

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

September 3, 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 September 3, 2013.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:           Emelie Eaton                   Doug Poehls  
  Bruce McGee                   Mark Mace  
  Chuck Dickerson  
  Bill Mountsier

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:           Scot Stokes  
  Tom Nelson

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:               Shirley Ewan

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 August 20, 2013, as presented, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Board Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2013; Agenda for August 15, 2013.

## PUBLIC HEARING:

- 2013-2014 Preliminary Budget and Tax Resolutions

Mayor Olson asked Clerk/Treasurer Shirley Ewan to introduce the item to the council.

Shirley stated that the budget has been prepared and presented. Some of the total amounts for the assessments were changed after the SamSid program calculated the correct amounts for the final assessment resolutions. For SID No. 115 and SID No. 116, the final levy will be passed in October in order to provide thirty days for the property owners to prepay the SID. SID No. 115 is on Fifth Avenue and SID No. 116 is on Cottonwood Avenue. Resolution No. R13-60 is the resolution to levy the taxes.

Shirley mentioned that she has received no comments regarding the budget and no one from the public has asked to see it.

Mayor Olson asked if there were any questions.

Council Member McGee asked regarding the accounting for the Police Reserves, as they are not in the accounting system.

Shirley explained that the Police Reserves are no longer in there. At one time they received insurance money from the State, but then the police force joined the MPORS. It has been combined into the police department.

Council Member McGee asked if the Police Reserves are just covered under the Police Department in a miscellaneous column.

Shirley stated that the actual amount for the training is included in reserve and auxiliary training on page 62 in the budget.



Council Member McGee asked regarding the stipend that the Police Reserves receive twice a year.

Shirley stated that the stipend, the training and the workers' comp costs are included in the budget. 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.

Mayor Olson stated that the items were on tonight's agenda for the council's consideration.

**CONSENT ITEMS:**

- **Claims for the month of August 2013 in the amount of \$526,172.34.**  
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 08/18/2013 totaling \$173,665.42.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**
  - Budget/Finance Committee minutes of August 20, 2013 were presented.
  - Cemetery Commission minutes of August 22, 2013 were presented.
  - Council Workshop minutes of August 27, 2013 were presented.
  - Laurel Urban Renewal Agency minutes of August 5, 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 Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

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

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

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**
- **Resolution No. R13-56: A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement between the City of Laurel and the Drug Enforcement Administration "DEA" assigning a Laurel Police Officer to the Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R13-56, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-57: A resolution approving Amendment No. 2 to the previously adopted Task Order No. 27, authorizing Great West Engineering to provide construction administration and post construction services related to the Cottonwood Avenue portion of the 2013 Rehab Project.**

Motion by Council Member Mountsier to approve Resolution No. R13-57, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.



- **Resolution No. R13-58: A resolution approving the attached Task Order No. 29 authorizing Great West Engineering to prepare a comprehensive Preliminary Engineering Report for the City's Municipal Water System.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R13-58, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-59: A resolution approving and adopting the Final Budget for the City of Laurel for the fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R13-59, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-60: A resolution levying taxes for general and specific purposes for the City of Laurel, Montana, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013.**

Motion by Council Member McGee to approve Resolution No. R13-60, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-61: A resolution levying and assessing all of the property embraced within Special Improvement Lighting District No. 2 of the City of Laurel, Montana, for the entire cost of maintenance and electrical current for the fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R13-61, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-62: A resolution levying and assessing all of the property embraced within Special Improvement Lighting District No. 3 of the City of Laurel, Montana, for the entire cost of maintenance and electrical current for the fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Poehls to approve Resolution No. R13-62, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-63: A resolution levying and assessing the cost of sidewalk improvements for Special Improvement District No. 111 within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve Resolution No. R13-63, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-64: A resolution levying and assessing the cost of sidewalk improvements for Special Improvement District No. 112 within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R13-64, seconded by Council Member Mountsier. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-65: A resolution levying and assessing the cost of street improvements for Special Improvement District No. 113 within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Mountsier to approve Resolution No. R13-65, seconded by Council Member McGee. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-66: A resolution levying and assessing the cost of park improvements for Special Improvement District No. 114 within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member McGee to approve Resolution No. R13-66, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-67: A resolution proposing levy of special assessments to pay the cost of sidewalk improvements for Special Improvement District No. 115 within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R13-67, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-68: A resolution proposing levy of special assessments to pay the cost of sidewalk improvements for Special Improvement District No. 116 within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member McGee to approve Resolution No. R13-68, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-69: A resolution levying and assessing the cost of street maintenance and/or improvements for Street Maintenance District No. 1 that constitutes all streets and alleys embraced within the City of Laurel, Montana, for fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R13-69, seconded by Council Member McGee. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-70: A resolution levying and assessing all of the property embraced within Street Sweeping District No. 1 of the City of Laurel, Montana, for the purpose of the sweeping of streets in the downtown or business district for the fiscal year 2013-2014.**

Motion by Council Member Poehls to approve Resolution No. R13-70, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-71: A resolution levying and assessing a special tax against certain property in the City of Laurel for delinquent water charges.**

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve Resolution No. R13-71, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-72: A resolution levying and assessing a special tax against certain property in the City of Laurel for delinquent sewer charges.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R13-72, seconded by Council Member Mountsier. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Resolution No. R13-73: A resolution levying and assessing a special tax against certain property designated as garbage districts in the City of Laurel, Montana, for the removal of garbage and refuse.**

Motion by Council Member Mountsier to approve Resolution No. R13-73, seconded by Council Member McGee. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

**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 stated that Jolene, Rieck, Peaks to Plains Design, has prepared the questionnaire that the Park Board members will review at the meeting on Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Olson stated that it is a good comprehensive plan that addresses a lot of the issues that need to be addressed. He hopes the Park Board can use the information going forward.

Council Member Mace spoke regarding possible questions from the public about the cost for the plan. He stated that the plan is needed to provide direction to the council for the future.

Council Member Dickerson stated that this is an exciting time as the city goes forward to develop a plan and to get the information out to the people to give them an opportunity to be involved.

Council Member Mountsier stated that, when he previously asked about the crosswalks on East Maryland, he was told that the city planned to paint the crosswalks before school started again. He stated that the crossing on Pennsylvania and the crossing two blocks to the east need to be marked.

Mayor Olson stated that he will find out and email the information to the council.

Council Member McGee thinks it would benefit the city to annex East Main Street from Alder to Locust, where it is not presently annexed. His understanding is that this was supposed to take place at one time but never got finalized. He does not think it would be anything that requires an expense to annex this. If there is a reason why annexation cannot take place, he thinks the council should know. He asked for discussion at the next council workshop.

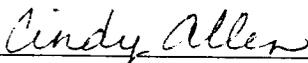
Mayor Olson recently flipped burgers for the Honor Flight fundraiser at Walmart in Billings. About \$3,000 was presented to the Honor Flight and Walmart also plans to contribute additional funds. The next Honor Flight will take off on September 8<sup>th</sup> and return on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Olson invited the council members to go to the airport to welcome the Honor Flight participants home on September 9<sup>th</sup>. The elected officials form a line at the top of the stairs in the airport and greet the participants, who appreciate the fact that they are being recognized, not only in Washington, D.C., but upon their arrival back in Billings.

**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

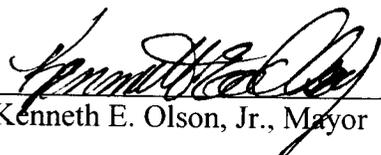
**ADJOURNMENT:**

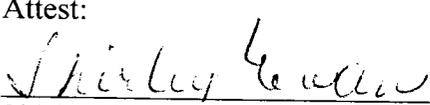
Motion by Council Member Mace to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

  
Cindy Allen, Council Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013.

  
Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:  
  
Shirley Ewan, Clerk/Treasurer