

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

June 7, 2011

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 June 7, 2011.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:           Emelie Eaton           Doug Poehls  
  Vacant seat           Mark Mace  
  Chuck Rodgers  
  Tom Nelson           Norm Stamper

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:           Chuck Dickerson

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:           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 17, 2011, as presented, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Department of Administration: Letter of May 19, 2011 regarding Response to Fiscal Year(s) 2010 Audit Report.

Bresnan: Letter of May 18, 2011 regarding channel deletions.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims for the month of May 2011 in the amount of \$991,676.91.**  
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
  - **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 05/15/2011 totaling \$152,240.14.**
  - **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 05/29/2011 totaling \$166,469.46.**
  - **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
- Health Insurance Committee minutes of May 9, 2011 were presented.
- Budget/Finance Committee minutes of May 17, 2011 were presented.
- Health Insurance Committee minutes of May 27, 2011 were presented.
- Council Workshop minutes of May 31, 2011 were presented.
- Laurel Airport Authority minutes of March 22, 2011 were presented.
- Laurel Urban Renewal Agency minutes of March 21, 2011 were presented.
- Laurel Urban Renewal Agency minutes of April 18, 2011 were presented.



--Laurel Urban Renewal Agency minutes of May 2, 2011 were presented.

--Laurel Public Library Board of Trustees minutes of December 14, 2010 were presented.

--Laurel Public Library Board of Trustees minutes of January 11, 2011 were presented.

--Laurel Public Library Board of Trustees minutes of February 15, 2011 were presented.

--Laurel Public Library Board of Trustees minutes of March 15, 2011 were presented.

--Laurel Public Library Board of Trustees minutes of April 12, 2011 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 six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

Tree Board:

Mayor Olson appointed LuAnne Engh to the Tree Board for a term ending June 30, 2014.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the Mayor's appointment of LuAnne Engh to the Tree Board for a term ending June 30, 2014, seconded by Council Member Rodgers. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Ordinance No. O11-07: An ordinance amending Section 17.26.052 titled "Entryway Zoning District" located at Title 17 of the Laurel Municipal Code. First reading.**

Motion by Council Member Poehls to adopt Ordinance No. O11-07, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

The public hearing of Ordinance No. O11-07 will be on the June 21, 2011, council agenda.

- **Resolution No. R11-43: A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for the Chief Administrative Officer position between the City of Laurel and Robert J. Sivick.**

Motion by Council Member Rodgers to approve Resolution No. R11-43, seconded by Council Member Nelson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R11-44: A resolution of the City Council authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Dr. Thomas Bennett for the Medical Director position for the Laurel Ambulance Service.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R11-44, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.



- **Resolution No. R11-45: A resolution of the City Council authorizing the Mayor to sign agreements with BlueCross BlueShield of Montana, Delta Dental and VSP for the provision of the Employee Health Insurance Program.**

Motion by Council Member Nelson to approve Resolution No. R11-45, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

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

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

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

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

Council Member Mace asked for discussion regarding the West Railroad Street study at the June 14<sup>th</sup> council workshop.

Council Member Stamper asked for an update regarding the curb and gutter at Graff Elementary School at the next council workshop.

There was discussion regarding last night's weather, including the tornado warnings and the intensity of the storm.

Mayor Olson spoke regarding three recent requests to use Riverside Park. Last weekend an individual requested use of Riverside Park for a wedding reception. The city required the individual to hire a public employee to watch the river along the edge during the reception to make sure nobody went to the river. At that time, the river was below a certain level. Another individual has requested to have an event there this Saturday, and there will be the same stipulation. If the river reaches a certain height, the city will require them to hire a public employee to watch the river during the event, as the bank has been impacted by the river. Mayor Olson stated that activities should be watched while the river is high until the bank has been inspected by a certified structural engineering firm. Mayor Olson stated that a third request was also received. He explained that the Public Works Department shot a green line across the boat ramp, with the ground level of the park at the green line. If the water exceeds that point, the safe bank measure will be implemented and no one will be allowed in the park until someone qualified looks at the berm. The protection of the citizens is the important drive.

Council Member Mace asked regarding overnight camping in Riverside Park.

Mayor Olson stated that another high water event is still expected from water coming off the mountains. Riverside Park will not open up until the river bank has been inspected, which cannot be done until the water recedes enough to allow an inspection. The clubs understand that some of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events could be curtailed until the park can be safely inhabited by people without endangering them.

Mayor Olson noticed that an audience member wished to speak and asked the council for consent to allow that at this time.

Dan Koch, 320 Colorado, stated that Fat Fender Freddy's has scheduled an event this weekend and he asked if the park would be available for the event.

Mayor Olson stated that someone from Fat Fender Freddy's contacted him regarding use of Riverside Park for parking and overnight camping. Mayor Olson informed the individual that parking might be allowed if the river is below the green line and an employee was hired to watch the river, but camping would not be allowed. When Mayor Olson asked him to call on Friday to get a final determination, the man said he would mow the acreage behind his establishment for parking for the event.

Mayor Olson gave an update of the project on Third Avenue by the Catholic Church. The area has been cordoned off and the project has been demobilized. Because of the ongoing storm conditions and the amount of water that impacted the road, the contractors could not get the compression testing necessary to accept an overlay and requested an extension for delay of work until after July 5<sup>th</sup>. In

the interim, some rolled curbs and rolled corners will be repoured and some curb boxes will be replaced. The project will resume after July 5<sup>th</sup> if core testing results allow the paving to be done.

Mayor Olson stated that the Ward 2 council vacancy is being advertised and letters of interest are due on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Two letters have been received, and the applicants have been invited to attend the next council workshop so the council can meet them and determine how to fill the vacancy. Any other letters of interest should be submitted to the council secretary. As per state statute, the vacancy needs to be filled within thirty days.

Mayor Olson asked Council Members Eaton, Mace, Rodgers, and Stamper to consider filing for re-election by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. Council Member Nelson would need to file for the Ward 4 seat, as well as anyone interested in the recently vacated Ward 2 seat.

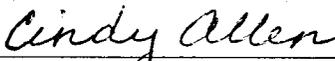
Mayor Olson reported that the Boy Scouts have the paint and the people for their upcoming city hall painting project. The project is scheduled to be done between now and August. Mayor Olson contacted a local contractor twice regarding repairing the stucco on the building but has not received a response. He might need to contact a different contractor. Mayor Olson spoke regarding the needed roof repairs and stated that a roofing contractor submitted a proposal for the work. The project will not be done by July 4<sup>th</sup> and will start after the repair work is completed.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

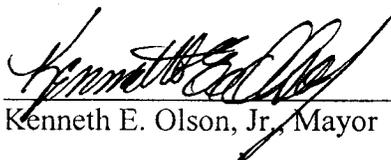
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

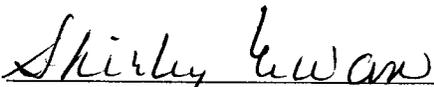
There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

  
Cindy Allen, Council Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2011.

  
Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

  
Shirley Ewan, Clerk/Treasurer