

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

March 5, 2013

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 March 5, 2013.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Emelie Eaton Doug Poehls
 Bruce McGee Mark Mace
 Scot Stokes Bill Mountsier
 Tom Nelson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Chuck Dickerson

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: None

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 February 19, 2013, as presented, 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.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Minutes of January 17, 2013; Agenda for February 21, 2013.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims for the month of February 2013 in the amount of \$278,484.65.**
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 02/17/2013 totaling \$164,511.00.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
 - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of February 19, 2013 were presented.
 - Park Board minutes of February 7, 2013 were presented.
 - Cemetery Commission minutes of February 21, 2013 were presented.
 - Council Workshop minutes of February 26, 2013 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 seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT):



Scott Snowden, 912 1st Avenue, spoke regarding the proposed ban on constrictor snakes. He asked the council not to revise the existing city code to ban constricting snakes that are not already prohibited by the State of Montana. He wants to maintain his right and the right of other reptile keepers within the city to responsibly and legally maintain constricting snakes as pets for generations to come.

Andrew Sutton, 1108 Sunhaven Drive, stated that, before they left their home for this meeting, they looked at the *Laurel Outlook* and saw nothing about reptiles or anything bad about reptiles.

Mayor Olson stated that the issue will be presented with the dog ordinance at the next workshop on March 12th at 6:30 p.m. Comments will be welcome at that time.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

Laurel Airport Authority:

Mayor Olson appointed Kyle Albers to the Laurel Airport Authority for a term ending June 30, 2013.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the Mayor's appointment of Kyle Albers to the Laurel Airport Authority for a term ending June 30, 2013, seconded by Council Member McGee. 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 Nelson stated that the next Lease Task Force meeting is scheduled on Monday, March 18th, at 5:30 p.m. at city hall.

Council Member McGee requested an update regarding the police union negotiations.

Mayor Olson stated that mediation is scheduled on March 20th.

Council Member McGee asked about the status of the speed limit on East Railroad Street.

Mayor Olson explained that the city council's recommendation was forwarded to MDT for a decision. The council will be informed when information is available.

Council Member Eaton spoke regarding the number of emails she received about the proposed ban of constrictor reptiles and suggested that there will be a lively discussion at the next workshop.

Mayor Olson was scheduled to attend the Executive Forum this week in Helena but cancelled that opportunity. CAO Heidi Jensen is representing the City of Laurel at the Executive Forum.

Council Member Mace asked for an update on the Code Enforcement/Building Inspector/Safety Officer position vacancy.

Mayor Olson stated that four applications have been submitted so far. Applications close on Wednesday, March 13th.

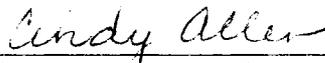
UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:



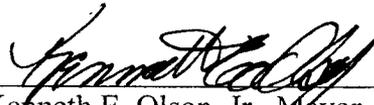
Motion by Council Member Mounsier to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



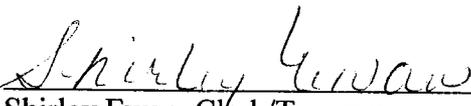
Cindy Allen, Council Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 19th day of March, 2013.



Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Shirley Ewan, Clerk/Treasurer