

**MINUTES
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
DECEMBER 26, 2017 6:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

A Council Workshop was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Mark Mace at 6:30 p.m. on December 26, 2017.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Poehls
<input type="checkbox"/> Bruce McGee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Dickerson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scot Stokes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Nelson	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Mountsier

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Painter, City Attorney

Public Input

Police Chief Musson thanked the Mayor and Council for their work these past four years.

General Items

- Appointment of Johnathan Wayne Simpson and Nick Vito Buciuman to the Laurel Police Reserves.

Police Chief Musson stated that each December he brings before the Council the Police Reserve appointment. Currently the Laurel Police Reserves have 11 members, after these two are appointed they will have 13 members. Ideally they would like to have 15 to 20 members, however, they lose members to full time police work. Nick has been with the Police Reserves before and they are bringing him back.

Chuck questioned if the current or incoming City Council would be voting on this issue. Mayor Mace responded the incoming Council will be voting.

Tom stated it is good to ask questions as the new Council Members will be reading these minutes.

Doug stated that all three new Council Members are in attendance.

Police Chief Musson stated that when he brings a name to the Council it is more as a formality. They have been tested and all background work done prior to bringing them to the Council.

Executive Review

- Discussion – Heidi’s Small Service Contract

Mayor Mace read a statement from the City Clerk/Treasurer, as she was unable to attend the meeting. The following statement was ready, “Please see the small service agreements for both Heidi Jensen and Monica Plecker, in your packets. I’ve provided these to you so that you can see we have done

this in the past with other ex-employees and that this is NOT a contract for employment. If any of you have any questions please contact me. Have a wonderful and safe New Year!"

Tom asked for clarification that this small service agreement with Heidi Jensen is because the City still has the intake project to close out.

Mayor Mace responded correct.

Tom questioned if all documentation has been filed properly.

Mayor Mace stated this contract allows the City ask her questions on an as needed basis. At this time the City has not needed her services.

Doug asked for clarification on Monica.

Mayor Mace stated correct.

Tom questioned what the timeframe for this agreement is, such as does this agreement expire. Once her services are deemed not necessary can the City terminate her contract.

Sam stated that this is a small service agreement with a maximum of \$5000. Once that limit is reached the contract terminates. The City can terminate the contract with or without cause, if the City determines they do not need her services they can terminate the contract.

Tom questioned if any additional funds over \$5000 were needed, would another small service contract would need to be negotiated.

Sam stated correct. He also clarified that there are no mandatory payments associated with this contract unless the City needs her services.

Chuck questioned paragraph B in section 1 where it states that this contract valid for three months with an option to renegotiate for further services.

Sam stated it is an hourly rate only paid if the City contacts her. She has to submit an invoice in order to get paid. If the City does not use her services the City can terminate her contract. The \$5000 limit is a procurement policy of the City.

- Council Issues:
 - Update on 2011 Yellowstone River flooding event

Kurt Markegard, Public Works Director, wrote a memo to Council giving an update on the intake project. The memo is attached to these minutes.

Emelie questioned if these two items are the items that have been on the punch list to begin the close out for the intake project. She also questioned if the new intake is the only intake being used now.

Mayor Mace stated that the heating system on the new intake is working as it should.

Richard was at Riverside Park today and noticed an ice jam in the river. The water level has risen several feet, he is unsure what effect that will have.

Other Items

There were none.

Review of draft Council agenda for January 2, 2018

There were no changes.

Attendance at the January 2, 2018 Council meeting

All Council Members present will be in attendance.

Announcements

Doug stated that he has enjoyed serving the past 16 years.

Chuck stated that he has also enjoyed serving on the Council for the past 20 years.

Tom thanked Mayor Mace for the past few four years of service. He stated that he has enjoyed serving on Council these past few years.

Scot thanked the outgoing Council Members and Mayor for their patience over these past few years.

Emelie thanked the outgoing Council Members and Mayor for their work over the years.

Emelie thanked the street maintenance crews for keeping our streets clear over the holiday weekend. She thanked them for being passionate and professional.

Emelie stated that Public Works Committee has moved to the third Monday of the month, however in January that lands on a holiday. Once she and Kurt have decided which day to hold the meeting they will let those who attend know and announce at the next Council meeting.

The council workshop adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittney Moorman
Administrative Assistant

NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.

CITY HALL
115 W. 1ST ST.
PUB. WORKS: 628-4796
WATER OFC.: 628-7431
COURT: 628-1964
FAX 628-2241

City Of Laurel

P.O. Box 10
Laurel, Montana 59044



Office of the Director of Public
Works

December 22, 2017

Mayor Mace,

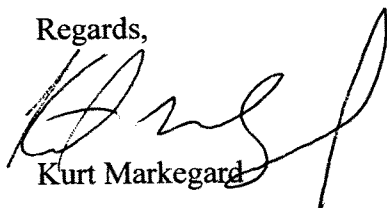
I wanted to give you an update of the operation of the new intake. We had been having a few issues with the pumps that supply water to the boiler/heat exchanger. Great West paid for the lowering of the pump we call P-2. That pump may have been wired wrong as the pump is now operating like it should after it was relocated and re-wired.

The pump that fills the tank for the boiler has been faulting out due to fluctuations in the three phase power. This may be a problem with the power lines from the electrical supply company and not the pump. We are looking for ways to adjust the pump control settings in order for the pump to stop tripping into a fault mode during these power fluctuations.

The boiler/ heat exchanger is producing hot water to the intake and we are not experiencing any water loss to the water treatment plant as I write this letter. I have instructed the Utility Plants Superintendent to plan and prepare for ice formation in the Yellowstone River and they are taking steps to make sure we are prepared to deal with clogged intakes. The hot water in the new intake allows us the ability to melt ice inside the intake structure. The old intake only has an air scour system and it was difficult if not impossible to keep the ice off the intake screens.

If anything changes I will be sure to pass along any information I have.

Regards,



Kurt Markegard