

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

July 20, 2010

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 July 20, 2010.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: Bill Sheridan James Caniglia
 Shirley Ewan Jan Faught
 Brooke Baracker

Mayor Olson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Mayor Olson asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

Mayor Olson stated that item 10. e. under Scheduled Matters was changed to read: "Reconsider the water rate increase and set a date for an additional water rate increase hearing at the next regular council meeting."

MINUTES:

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 2010, as presented, seconded by Council Member Rodgers. 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:

Bright n' Beautiful minutes of June 16, 2010.

Cable Montana: Service Reports for April 2010 – June 2010.

Russ and Laurie Parpart, Gold Wing Road Riders Assn.: Letter regarding Montana District G.W.R.R.A. Rally on July 23-24, 2010.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of June 2010.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 07/11/2010 totaling \$176,965.47.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
 - Emergency Services Committee minutes of June 28, 2010 were presented.
 - Cemetery Commission minutes of June 28, 2010 were presented.
 - Park Board minutes of July 1, 2010 were presented.
 - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of July 6, 2010 were presented.
 - Public Works Committee minutes of July 12, 2010 were presented.

--Emergency Services Committee minutes of July 12, 2010 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of July 13, 2010 were presented.

--Tree Board minutes of June 15, 2010 were presented.

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

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve the consent items as presented, 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.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments:**

Laurel Library Board:

Mayor Olson appointed Dixie Feller to the Laurel Library Board to fill a term ending June 30, 2013.

Motion by Council Member Rodgers to approve the Mayor's appointment of Dixie Feller to fill a term ending June 30, 2013 on the Laurel Library Board, 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. R10-77: Resolution No. R10-77: Resolution of the City Council to create a position called the Chief-Emergency Medical Services and to adopt a job description for such position.**

Motion by Council Member Poehls to amend the resolution and the job description to read "Director-Emergency Medical Services" and "EMT-Basic" and "Emergency Medical Technician-Basic", 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.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve Resolution No. R10-77, as amended. All eight council members voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R10-85: Resolution of the City Council approving the conveyance of a parcel of city-owned property by Quitclaim Deed to Yellowstone County to be part of the Yellowstone County Veterans' Cemetery and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Quitclaim Deed on the City's behalf.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R10-85, 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.

- **Resolution No. R10-86: A resolution of the City Council adopting a Substance Abuse Policy for safety-sensitive Laurel Transit employees.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R10-86, 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.

- **Reconsider the water rate increase and set a date for an additional water rate increase hearing at the next regular council meeting.**

Motion by Council Member Mace to reconsider the water rate increase and to set a date for an additional water rate increase hearing at the next regular council meeting, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment.

Council Member Poehls commented that the council has gone through this for six months. The only difference is that the city did not send a letter to the Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC), which he understands just puts the letter on file. That is a current requirement of the law, but he does not know if another three hours of testimony would change his decision. He is not thrilled to have to sit through more discussion, but he will abide by the council's decision.

Mayor Olson stated that the Montana Consumer Counsel asked for the city's records and documentation regarding this issue.

A vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried 7-1, with Council Member Poehls voting nay.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council Member Poehls stated that an Emergency Services Committee meeting is scheduled on Monday, July 26th, at 5:30 p.m.

Council Member Stamper stated that the Park Board meeting on August 5th has been rescheduled for Thursday, August 12th, at 5:30 p.m.

Council Member Rodgers stated that, since no one attended last night's Cemetery Commission meeting, the meeting has been rescheduled on Thursday, July 29th, at 5:30 p.m.

Council Member Eaton stated that, at next week's council workshop, she would like to discuss the procedure for entering in the note from the chairman of the Tree Board. She understood that it should have been commented on under Reports of Boards and Commissions, and she failed to bring that to everyone's attention. She stated that the Public Works Director might have some advice on that.

Council Member Eaton stated that the issue regarding the Library Board, the hierarchy of the Library Board, the library, and who the library staff reports to is on the next council workshop agenda.

Council Member Eaton thanked the chairman of the Emergency Services Committee for taking the matter of Resolution No. R10-77 into the committee's hands.

Mayor Olson cautioned the council that the library and its by-laws are governed by the Library Board. He does not think it is within the council's purview to ask them to bring forward how they run the library. Any questions on how the library is run should be taken directly to the Library Board. Mayor Olson stated that he is uncomfortable about getting into issues over which the council does not have jurisdiction, according to statute.

Council Member stated that she brought the issue up to make it part of the record so the public can understand the hierarchy of the Library Board and the way matters should be approached.

Mayor Olson stated that Council President Poehls would lead the council meetings in his absence for several meetings.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to adjourn the council meeting, 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.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Cindy Allen
Cindy Allen, Council Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 3rd day of August, 2010.

Dee Paelt Council
Pro. for
Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Cathy Gabriel
Cathy Gabriel, Deputy Clerk