

ORDINANCE NO. 007-08

**ORDINANCE PROPOSING TO AMEND THE FORM OF
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN THE CITY OF LAUREL,
COUNTY OF YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Laurel, finds that the citizens of Laurel desire and deserve the opportunity to fashion their own instrument of local self-governance; and

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Montana provides that a local government unit may adopt a self-government charter with the approval of a majority of those voting on the question; and

WHEREAS, §§ 7-1-412 (1), M.C.A. and 7-3-703 (1), M.C.A. define a charter as a written document defining the powers, structures, privileges, rights and duties of the unit of local government and the limitations thereon; and

WHEREAS, § 7-3-103 (2), M.C.A. enable the governing body, by ordinance, to propose to the electors an amendment of an alternative form of local government at the next regularly scheduled election; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Laurel is the governing body of the City of Laurel; and

WHEREAS, the next regularly scheduled municipal election will be conducted on November 6, 2007.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED THAT:

1. A proposal to amend the present plan of government of the City of Laurel by adoption of a self-government charter shall be referred to the electors of Laurel at a special election to be held in conjunction with the general election scheduled to be conducted on November 6, 2007; and

2. The Mayor of Laurel shall cause to be prepared and widely disseminated to the public the following certificates required by law:

- (A) A certificate containing the existing plan of government of the City of Laurel;
- (B) A certificate containing the proposed plan of government set forth in the proposed charter;
- (C) A certificate containing the plan of apportionment of the council member districts (wards) based upon the 2000 federal census data; and

(D) A certificate comparing the existing plan of government to the proposed plan of government.

3. The ballot language shall conform as nearly as possible to the language required by law as follows:

FOR adoption of the self-government charter with the council-mayor plan of government for the City of Laurel as proposed by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Laurel.

FOR the existing council-mayor form of government of the City of Laurel.

4. The City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Laurel shall cause to be published no less than twice in the local newspaper of general circulation during the two-week period prior to November 6, 2007 a description of the proposed change in the plan of city government, a summary and comparison of the existing proposed forms of government and the location where a citizen may conveniently obtain a free copy of the proposed charter.

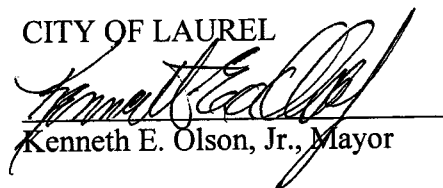
This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after final passage by the City Council and approval by the Mayor.

Introduced and passed on the first reading at a regular meeting of the City Council on June 19, 2007, by Council Member Mace.

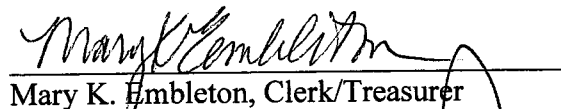
PASSED and ADOPTED by the Laurel City Council on second reading this 7th day of August, 2007, upon motion of Council Member Stamper.

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this 7th day of August, 2007.

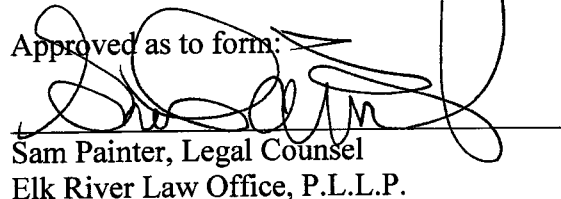
CITY OF LAUREL


Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary K. Embleton, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved as to form:


Sam Painter, Legal Counsel
Elk River Law Office, P.L.L.P.