

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

June 20, 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 President Gay Easton, in Mayor Olson's absence, at 6:30 p.m. on June 20, 2006.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:            None

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:                Mary Embleton            Larry McCann  
   Perry Asher                Rick Musson  
   Sam Painter

President Easton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

President Easton asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

## MINUTES:

Motion by Alderman Fritzler to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 6, 2006, as presented, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Laurel High School: Letter of May 24, 2006 regarding 2006 Homecoming activities.

Montana Department of Commerce: Letter of June 1, 2006 regarding the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) application.

Marianne Hanser: Letter of May 23, 2006 regarding Urban Supervisor Appointment.

Montana Department of Administration: Letter of June 13, 2006 regarding Audit Report Findings and Recommendations.

Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Letter of June 12, 2006 regarding discovery of abandoned underground petroleum tank at Big Sky Woodcrafters.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

President Easton stated that the Payroll Register for PPE 06/04/2006 totaled \$137,491.89, instead of \$137,031.01 as listed on the council agenda.

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of May 2006.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 06/04/2006 totaling \$137,491.89.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of May 16, 2006 were presented.

--Tree Board minutes of May 23, 2006 were presented.

--City-County Planning Board minutes of June 1, 2006 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of June 13, 2006 were presented.

The president 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 Alderman Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: Swearing in Ceremony – William Brew III, Police Officer for the City of Laurel**

Chief Musson explained that the formal swearing-in ceremony for new police officers at the council meeting is a change in past procedure. Officer Firebaugh was sworn in at the council meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and Officer Brew will be sworn in at this council meeting.

Chief Musson and Officer Brew read the Criminal Justice Code of Ethics together.

President Easton administered the Oath of Office for William Brew III.

President Easton congratulated Officer Brew and the Oath of Office was signed at this time.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

Library Board:

President Easton appointed Laura Hickethier to a five-year term ending June 30, 2011 on the Library Board.

Motion by Alderman Dickerson to approve the appointment of Laura Hickethier to a five-year term, ending June 30, 2011, on the Library Board, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

Tree Board:

President Easton stated that the Tree Board appointments are for three-year terms.

President Easton reappointed Lois Markegard to a three-year term ending June 30, 2009 on the Tree Board.

Motion by Alderman Stamper to approve the appointment of Lois Markegard to a three-year term, ending June 30, 2009, on the Tree Board, seconded by Alderman Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

President Easton reappointed Jennifer Johnson to a three-year term ending June 30, 2009 on the Tree Board.

Motion by Alderwoman Hart to approve the reappointment of Jennifer Johnson to a three-year term, ending June 30, 2009, on the Tree Board, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

City-County Planning Board:

President Easton reappointed Todd Linder as the Mayor's appointment for a two-year term, ending June 30, 2008, on the Laurel City-County Planning Board.

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve the reappointment of Todd Linder as the Mayor's appointment for a two-year term, ending June 30, 2008, on the Laurel City-County Planning Board, seconded by Alderwoman Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

President Easton reappointed Dan Koch as the Council's appointment for a two-year term, ending June 30, 2008, on the Laurel City-County Planning Board.

Motion by Alderman Poehls to approve the reappointment of Dan Koch as the Council's appointment for a two-year term, ending June 30, 2008, on the Laurel City-County Planning Board, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Ordinance No. O06-05:** An ordinance approving the recodification of ordinances adopted by the City Council that have been compiled as the "Laurel Municipal Code" in accordance with MCA § 7-5-107. First reading.

Motion by Alderwoman Johnson to adopt Ordinance No. O06-05, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Application for conditional use permit for signage for Wal-Mart and out parcels:** Set public hearing for July 5, 2006.

Motion by Alderman Fritzler to set the public hearing for July 5, 2006 for the application for conditional use permit for signage for Wal-Mart and out parcels, seconded by Alderwoman Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-65:** A resolution accepting playground equipment donated by Project HELP at Kiwanis Park within the City of Laurel.

Motion by Alderman Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R06-65, seconded by Alderman Stamper. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-66:** A resolution approving the MMIA Employee Benefits Program, a self-funded group health plan.

Motion by Alderman Stamper to approve Resolution No. R06-66, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-67:** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a revised contract for the Administrative Assistant to the Mayor position between the City of Laurel and Perry Asher.

Motion by Alderwoman Hart to approve Resolution No. R06-67, seconded by Alderman Fritzler. There was no public comment.

Alderwoman Johnson stated that it is not good policy to issue a vehicle to employees because there is a surplus vehicle.

Alderman Dickerson asked that, in light of the letter received from the clerk-treasurer and dated June 15, 2006, the resolution be tabled in order to discuss the issue in more detail at the council workshop on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Alderman Poehls to postpone Resolution No. R06-67 and discuss it at the council workshop on June 27<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Alderman Dickerson. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-68:** Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Montana Engineering & Administration (ME&A) for storm water engineering.

Motion by Alderman Stamper to approve Resolution No. R06-68, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-69:** A resolution approving agreements between the City of Laurel and Laurel Fire District No. 7, said agreements relating to fire protection.

Motion by Alderman Fritzler to approve Resolution No. R06-69, seconded by Alderman Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-70:** A resolution approving agreements between the City of Laurel and Laurel Urban Fire Service Area (LUFSA), said agreements relating to fire protection.

Motion by Alderman Mace to approve Resolution No. R06-70, seconded by Alderwoman Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R06-71:** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Change Order No. 3 with JTL Group, Inc. for the East First Street construction project in the amount of \$8,430.66.

Motion by Alderman Poehls to approve Resolution No. R06-71, seconded by Alderman Mace. There was no public comment.

Alderman Dickerson asked regarding the staff's recommendation to deny Change Order No. 3 for pavement striping for designated bicycle lanes for the East First Street project.

The change order would cost the city an additional \$8,430.66. The Public Works Department plans to chip seal East First Street in the next few years, which would destroy the striping for the bicycle lanes.

There was discussion regarding: having a trial period for the bicycle lanes on East First Street prior to the chip seal project; the chip seal project will be scheduled in two to five years; there are no other designated bike lanes in Laurel; using spray paint instead of thermo tape would only decrease the striping costs by \$1,600; the need to start the process of providing bicycle lanes in the city; the suggestion to instruct the staff to put in painted bike lanes in the downtown area next spring; and the need to approve or deny Change Order No. 3 for the East First Street project.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight aldermen/women present voted nay. Motion failed 0-8.

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

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

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

Alderman Mace, President Easton, and Alderman Dickerson commented on the new sound system in the council chambers and thanked the individuals that installed the equipment.

Alderman Dickerson asked regarding the security light in Murray Park and the lights in Kiwanis Park. Larry McCann stated that some residents oppose having a street light located by the booster station in Murray Park. Residents favor having lights under the eaves of the building. Alderman Dickerson asked for the names of those individuals so he can contact them regarding this issue.

Alderwoman Johnson mentioned that the mosquito trap has been set at an undisclosed location in the city.

Alderman Fritzler stated that a meeting regarding the Veterans' Cemetery has been scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Poehls stated that the Emergency Services Committee would not meet on Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Poehls received some information regarding the process to request quiet zones at certain railroad crossings.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Alderman Dickerson to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Alderman Stamper. There was no public comment or council discussion. A 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 7:19 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2006.

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Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer