

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

October 16, 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 6:34 p.m. on October 16, 2007.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Kate Hart | Doug Poehls |
| Gay Easton | Mark Mace |
| Alex Wilkins | Chuck Dickerson |
| | Norm Stamper |

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Emelie Eaton

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Mary Embleton | Steve Zeier, BSEDA |
| Sam Painter | |
| James Caniglia | |

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 Hart to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 2, 2007, as presented, 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.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Newsline: September 2007 Newsletter of the Montana Department of Transportation

Laurel Middle School: Letter regarding Friday Fun Nights.

Laurel Airport Authority: Letter of September 28, 2007 regarding Conditions for Renewal of Leases.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- Ordinance No. O07-10: Ordinance amending certain sections of the “Laurel Zoning Ordinance” located at Chapter 17 of the Laurel Municipal Code. (First reading – 09/18/2007)

Mayor Olson asked James Caniglia, City Planner, to introduce the issue.

James explained the proposed changes to the Laurel zoning ordinance. The changes apply to the following sections: 17.49.020 Temporary uses in nonresidential zoning districts; 17.49.030 Christmas tree sales in residential and agricultural districts; 17.49.040 Roadside stands; 17.49.50 Fireworks stands; 17.49.060 Construction or construction equipment sheds; and 17.49.070 Temporary use/structure permit required.

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.

The second reading of Ordinance No. O07-10 will be on the November 6, 2007, council agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of September 2007.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 10/07/2007 totaling \$138,186.61.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of October 2, 2007 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of October 9, 2007 were presented.

--Cemetery Commission minutes of September 26, 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 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.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments:** None.
- **Resolution No. R07-89: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an independent contractor service contract and agreement with Engineering Inc. for the reconstruction of the city public library parking lot.**

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R07-89, seconded by Council Member Mace. 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. R07-90: Resolution adopting regulations for the Laurel Cemetery.**

Motion by Council Member Easton to approve Resolution No. R07-90, 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. R07-91: Resolution of the City Council conveying an easement for access purposes to Yellowstone County for the Yellowstone County Airport Road extension project.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R07-91, seconded by Council Member Stamper. 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. R07-92: A resolution declaring the Laurel City Council's intent to create an Urban Renewal District with tax increment authority; declaring the existence of blight within the urban renewal area; declaring the need for redevelopment of blighted areas in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare; setting a public hearing date; and requiring publication and mailing of the notice of hearing.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R07-92, 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.

Mayor Olson stated that the ordinance for the Tax Increment Finance District would be on the November 6, 2007, council agenda.

- **Resolution No. R07-93: A resolution approving an agreement between the City of Laurel and Jim Huertas Consulting, relating to maintenance and work on the City of Laurel's website.**

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve Resolution No. R07-93, 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.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council Member Dickerson asked regarding the city's acceptance of the work done in the right hand turn lane on East Railroad Street. He stated that there is a definite depression in the street and it is unacceptable. Mayor Olson stated that city staff would address the issue.

There will be no Emergency Services Committee meeting on Monday, October 22nd.

Mayor Olson stated that Alley Cleanup Week is scheduled for November 5th through 9th. The event will be advertised in the newspaper for two weeks. Branches should be bundled and tied in a maximum of six-foot lengths, and leaves should be bagged. The alley cleanup route will coincide with the garbage routes.

Mayor Olson stated that the Town Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 18th, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at the Laurel High School. Dr. Ken Weaver and Judy Mathre will attend the meeting to answer questions and participate in discussion regarding the proposed charter for the City of Laurel. There have been articles regarding the proposal in the *Laurel Outlook* and the *Billings Gazette*. KTVQ-2 will interview Mayor Olson on Thursday for the 5:30 p.m. news. With the proposed form of government, the present council/mayor form of government would remain the same. The proposal includes the provision for a chief administrative officer, whose duties and supervisory responsibility will be defined in writing by the mayor with the consent of the city council.

Mayor Olson reported on the dedication of the Laurel Middle School today. Governor Schweitzer gave an inspirational speech. The School Board and the citizens were recognized. The City of Laurel and the council were recognized as an active participant in allowing the land swap with Grace Bible Church to come to fruition. The superintendent of schools went on public record indicating that the cooperation with the city was really appreciated.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Poehls 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 seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 6th day of November, 2007.

Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer