

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

January 17, 2006

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 6:33 p.m. on January 17, 2006.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:            Dick Fritzler            Doug Poehls  
   Gay Easton            Mark Mace  
   Jennifer Johnson      Chuck Dickerson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:            Kate Hart            Norm Stamper

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:            Mary Embleton            Sam Painter  
   Perry Asher

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 January 3, 2006, as presented, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Beartooth Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.: Letter of January 4, 2006 regarding sponsorship dues for 2006.

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation: Memo of December 2005 regarding 2006 Reclamation and Development Grants, Application Deadline.

*Newsline*: December 2005 Newsletter of the Montana Department of Transportation.

Montana Municipal Insurance Authority: Memorandum of January 6, 2006 regarding Montana Mayors Academy.

Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board: Memorandum of January 9, 2006 regarding Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board Members.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of December 2005.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 01/01/2006 totaling \$133,392.29.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of December 20, 2005 were presented.

--City-County Planning Board minutes of January 5, 2006 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of January 10, 2006 were presented.

--Insurance Committee minutes of December 14, 2005 were presented.

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

Alderwoman Johnson separated item 6. c. 4), the Insurance Committee minutes of December 14, 2005, from the consent agenda.

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve the remaining consent items as presented, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

**Police Officer:**

Mayor Olson appointed David Firebaugh as a police officer for the City of Laurel.

Motion by Alderman Poehls to approve the appointment of David Firebaugh as a police officer for the City of Laurel, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Perry Asher explained that the department heads recently discussed the possibility of scheduling a swearing in ceremony for a new police officer at a city council meeting. This would be a nice way to welcome a new officer to the force in a public way. The swearing in ceremony for David Firebaugh is scheduled for the council meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Insurance Committee:**

Mayor Olson appointed Perry Asher to the Insurance Committee.

Motion by Alderman Easton to approve the appointment of Perry Asher to the Insurance Committee, seconded by Alderman Mace.

Alderwoman Johnson stated that, according to the Insurance Committee minutes of December 14<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that Perry Asher had been appointed to the committee. Perry acted as a committee member on December 14<sup>th</sup> by giving a second and making a motion. Since the committee meeting was more than a month before the council would actually vote to approve the appointment, she removed the Insurance Committee minutes from the consent agenda. She thinks that the council should, as Sam suggested, approve this appointment prior to approval of the committee minutes rather than make the committee hold the meeting over again because Perry was not really a member of the committee when he acted as a member a month ago. Alderwoman Johnson stated that the council wants to maintain a sense of professionalism in what it does and not do things out of step.

Mayor Olson stated that the question before the council is the confirmation of the appointment of Perry Asher to the Insurance Committee. The mayor failed to bring that forward to the council before he appointed Perry to the committee. It was an oversight and he assured the council that he did not try to get anything past the council, as that is not his position or character.

There was no further council discussion.

A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

**Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board:**

Mayor Olson appointed Armand Lohof, Paul Whiting, Warren Osik, and Bill DuBeau to the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board.

Motion by Alderwoman Johnson to approve the appointments of Armand Lohof, Paul Whiting, Warren Osik, and Bill Dubeau to the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-06: A resolution accepting the bid and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Air Pro for a vehicle exhaust removal system.**

Motion by Alderman Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R06-06, seconded by Alderman Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-07: Resolution of intent to annex wholly surrounded properties described as Lots 1 and 2 of Block 04A of Laurmac Amended Subdivision, Yellowstone County.**

Motion by Alderman Fritzler to approve Resolution No. R06-07, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-08: Resolution of annexation of Tract B2 of amended Tract B of Certificate of Survey 2385, to the City of Laurel, Yellowstone County.**

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve Resolution No. R06-08, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

- **Insurance Committee minutes of December 14, 2005.**

Motion by Alderman Dickerson to approve the Insurance Committee minutes of December 14, 2005 since Perry Asher's appointment to the Insurance Committee was approved, seconded by Alderman Easton.

Mayor Olson stated that the minutes would be reviewed and if any type of error was created, it will be brought back to the committee for a decision.

Alderman Dickerson stated that if there had been any discussion regarding Mr. Asher being appointed to the Insurance Committee, the council could have requested that the committee meet again. If Mr. Asher's appointment to the committee had not been approved, the Insurance Committee would have had to have another meeting with Mr. Asher abstaining from voting on anything.

Alderman Fritzler called for point of order and questioned whether the motion should have been to approve the minutes of the Insurance Committee.

Sam explained that the council was only addressing whether or not to approve the Insurance Committee minutes, as that was the only item that was removed from the consent agenda. It had nothing to do with the council's appointment of Perry, which was just approved by the council. He stated that the point was made that since the council approved Perry's appointment, there was no disputing the mayor's decision in December when Perry was originally appointed by the Mayor but failed to get the concurrence of the council.

A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

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

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

Alderman Dickerson asked regarding committee appointments.

Mayor Olson is reviewing the committee list and will present the appointments to the council soon.

Perry Asher, Mayor Olson, Alderman Fritzler, and Alderman Mace met last Saturday morning to discuss the space issues for the ambulance department. The meeting resulted from last week's council workshop when Perry presented some information that had not been discussed with the task force appointed by Mayor Olson. Part of the council's discussion at the budget retreat on January 24<sup>th</sup> will be the ambulance space issues.

Mayor Olson stated that he was fortunate to have Aldermen Fritzler and Mace on that task force. Task forces are a novel idea that has not been used as well as it could be, and the process for flow of information can be improved.

Alderwoman Johnson attended the Big Sky Economic Development Authority meeting last week. Pat Kimmet, one of the new board members, attended the meeting via teleconference. A retreat is scheduled soon. Ron Sexton, the chairman, distributed an e-mail survey, which Alderwoman Johnson will forward to the rest of the council members for perusal. Any concerns or comments should be submitted to Alderwoman Johnson to include in the response to the survey.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Alderman Poehls to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Alderman Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 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 February, 2006.

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Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer