade route to run smoothly, and the school painted the caboose. People commented on the playground equipment, on the sites, and on the fields. The chairman of the baseball tournament, Bob Lanaghan, told Mayor Olson that the 4th of July is baseball and apple pie. Mr. Lanaghan is working to get an apple pie concession for next year. Mayor Olson stated that a notice will be sent out to those who did a great job for the 4th of July activities.

Mayor Olson read a letter received from Duane Winslow regarding the upcoming election. The number of candidates filing for office for the 2005 Municipal Election is not sufficient to require a primary election. However, the governing body does have the option of calling for a primary election if they choose to do so, and a resolution would need to be passed by July 10th to call for a primary election. Mayor Olson stated that there would be no primary election.

Mayor Olson stated that the Public Works Director would present a resolution to approve a contract to chip seal the small projects in the city at a special council meeting on Tuesday, July 12th, at 6:30 p.m. The regular council workshop would follow the special council meeting.

Mayor Olson updated the council on the process to hire an administrative assistant. The committee, which recently had an extensive learning session with AEM regarding the process, will interview four individuals on July 19th, 20th, and 21st. The applicants will be available to meet the department heads and council following the individual interviews. The selection and finalization of the contract should be completed the following week, and the new administrative assistant should begin the responsibilities on September 1st.

- Review of Monthly Reports: Police, Fire, Ambulance, and Code Enforcement: None.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Alderman Poehls to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Stevenson. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 19th day of July, 2005.

Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer