

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

May 20, 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 May 20, 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

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 May 6, 2008, as presented, 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.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Cable Montana: Service Reports for March 2008; Service Reports for April 2008.

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Board Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2008; Agenda of May 15, 2008.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of April 2008.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 05/04/2008 totaling \$152,197.16.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of May 6, 2008 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of May 13, 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:

- Poppy Day Proclamation

Mayor Olson read the Poppy Day Proclamation, which proclaimed May 26th as Poppy Day in the City of Laurel.



Mayor Olson stated that the Memorial Day services are scheduled at the Laurel Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 26th. The dedication of the Veterans' Cemetery is scheduled at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

City of Laurel Volunteer Ambulance Crew Members:

Mayor Olson appointed Brandon Ihde and Gaylen Hocking as City of Laurel Volunteer Ambulance crew members.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the appointments of Brandon Ihde and Gaylen Hocking as City of Laurel Volunteer Ambulance crew members, 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. R08-45: A resolution approving an agreement between the City of Laurel and the Laurel Airport Authority, relating to fire protection.**

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R08-45, seconded by Council Member Eaton. 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. R08-46: A resolution approving an agreement between the City of Laurel and Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, said agreement relating to fire protection.**

Motion by Council Member Easton to approve Resolution No. R08-46, 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. R08-47: A resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with Laurel Public Schools, District 7 and 7-70, continuing the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program for the Laurel Middle School.**

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve Resolution No. R08-47, 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. R08-48: A resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with Laurel Public Schools, District 7 and 7-70, continuing the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program for the Laurel High School.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R08-48, 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. R08-49: A resolution to amend the previously adopted Task Order No. 6, approving an increase in the engineering costs for Phase I of the Water System Improvements for the City of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve Resolution No. R08-49, 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.

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 Wednesday, May 28th, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers. Agendas have been sent.

Council Member Stamper requested an update on the status of hiring pool personnel for the summer. Mayor Olson stated that an aquatics manager has been hired and lifeguards are being hired. An update will be on the May 27th council workshop agenda.

Council Member Eaton requested that a presentation be added to the May 27th council workshop. Joyce Jensen, from the Western Heritage Center, would like to install a plaque at Riverside Park declaring it as a noteworthy historic site. She will explain the significance of the plaque and ask the council's preference as to size and what the plaque should look like. Mayor Olson stated that the presentation would be added to the workshop agenda.

Council Member Eaton mentioned that the Historic Board's Roundtable was held today. Kate Hampton, from the State Historic Preservation Office, was here and met Mayor Olson and James Caniglia. She had very positive things to say. Council Member Eaton was enthused that Ms. Hampton was able to make connections between some of the things that are being planned as centennial activities and connecting those to funding mechanisms for future plans for use of Riverside Park.

Council Member Eaton verified that the joint city/county meeting will not be held on Thursday. Mayor Olson stated that he and Tina Volek attended a meeting today and she stated that there was not really an agenda for the meeting. The City of Billings and the City of Laurel both have a lot of activities going on at this time. Tina Volek expects that the meeting will be rescheduled for a later date. Mayor Olson invited her to attend the dedication of the Veterans' Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Mayor Olson thanked Council Member Eaton for her work on the Historic Preservation Board and the eventual creation of interest within the community to support an extended Historical Society/Museum/Heritage Preservation. He expressed concern that the heritage of the city will be lost with the rapid growth that is developing. He stated that it is important to have the ability to document and preserve part of the reason why our forefathers and why residents came to the community and decided to take root. He thanked Council Members Eaton and Easton for taking that on as a personal crusade.

Mayor Olson stated a presentation of the Centennial Committee would be on the May 27th council workshop agenda.

Mayor Olson stated that the Laurel Fire Department requested permission to set off fireworks on July 4th, during the half time of homecoming events for this year's football game, and during the annual Christmas to Remember event in December 2008. Mayor Olson has granted permission.

Mayor Olson stated that a CIP meeting with Miral Gamradt is scheduled on Saturday, June 7th, for the council and department heads. At the end of the CIP process, the City of Laurel will have a product to ensure that the city keeps on track with expectations for capital procurements.

Mary Embleton stated that she and Mayor Olson attended the District meeting of the League of Cities and Towns today. This is the year of preparation for the legislative session to take place. The information will be distributed to the council. Mayor Olson serves on the Legislative Committee that helps draft proposals for the League to take forward, and ideas for legislative changes could be given to him. Mary stated that there are interesting issues shared between the City of Billings and the City of Laurel, and it is nice to be able to team up with another city to take an issue forward to get corrected at the legislative level.

Mayor Olson stated that it was a productive meeting. He stated that sitting on the state committee for the League of Cities is a responsibility he does not take lightly. In the past, the committee has brought forward legislation that has directly affected the City of Laurel.

Mayor Olson stated that the draft job description for the chief administrative officer will be on the May 27th council workshop agenda. Copies will be distributed in the council mailboxes. He encouraged the council to review the job description and submit input.

Council Member Mace suggested putting information about historic preservation and Council Member Eaton serving on the Board in the next *Laurel City Voice*. Mayor Olson agreed that it could be included in the next newsletter soon.

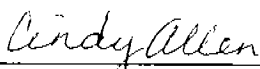
Council Member Dickerson stated that a meeting is scheduled at The Crossings on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Council Member Eaton stated that the presentation will be on how to preserve a community's small town feeling and its cultural and historic background while allowing big box stores and growth to happen.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

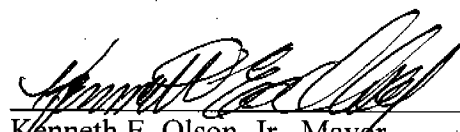
Motion by Council Member Eaton to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.




Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 3rd day of June, 2008.



Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer