

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

December 16, 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 December 16, 2008.

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: 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 Stamper to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 2, 2008, as presented, 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.

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve the minutes of the special meeting of December 9, 2008, 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:

United States Environmental Protection Agency: Letter of November 25, 2008 regarding Laurel Old City Dump.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of November 2008.**
 - **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 11/30/2008 totaling \$161,413.95.**
 - **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
- Budget/Finance Committee minutes of December 2, 2008 were presented.
- Insurance Committee minutes of December 3, 2008 were presented.
- City-County Planning Board minutes of December 4, 2008 were presented.
- Council Workshop minutes of December 9, 2008 were presented.
- Laurel Library Board of Trustees minutes of November 18, 2008 were presented.
- Laurel Airport Authority minutes of October 28, 2008 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 Volunteer Fire Department:

Mayor Olson reappointed John Meeks to the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve the reappointment of John Meeks to the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department, 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.

Library Board:

Mayor Olson appointed Rachelle Tresch to a five-year term ending June 30, 2013, on the Library Board.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the appointment of Rachelle Tresch to a five-year term ending June 30, 2013, on the 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.

- **Ordinance No. O08-10: Ordinance of the City of Laurel amending the official zoning map of the City of Laurel, Montana, to change the zoning of 40 acres of land currently zoned Agricultural Open to Suburban Residential.** First reading.

Motion by Council Member Poehls to adopt Ordinance No. O08-10, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment.

Council Member Stamper stated that he posed some questions to Sam Painter before the meeting. For the record, he stated that the council already held a public hearing on this issue. If the ordinance is approved tonight, it would just go forward to the second reading.

Mayor Olson stated that was correct. The City-County Planning Board and the City Council both held public hearings.

Council Member Poehls stated that he previously served on the City-County Planning Board. He does not discourage people from developing their properties, but the city does not need five-acre lots that could potentially be annexed to the city. That would create more problems than could ever generate housing, and it would take agricultural land and develop it. Using forty acres of agricultural land for eight residences does not make sense to him.

Mayor Olson stated that staff recommended denial of the zone change request.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted nay. Motion failed 8-0.

Mayor Olson stated that the issue was done and would not go forward for a second reading.

- **Resolution No. R08-114: A resolution adopting wage increases for the listed non-union employees of the City of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve Resolution No. R08-114, 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. R08-133: A resolution by the City Council approving an agreement with the State of Montana Historical Society for the Preserve America Grant.**

Motion by Council Member Rodgers to approve Resolution No. R08-133, seconded by Council Member Wilkins. 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. R08-134: A resolution approving a Mutual Assistance Agreement between the City of Laurel and CHS Inc. establishing the process and procedure for providing mutual assistance during emergency events.**

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve Resolution No. R08-134, 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. R08-135: Resolution authorizing the collection of the annual service fee for all water users pursuant to the Public Water Supply Program.**

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve Resolution No. R08-135, 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. R08-136: A resolution accepting the bid and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Dick Anderson Construction, Inc., for the construction of Phase I of the Water Project for the City of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R08-136, 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.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council Member Poehls wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He will be unable to attend the council workshop on December 30th as he will be out of state from December 26th through January 4th.

Council Member Dickerson wished everyone a Happy Christmas and Merry New Year. He will be out of state from December 28th through December 31st and will not attend the December 30th council workshop. He thanked Mayor Olson for the hospitality at the Christmas open house.

Council Member Stamper also wished everyone a Merry Christmas. He stated his admiration for Great West Engineering for handling the bid for the water project, as it seemed that it went very smoothly. There was a great turnout of contractors and the bids came in under the engineer's estimate. Council Member Stamper stated that it is one of the cleanest bids he has seen since becoming a council member, and he thanked Great West Engineering.

Mayor Olson stated that Crystal Bennett represented Great West Engineering tonight. He stated that Crystal would have been able to answer questions, if there had been any. Mayor Olson expressed appreciation for Crystal's work.

Crystal thanked Mayor Olson and stated that Great West enjoys working with the City of Laurel.

Council Member Rodgers stated appreciation for the invitation to the Mayor's open house. He will also be gone on December 30th.

Mayor Olson reminded the council that Morrison-Maierle will answer questions and provide information regarding the wastewater proposal at the council workshop on December 30th. The three questions the council needs to consider will be discussed, and the council will be asked to provide direction at the council meeting on January 6th. Mayor Olson stated that an amazing amount of work is being done in a condensed time, and it is only through staff's work that the work is able to go forward.

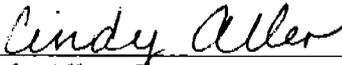
Mayor Olson wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

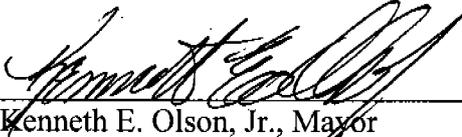
Motion by Council Member Mace to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

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



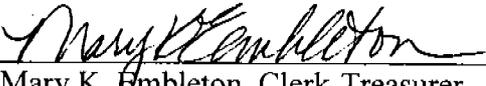
Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 6th day of January, 2009.



Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer