

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

December 1, 2009

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by President Doug Poehls at 6:30 p.m. on December 1, 2009.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Alex Wilkins

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: Mary Embleton Kurt Markegard
 Sam Painter Derek Yeager
 Bill Sheridan

President Poehls led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

President Poehls asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

MINUTES:

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2009, as presented, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Business Standards Division: Letter of November 12, 2009, regarding Responsibilities of Licensed Montana Sanitarians.

Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Memo of November 5, 2009, regarding Department Testimony on Stringency Issues at November 4, 2009 Hearing.

Local Emergency Planning Committee: Minutes of November 12, 2009; Agenda of December 10, 2009; By-Laws of Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) of Yellowstone County (MT) 2009.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- **Ordinance No. O09-11: Ordinance amending Section 2.68.100 of the Laurel Municipal Code, amending the procedure to modify the City Judge's salary.** (First reading - 11/17/2009)

President Poehls asked Mary Embleton to introduce the issue to the council.

Mary stated that the proposed ordinance would amend the Laurel Municipal Code, which contains the specific dollar amount for the Judge's salary. This position is the only one left that outlines the Judge's salary dollar amount in ordinance. The proposed ordinance would amend the Laurel Municipal Code to read that the Judge's salary would be set by resolution in the future as per the council's decision for the salary.

President Poehls opened the public hearing.

President Poehls asked four times if there were any proponents. There were none.

President Poehls asked four times if there were any opponents. There were none.

President Poehls closed the public hearing.

DP

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims for the month of November 2009 in the amount of \$263,117.82.**
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 11/15/2009 totaling \$159,487.93.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
 - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of November 17, 2009 were presented.
 - Park Board minutes of November 12, 2009 were presented.
 - Council Workshop minutes of November 24, 2009 were presented.
 - Tree Board minutes of August 19, 2009 were presented.
 - Tree Board minutes of September 29, 2009 were presented.
 - Tree Board minutes of October 20, 2009 were presented.

Council President Poehls 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 seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

BSEDA Nominating Committee:

President Poehls appointed Chuck Rodgers to the Big Sky Economic Development Authority Nominating Committee for a term ending December 7, 2010.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the Mayor's appointment of Chuck Rodgers to the Big Sky Economic Development Authority Nominating Committee for a term ending December 7, 2010, seconded by Council Member Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Beartooth RC&D Annual Report and Memorandum of Understanding (Carla Lawrence)**

Carla Lawrence thanked the council for the opportunity to make Beartooth RC&D's annual presentation to the City of Laurel. There are eight RC&D's across the State of Montana. Carla distributed copies of a Summary of Projects within Yellowstone County for 2009. Some of the projects were specific to the Laurel area.

Carla, who is the Coordinator of the Beartooth RC&D, stated that Marvin Carter is the Vice-Chairman of the Board and represents the City of Laurel on the Beartooth RC&D. She stated that Beartooth RC&D has had a good year, despite a newspaper article that might indicate otherwise. The organization has a full office staff, which includes Chris Mehus as the Economic Development Director and office manager. As a coordinator, Carla is a Federal employee who serves as the Coordinator for the Council. The office staff members are members of the Beartooth RC&D, which is a non-profit. The Board is made up of the conservation districts, the city councils, and the county commissioners in the five-county area served. These include Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet

Grass, and Yellowstone Counties. Carla mentioned that Emelie Eaton sits on the Board as a representative of the Yellowstone Conservation District.

Carla explained the projects Beartooth RC&D worked on this year. Some of the projects are general to all the counties and some are specific to Yellowstone County. Beartooth RC&D worked with Mike McCoy of Break-Away Stirrups to get a Rural Business Enterprise Grant to assist him with marketing of his product. They worked with the Laurel Consignment Auction and the City-County Planning Board to allow an auction-type business in the downtown district. That fell through because it was bad timing for the client. They also worked with Bonnie Hoppel on a BEAR (Business Expansion and Retention) interview. The BEAR team, which meets every Friday morning at the Granite Tower in Billings, is made up of professionals that provide resources, and an accountant was provided to assist Bonnie with Quick Books. There were eleven participants in the Better Process Control School held in Laurel. Two other outreach and education opportunities included e-Commerce and Concept to Consumer. Carla mentioned that they worked with Laurel Gallery, who is interested in restoring a historical building in Laurel. The owner got a Big Sky Trust Fund grant for a historical technical master plan.

Carla noted that this year Marvin Carter was nominated and awarded the Council Member of the Year from the State RC&D Association. Beartooth RC&D then nominated him for the regional award, which will be awarded in January. Carla stated appreciation for the Laurel City Council's support.

Council Member Dickerson congratulated Marvin Carter for receiving the award.

- **Resolution No. R09-129: A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Engagement Letter with Dorsey & Whitney, LLP as bond counsel for the issuance of Sewer System Revenue Bonds for participation in the State of Montana's Water Pollution Control State Revolving Loan Program.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R09-129, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R09-130: Resolution relating to \$1,596,000 Sewer System Revenue Bonds (DNRC Water Pollution Control State Revolving Loan Program), consisting of \$390,700 Subordinate Lien Taxable Series 2009A Bond, \$359,300 Series 2009B Bond, and \$846,000 Series 2009C Bond; authorizing the issuance and fixing the terms and conditions thereof.**

Motion by Council Member Rodgers to approve Resolution No. R09-130, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R09-131: A resolution of the City Council authorizing the Mayor to sign a Lease Agreement with the Laurel Jaycees for city property located on a portion of Riverside Park.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R09-131, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R09-132: A resolution approving Amendment Number One (1) to Task Order 12 to provide a final payment for water and wastewater rate studies performed by Morrison-Maierle, Inc.**

Council Member Hart stated that the Budget/Finance Committee wants to request that Morrison-Maierle provide a list of the tasks performed for this amendment.

Motion by Council Member Hart to table Resolution No. R09-132 until January 5, 2010 to allow Morrison-Maierle to provide the list, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion.

DP

President Poehls directed Bill Sheridan and Mary Embleton to request an itemized statement from Morrison-Maierle and to provide the information to the council before the January 5th council meeting.

A vote was taken on the motion to table Resolution No. R09-132. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R09-133: A resolution of intent to increase the City of Laurel's water rates and charges to become effective on January 10, 2010, and setting a date and time for a public hearing.**

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve Resolution No. R09-133, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R09-134: A resolution of the City Council consenting to the Mayor's absence for medical reasons pursuant to Article II Section 3.08 of the City's Charter.**

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R09-134, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

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 spoke regarding the conditions at the "seven-way" stop intersection on Main Street. With the icy roads this morning, a car almost slid into the hole. He hopes that the city warns the State that Riverside needs to do something at this construction site, as a car could end up on its side in that hole if the street is slick enough, which almost happened today.

Council Member Dickerson asked for a status update at the next council workshop regarding the "good neighbor fence" in Elena Subdivision.

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 seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.


Cindy Allen, Council Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 15th day of December, 2009.


Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:


Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer



Beartooth RC&D Area, Inc.
Summary of Projects with Yellowstone County – 2009

General Projects

- ~ Bridging Cultures Committee – Cooperative working partnership with Billings/Crow Agency
- ~ Shepherd Community Center – Grant writing and potential financial assistance
- ~ Break-Away Stirrups (Laurel)
- ~ Laurel Consignment Auction (Laurel)

General Projects Available to All Counties in the Area

- ~ Business Education Services – Cooperation with regional Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Big Sky EDA in Billings
- ~ Local ED Coordination – monthly meetings (with Big Sky EDA, Stillwater and Big Horn)
- ~ Business Retention and Expansion (BEAR) – incumbent workers training (IWT); Bonnie Hoppel (Laurel)
- ~ Certified Regional Development Cooperation (CRDC)
- ~ Regional GIS User Group – coordination/facilitation

Business Technical Assistance/Consulting

- ~ Assisted two Yellowstone County businesses

Outreach and Education

- ~ Better Process Control School – held in Laurel in June
- ~ e-Commerce - held in Billings in September
- ~ Concept to Consumer - held in Billings in September

Agriculture

- ~ Mountain View Colony - Egg Production (Broadview)
- ~ Arbuckle Seed Harvester (Billings)
- ~ Floating Islands International (Shepherd)

Agriculture Available All Counties in the Area

- ~ Community Food Campaign – Business planning and assistance and grant writing
- ~ National Carbon Offset Coalition (NCOC) sponsoring county sign ups with CDs
- ~ Miles Community College Biofuel Curriculum- educational outreach through regional schools
- ~ Montana Harvest Kitchen - Grant Writing and Technical Assistance

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

- ~ County Projects – Assessment and funding

Revolving Loan Fund Clients

- ~ Provided funding for nine Yellowstone County clients

Renewable Energy

- ~ Mountain View Bio-Digester (Broadview)

Housing

- ~ First Time Homebuyer Classes – assists approximately 300 families per year