

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

April 3, 2007

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 April 3, 2007.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:           Emelie Eaton           Doug Poehls  
  Kate Hart               Mark Mace  
  Gay Easton             Chuck Dickerson  
  Norm Stamper

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:           Vonda Hotchkiss

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:               Mary Embleton  
  Sam Painter

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 Council Member Dickerson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 20, 2007, as presented, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Montana Urban and Community Forestry Association information.

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Letter of March 22, 2007 regarding the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus.

Montana Association of Railroad Passengers: Invitation to a roundtable discussion at the Billings Chamber of Commerce on Friday, April 13, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

## PUBLIC HEARING:

- **Ordinance No. O07-01: Ordinance to repeal the current Chapter 16 of the Laurel Municipal Code and to replace with the attached revised and updated Chapter 16 in order to comply with the mandatory changes adopted by the State of Montana Legislature.** (First reading – March 13, 2007)

Mayor Olson introduced the item to the council, as the staff member was ill.

Mayor Olson opened the public hearing.

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

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

Mayor Olson closed the public hearing.

Mayor Olson mentioned the council's option to waive the rule to wait at least one week but no longer than the next regular council meeting and place the second reading of Ordinance No. O07-01 on tonight's agenda. The rule upon motion and second must be unanimously waived by the council to place the ordinance as an unscheduled matter on tonight's agenda.

Motion by Council Member Poehls to waive the rule to wait at least one week but no longer than the next regularly scheduled meeting and place Ordinance No. O07-01 on the council agenda,

seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

**CONSENT ITEMS:**

- **Claims for the month of March 2007 in the amount of \$724,152.14.**  
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 03/25/2007 totaling \$108,664.16.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
  - Tree Board minutes of March 15, 2007 were presented.
  - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of March 20, 2007 were presented.
  - Council Workshop minutes of March 27, 2007 were presented.

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

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Council Member Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments:** None.
- **Ordinance No. O07-04: An ordinance amending Title 14 to adopt the International Energy Conservation Code, 2003 Edition, and providing authority for the Mayor to adopt future additions of the Code through Administrative Order.** First reading.

Motion by Council Member Poehls to adopt Ordinance No. O07-04, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

The public hearing of Ordinance No. O07-04 will be on the council agenda on May 1, 2007.

- **Resolution No. R07-20: A resolution adopting revised policies for the Laurel Police Department, City of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R07-20, seconded by Council Member Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R07-21: A resolution approving Task Order No. 13 authorizing Morrison-Maierle, Inc., to provide MPDES Discharge Permit renewal assistance to the City for its Wastewater Treatment Plant.**

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R07-21, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R07-22: Resolution approving an amendment to the Emergency Operations Plan for Billings, Laurel, Broadview and Yellowstone County.**

Motion by Council Member Easton to approve Resolution No. R07-22, seconded by Council Member Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R07-23: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to request proposals from interested and qualified engineering firms to provide general engineering services for the City of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R07-23, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

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

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT):**

Larry Tanglen, *Laurel Outlook*, has been researching Laurel history fifty years ago in 1957 in order to write this week's column in the newspaper. At that time, the city council was studying a report that the city engineer had prepared about development of a city storm water sewer system. Larry stated that the council should not feel that it is breaking new ground this year and that, hopefully, this council will experience a greater degree of success than the predecessors.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

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

Council Member Easton reminisced back to 1957, which was two years after the big flood of 1955 and Laurel had received forty inches of snow and there were storm water issues. He has been reviewing some past council minutes in preparation for the 100-year anniversary celebration. The fire department paid \$350 for the first truck, which had a fifty-gallon tank. Now the fire department is looking at paying \$300,000 for a new engine.

Council Member Eaton mentioned the need to repaint the underpass. Mayor Olson has contacted Joe Gentry at MRL regarding this. Council Member Hart stated that MRL allowed the Laurel Revitalization League to paint everything but the header of the underpass about six years ago.

Mayor Olson will contact Joe Gentry again. He mentioned that some community members will be recognized at the council workshop on April 24<sup>th</sup> for their service to make Laurel beautiful. Jean Carroll Thompson will present Laurel's Bright 'N Beautiful program at the council workshop on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Olson thanked the *Laurel Outlook* for the notice regarding the April 28<sup>th</sup> cleanup.

Mayor Olson stated that the Elected Officials Workshop is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Billings. This is an opportunity for elected officials to attend workshops and seminars and he encouraged the council to attend.

Mayor Olson has reviewed the responses received regarding the city's space issues. He asked the council to send suggestions to the council secretary. Input will be received for the next month.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Ordinance No. O07-01: Ordinance to repeal the current Chapter 16 of the Laurel Municipal Code and to replace with the attached revised and updated Chapter 16 in order to comply with the mandatory changes adopted by the State of Montana Legislature.** Second reading. (First reading – March 13, 2007; Public hearing – April 1, 2007)

Motion by Council Member Mace to adopt Ordinance No. O07-01, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Council Member Mace asked regarding the status of Billings' proposal for the water intake at 56<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Olson will contact Shoots Vies and Dave Mumford regarding the next scheduled meeting. The issue will be discussed at a council workshop before further action is taken. Council Member Mace suggested forming a task force to review this issue. Council Members Poehls,

Easton, and Dickerson agreed to serve on the task force. Mayor Olson will report back with further information.

Council Member Dickerson asked that council name tags for special events be placed on the April 10<sup>th</sup> council workshop agenda. Mayor Olson stated that the council's budget would allow for the purchase of name tags and Council Member Dickerson could present it to the council president and vice-president. There will be further discussion at the April 10<sup>th</sup> council workshop.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members 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 7:01 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007.

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Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer