

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

April 15, 2008

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 15, 2008.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: Mary Embleton
 Sam Painter
 Bill Sheridan

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 Stamper to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 1, 2008, as presented, 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.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Olness & Associates: Letter of March 20, 2008 regarding Norm Klein joining the team.

Cable Montana: Service Reports for February 2008.

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Newsletter of March 30, 2008.

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Minutes of March 27, 2008; Agenda of April 10, 2008.

Montana Municipal Insurance Authority: Risk Management Bulletin of March 21, 2007 regarding Special Events Coverage.

Montana Municipal Insurance Authority: Risk Management Bulletin of March 26, 2008 regarding Underground Fuel Storage Tanks.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of March, 2008.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 04/06/2008 totaling \$141,660.60.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of April 1, 2008 were presented.

--Park Board minutes of April 3, 2008 were presented.

--City-County Planning Board minutes of April 3, 2008 were presented.

--Tree Board minutes of March 27, 2008 were presented.



--Council Workshop minutes of April 8, 2008 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 eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:

- Proclamation of Municipal Clerks Week – May 4-10

Mayor Olson read a proclamation recognizing the week of May 4th through 10th as Municipal Clerks Week. He extended appreciation to Mary Embleton for her service as Municipal Clerk for the City of Laurel and her work on the Tax Increment Finance District.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments:** None.
- **Resolution No. R08-27:** 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 Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R08-27, seconded by Council Member Stamper. 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.

- **Resolution No. R08-32:** Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the requisite agreements with Beartooth Harley-Davidson/Buell for the use of three motorcycles by the City of Laurel Police Department.

Motion by Council Member Poehls to approve Resolution No. R08-32, 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.

- **Resolution No. R08-33:** A resolution approving a Maintenance Agreement between the City of Laurel and Yellowstone County providing for the maintenance of the Yellowstone County Veteran's Cemetery.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R08-33, seconded by Council Member Hart. 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.

- **Resolution No. R08-34:** Resolution of the City Council declaring its intention to support the City of Laurel's Centennial Celebration and the efforts of the newly-formed Centennial Committee.

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R08-34, 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.

- **Resolution No. R08-35:** A resolution of the City Council authorizing the Mayor to sign a one-time project specific agreement between the Owner (City of Laurel, Montana) and the Engineer (Morrison and Maierle, Inc.) for design, bidding, construction, and post-construction of the Phase 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, outlined in the 2006 Laurel Wastewater Facilities Plan Update.

Motion by Council Member Easton to approve Resolution No. R08-35, seconded by Council Member Hart. 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.

- **Resolution No. R08-36: Resolution of the City Council to create the seasonal positions of life guard/instructor and to adopt a job description for such positions.**

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve Resolution No. R08-36, 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): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council Member Poehls stated that the Emergency Services Committee will meet on Monday, April 21st, to discuss the Cenex Mutual Aid Agreement and the overview of the Fire Hall Task Force. He stated that Cenex is supposed to come back with the final approval of the Mutual Aid Contract by Memorial Day.

Council Member Dickerson stated that the council tour of the city's facilities is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22nd, at 6:00 p.m. The Centennial Committee will meet on Thursday, April 17th, at 7:00 p.m.

Council Member Easton stated that the Tree Board will meet on Thursday, April 17th, at 3:00 p.m. instead of 1:30 p.m. The Tree Board will discuss whether to plant a memorial tree, possibly an oak tree, in Thomson Park as a hundred year tree. Thomson Park is the city's oldest park and the tree could be planted just ahead of the monument. The trees in Thomson Park were planted by Pete Thomson in 1955.

Council Member Easton mentioned that lilac bushes will be planted in Russell Park during the Arbor Day celebration on Friday, April 25th, at 1:00 p.m. The sixteen bushes will have white and purple flowers and will be planted four feet apart to provide a windbreak and a separation between the private property and the park. About 160 South School kindergarteners will participate in the Arbor Day program.

Laverne Ivie, of the Yellowstone Conservation District, contacted Gay Easton recently regarding water rights. The Yellowstone Conservation District is responsible for water rights for irrigation for agriculture, and it is their responsibility to issue permits or water shares. There are water shares in the Highline Ditch, which comes off from the Big Ditch that has water rights from the Yellowstone River. There are water rights available, and the County is considering partnering with the City of Laurel to purchase water rights for the Veteran's Cemetery to ensure that water is not cut off during the irrigation season. A meeting needs to be scheduled with the County Commissioners and the Cemetery Board for further discussion. State law includes cemeteries with agricultural water rights. Bill Sheridan will follow up on this with Bill Enright, the engineer for the Veteran's Cemetery.

Mayor Olson stated that the possibility of water rights was discussed at a recent Veteran's Cemetery meeting and Commissioner Kennedy was very interested in it.

Council Member Dickerson talked to Vi Hills last week to volunteer his services for the cleanup event in Laurel. Volunteers are still needed. Weed eaters, lawn mowers, and pickups are also needed for the event. The Centennial Cleanup is scheduled for May 3rd and 4th, beginning at 8:00 a.m. and lunch will be provided. Anyone interested in participating should contact Vi Hills.

Mayor Olson stated that Vi Hills has been very instrumental in coordinating this event. She has talked to Bill Sheridan a couple different times to ensure that the crews are prepared. Bill stated that the city is asking employees to spend a little time on the weekend for this event. Containers and equipment will be available to handle whatever comes. The Ministerial Association and the National Guard will also participate in the event.

Mayor Olson stated that the job description for the chief administrative officer is being developed and will be on the April 29th council workshop for the council's review. A proposal to update the

Personnel Implementation & Instruction Guide will also be reviewed and presented to the council on April 29th. Review of the Laurel Municipal Code will be done in the future.

Clerks Institute is scheduled for May 6th through 8th in Billings. Mark Mace, Chuck Dickerson, and Emelie Eaton plan to attend. Mayor Olson stated that this is a good opportunity to get ideas, to mingle with other people, and to share ideas. Council Member Mace stated there is always something of interest at the Institute and he encouraged the council members to attend. Council Member Dickerson stated that he has learned a lot from discussion with other elected officials, as well as from the instructors.

Mayor Olson stated that the idea of the Tax Increment Finance District (TIFD) was first presented at a mayoral conference and then at three or four different Institutes. At tax time this fall, the City of Laurel will realize the opportunities created for infrastructure improvements through the new TIFD. Mayor Olson has asked a representative of Big Sky EDA to help the city develop a program to understand the roles and responsibilities of the council in the TIFD.

Council Member Dickerson asked if the job description for lifeguards/instructors referred to in Resolution No. R08-36 could be available for review at the next council workshop for approval on May 6th. Mayor Olson stated that the job descriptions were approved tonight with the approval of the resolution.

Mary Embleton announced that Jane Jelinski, the former director of the Local Government Center, resigned at the end of March. Dan Clark, the former mayor of the City of Choteau, has been named the new director. Mary offered to forward the official e-mail announcement to the council. Mary stated that Dan Clark will be presenting at Clerks Institute, is a dynamic speaker, and is a good choice to continue the work of the Local Government Center.

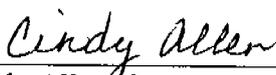
Mayor Olson stated that Alan Hulse is the new director for MMIA.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

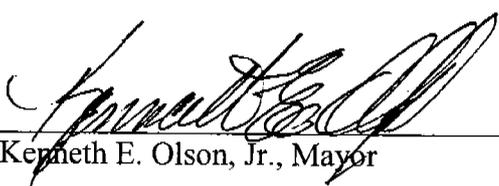
Motion by Council Member Poehls to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 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 May, 2008.



Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer