

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

October 7, 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 October 7, 2008.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:           Emelie Eaton           Doug Poehls  
  Gay Easton           Mark Mace  
  Norm Stamper

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:       Kate Hart           Chuck Dickerson  
  Alex Wilkins

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 Poehls to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 16, 2008, as presented, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Cable Montana: Service Reports for July 2008; Service Reports for August 2008.

Montana Municipal Insurance Authority: Memorandum of September 12, 2008, regarding expansion of the MMIA Board of Directors.

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Minutes of September 11, 2008; Agenda of September 25, 2008.

*Newsline*: September 2008 Newsletter of the Montana Department of Transportation, Rail, Transit & Planning Division.

## PUBLIC HEARING:

- Ordinance No. O08-09: Ordinance creating the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency pursuant to MCA § 7-15-4232 and to codify the ordinance as Title 18 of the Laurel Municipal Code. (First reading – 09/16/2008)

Mayor Olson introduced the issue to the council. The ordinance creates the Urban Renewal Agency and the requirements to select the members at large from the community to sit on this agency. After adoption of the ordinance, the authority delegated to the board will be assigned by resolution.

Mayor Olson opened the public hearing and read the rules governing the public hearing.

Mayor Olson asked four times if there were any proponents. There were none.

Mayor Olson asked four times if there were any opponents. There were none.

Mayor Olson closed the public hearing.

The second reading of Ordinance No. O08-09 will be on the council agenda on October 21, 2008.

## CONSENT ITEMS:



- **Claims for the month of September 2008 in the amount of \$374,836.53.**  
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 09/21/2008 totaling \$139,153.47.**
- **Approval of Police Union retroactive pay increase totaling \$13,521.54.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
  - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of September 16, 2008 were presented.
  - City-County Planning Board minutes of September 10, 2008 were presented.
  - Laurel Public Library Board of Trustees minutes of August 12, 2008 were presented.
  - Tree Board minutes of August 28, 2008 were presented.
  - Tree Board minutes of September 8, 2008 were presented.
  - Council Workshop minutes of September 8, 2008 were presented.
  - Laurel Airport Authority minutes of August 26, 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 Stamper. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments:** None.
- **Resolution No. R08-116: Resolution of the City Council to create a new position called the Utility Plants Superintendent and to adopt a job description for the Utility Plants Superintendent position.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R08-116, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Letter of City's support for the fire hall mill levy**

Motion by Council Member Easton to approve the letter of the City's support for the fire hall mill levy, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

After Mayor Olson and the council members sign the letter, it will be sent to the *Laurel Outlook* as a letter to the editor.

**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 stated that he had recently suggested contacting MRL about the possibility of constructing a fence to prevent pedestrians from falling into the underpass. He asked how the council feels about that and how it should be pursued.

Mayor Olson stated that the issue would be placed on the October 14<sup>th</sup> council workshop agenda.

Council Member Easton asked if the underpass was MDT property. There was discussion regarding whether MDT or MRL owns the underpass and the need to include the issue in the MDT project.

Council Member Stamper stated that the Cemetery Commission will meet on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, to review and discuss the latest version of the master plan for the Cemetery.

Mayor Olson stated that Kurt Markegard went with the County Commissioners to view the veterans' cemetery in Sturgis on Monday.

Council Member Easton stated that Kurt was impressed with the veterans' cemetery in Sturgis. Kurt took pictures and a tape recorder and learned a lot during the visit.

Council Member Easton stated that COP Construction is doing a good job on the South First Avenue project. The project foreman told him that the project is on schedule and the weather is not going to hold them back.

Mayor Olson stated that Bill Sheridan will present an update on the South First Avenue project at the council workshop on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

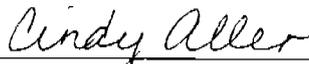
Council Member Easton stated that COP Construction meets with the city staff every Wednesday to give a progress report on the project.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

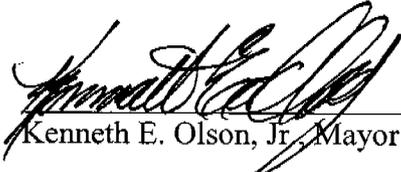
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

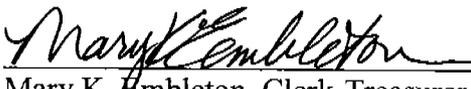
There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

  
Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2008.

  
Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

  
Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer