

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING November 14, 2017
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Council meeting was held Tuesday, November 14, 2017, in the City Hall Conference Room at City Hall, 17 S. 8th Street, Miles City, Montana. Mayor John Hollowell called the meeting to order. Council Members present were Brant Kassner, Ken Gardner, John Uden, Rick Huber, Kathy Wilcox and Jeff Erlenbusch. Councilpersons Dwayne Andrews and Susanne Galbraith were excused.

Also present were City Attorney Dan Rice, Acting Fire Chief Brandon Stevens, Officer Fredrick Lee, Public Utilities Director Allen Kelm, Flood Plain Administrator/Auto Cad/Assistant PWPV Samantha Malenovsky, Cross Certified Operator Tom Speelmon and Minute Recorder Ally Capps.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hollowell led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MINUTES

City Council Minutes: 10/24/2017

** *Councilperson Uden moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 24, 2017, subject to any correction or changes, and seconded by Councilperson Gardner. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

Finance Committee Minutes: 10/19/2017

Finance Committee Meeting

October 19, 2017

The Finance Committee met Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference room. Present were Committee Chairperson Susanne Galbraith and Committee Members Kathy Wilcox and Rick Huber. Committee Member Dwayne Andrews was excused.

Also present was: Deputy City Clerk/Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Committee Chairperson Galbraith called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens & Public Comment
None
2. Discussion and recommendation on how to pay for the Black Mountain Software (TFID)
This item was pulled from the agenda per Chairperson Galbraith as Program Administrator Muggli could not be present.
3. Send water/sewer receivable for an amount of \$895.94 to collections
** *Committee Member Wilcox recommended that water/sewer receivables be sent to collections in the amount of \$895.94, seconded by Committee Member Galbraith.*
Committee Member Wilcox wanted to know what the repair leaking curb stop item was. Chairperson Galbraith commented that is was on the curb. Committee Huber asked about the 120 days on the \$850. Chairperson Galbraith commented that it was possibly the sewer and water district and that Director Kelm was usually at the meeting, but when this moved to Council, Committee Members could ask Director Kelm.
The motion passed 3-0
4. Review and recommendation – Bids received for printing contract (Star and Boss)
** *Committee Member Wilcox moved to recommend accepting the bid from Boss, seconded by Committee Member Huber. The motion passed 3-0*

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5. Discussion on Business Licenses

- Chairperson Galbraith stated this was a general discussion and nothing will be acted on until all committee members are in attendance. The committee is looking at keeping the price low and that there was a suggestion to use the city website to advertise for businesses that have paid for a business license. Chairperson Galbraith stated there was an error in the calculation for business license fees currently collected by the city it should be \$12,978. She also commented that at the next meeting they could discuss ideas and fees and determine what the City should do with business licenses.
- Committee Member Huber asked what is the purpose of the business license is it revenue building. Who will enforce the ordinance for business licenses? How are we going to implement?
- Committee Member Wilcox stated it is the duty of the City to know who is conducting business within the City. She commented that maybe there should be a fine or possibly use the honor system until someone notices that they do not have a license.
- Chairperson Galbraith said there is an ordinance in place that has not been enforced. The committee needs to decide how to charge for the license. One group that should be looked at is door to door salespersons. Currently they come in for a license but there is not a fee charged for them doing business in the community. She thought that there could be a charge for the business license and then an additional amount for advertising on the website.
- Committee Member Huber said the advertising adds value and also the information collected provides emergency information to the fire and police departments.
- Chairperson Galbraith commented the business license would give the City control over the type of businesses that are coming into town.
- Committee Member Wilcox commented on the city of Livingston Business License Application and the information collected. The City would not have to use the rates, but the categories provide a good model. She thought the format was good and it provided objectivity when issuing a business license.
- Committee Member Huber thought that \$75 would be a reasonable price for the business license and then an additional \$25 to have your business name put on the web.
- Chairperson Galbraith liked the Livingston application also and thought it would be a good application to follow.

6. Adjournment

** Committee Member Huber moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Wilcox and **passed unanimously, 3-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

** *Councilperson Wilcox moved to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of October 19, 2017, seconded by Councilperson Urlenbusch. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

Human Resource Committee Minutes: 10/19/2017

Human Resources Committee October 19, 2017

The **Human Resources Committee** met Thursday, October 19, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at City Hall. Present were Committee Members Kathy Wilcox, Susanne Galbraith, John Uden and Jeff Erlenbusch. Also present were Acting Fire Chief Branden Stevens, Fire Captain Edward Kanduch and Deputy City Clerk/HR Officer /Committee Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Committee Chairperson Kathy Wilcox called the meeting to order.

1. Public Comment
None

Chairperson Wilcox entertained a motion that item 4 of the agenda be moved to item 2.

***Committee Member Erlenbusch moved to revise the agenda and move 4 up to 2, seconded by Committee Member Galbraith. The motion passed by unanimous consent 4-0.*

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2. Review and Recommendation: Battalion Chief MOU with Local 600 for change in hours.

Officer Wilkins stated that the labor attorney said that it should be understood that this MOU is for the position not an individual employee. Committee Member Uden commented after reviewing the e-mail they received, he can see specifying vacations but questions the 42 hours as the two hours would be overtime. Acting Fire Chief Stevens explained the way this was written shift personnel are paid a 42 hour work week and they wanted to keep the position as shift personnel so no negotiations would need to be opened in regards to wages. Committee Member Uden asked does it have to be specified that the battalion chief work a 42 hour shift, can't the Chief designate hours worked. Officer Wilkins explained that the battalion chief position is included in the union contract and the contract outlines hours worked.

***Committee Member Uden moved, with the explanation of the City's Human Resource Officer that the changes to Articles 10 and Article 12 in the union contract are clearly in line with the battalion chief's obligations and duties with the fire department, to accept the changes to Articles 10 and 12 of the union contract for the battalion chief, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch. On roll call vote, the motion passed 4-0.*

3. Review and Recommendation – Revised Grievance Policy

Chairperson Wilcox pointed out that under Objective it was "A,B,A" change to "A,B,C". She has a concern under Grievance Procedure, letters C, D, E, F. Her concern is that these steps bring the grievance to the Human Resources Committee and call upon the committee to be a part of the investigation, discussion and make a decision that is binding upon the parties. She is somewhat uncomfortable with this responsibility for the committee. She would prefer, if the Mayor has not been able to resolve the grievance, it go to another party. She thought that it should go to the full council in a closed session, as opposed to just this committee making the decision. The grievance would then get the perspectives of more people in a closed session. Committee Member Erlenbusch agrees those steps put pressure on the Human Resource Committee; he thought step C was fine, but did not agree with steps D, E, and F. Committee Member Galbraith said this is how they have done it in the past. The grievance comes to the HR Committee if there is disagreement with the Mayor's decision and then can go to full council for a hearing depending on the type of grievance filed. Committee Member Uden thought it should go to Council as a whole. Possibly the Chairperson of the Human Resource Committee could submit a recommendation to Council. He pointed out that if the Mayor makes a ruling, to override the Mayor requires a 2/3 majority vote from the Council. If it goes to committee there are only four people on committee, which is not a 2/3 majority; therefore, they cannot over turn the Mayor's decision. He could see making a recommendation to the Mayor prior to his making a decision. Committee Member Uden asked Officer Wilkins to contact the labor attorney and ask if the 2/3 majority vote of the council in overriding the Mayor's decision is still in play. Committee Member Galbraith thought it would be better for a grievance decision go to full council. Chairperson Wilcox wanted Officer Wilkins to ask the labor attorney, if the HR committee needs to be involved. Can they be involved while the Mayor is making a decision and make a recommendation and not render a decision? Committee Member Uden thought a decision by the council as a whole would carry more weight. Chairperson Wilcox also commented that by increasing the number of people involved it would help eliminate some of the bias which may occur.

*** Committee Member Uden moved to table the revised Grievance Policy, seconded by Committee Member Galbraith. The motion passed by unanimous consent.*

4. Review and Recommendation – Revised Discipline Policy

Committee Member Uden thought this revised policy falls in line with the disciplinary policy that the State had while he was working for probation and parole. Committee Member Erlenbusch was ok with the policy but noticed a couple of typo errors on page 1 last line should read "...an employee...", page 2 second paragraph sixth line down the word "their" was deleted and should be undeleted and verbiage should be added after "...an attendee or a third party...". Committee Member Uden commented this "third party" could possibly be an attorney representing the employee. Chairperson Wilcox commented that this brings up her concern of litigation in these types of matters, all the steps outlined are required, but under Discipline Actions A. Oral Reprimand it states "This conversation will be summarized in writing." she recommended that we add language "...or may be recorded, with consent of all present." Committee Member Galbraith pointed out an error in the third paragraph down; there should be a comma in the first line after "interview". Committee Member Erlenbusch thought a recording wouldn't hurt even if a third party was present during the meeting for disciplinary action. Chairperson Wilcox asked if the committee members were ok with adding the language about recording, all members agreed. She asked Officer Wilkins to make the changes.

***Committee Member Uden moved the committee approve the Discipline and Discharge Policy as presented with the amendments made, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch. On roll call vote, the motion passed 4-0.*

5. Adjournment

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***Committee Member Galbraith moved to adjourn, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

*** Councilperson Uden moved to approve the minutes of the Human Resource Committee Meeting of October 19, 2017, subject to any correction or changes, and seconded by Councilperson Kassner. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

Flood Committee Minutes: 10/18/2017 Flood Control Committee October 18, 2017

The **Flood Control Committee** met Wednesday, October 18 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Committee Chair Jeff Erlenbusch, Committee Members: Ken Gardner, Rick Huber and Brant Kassner.

Also present were: Floodplain Administrator Samantha Malenovsky, DES/County Floodplain Administrator Bill Ellis and Committee Recorder Ally Capps.

1. Request of Citizens/Public Comment:

-None-

2. Committee Members Comments:

-None-

3. Unfinished Business

-None-

4. New Business

A. Recommendation and Discussion to Council to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 411.1. The "2017 Update to the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for Custer County, Montana and the City of Miles City and the Town of Ismay."

*** Committee Member Kassner made a motion on the Recommendation to Council to approve Resolution No. 411.1. Committee Member Gardner seconded the motion.*

Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky explained the reason the City is looking into a \$75,000 grant for the slough revitalization project. To apply for the grant it was required to have an updated and approved Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. With the adoption of Resolution 411.1, the City would be able to move forward with the grant application to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

DES/County Floodplain Administrator Bill Ellis commented there was a \$50,000 dollar grant awarded for updating the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is required to update every five years. The County Commissioners and Town of Ismay have signed off on the updated Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Citizen Kathy Wilcox 2217 Brisbin Street, asked what was the reasoning or highlights to the updated plan? DES/County Floodplain Administrator Ellis explained the old Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan needed updating. Updating the plan puts in place important items such as; Public Health, Communicable Diseases, Floodplain Mitigation, Severe Storms, Levee Failure, Drought Mitigation, Wild Land Fires, Livestock Diseases, Cyber Security, Slough and Acts of Terrorism. These items raised other concerns such as under the category of Severe Storms, would the older cotton wood trees around town, with stand or cause damage in a severe storm. There are the coal seams that we see between Rosebud and Custer County, referred to as Coal Seam Alley. How can preventing these coal seam fires and help farmers and ranchers when they flare. Newer technology leads to locating and being able to prevent fires before they start or become out of control. The updated Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is taking the unforeseen and developing a long-term strategy to protect the people, property and resources from a future hazard. Updating the Multi- Hazard Mitigation Plan and addressing items such as, Public Health, Slough and Wild Land Fires will help open up new grant opportunities for the County and City. Citizen Wilcox asked who is in charge of implementing these services. DES/County Floodplain Administrator Ellis replied the Local Emergency Planning Committee is involved and working with first responders to help get the most effective results in case of an unforeseen emergency.

***Motion passed unanimously. 4-0*

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B. Discussion and Recommendation to Council to approve the adoption of Ordinance 1316. Regarding review of the floodplain variance applications.

***Committee Member Kassner recommends to the Council the Recommendation of Ordinance 1316, Seconded by Committee Member Gardner.*

Committee Member Huber asked what is changing with Ordinance 1316. Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky explained this moves the Floodplain Variances from the Board of Appeals to City Council who will make the final decision on the Floodplain Variances. Permits and Variances go to the State of Montana and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of Montana, did not agree with a decision the Board of Appeals granted for a Floodplain Variance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency is requesting a change of authority for Variances for Miles City, and requesting City Council have final approval.

Federal Emergency Management Services is giving the City of Miles City notice that without the change in the Variances procedure it will drop our Community Rating System (CRS) points, meaning a loss in flood insurance discounts which would increase flood insurance to the City of Miles City residence.

***The motion passed unanimously. 4-0*

3. Adjournment

***Committee Member Gardner moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Kassner and passed unanimously, 4-0.*

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

*** Councilperson Urlenbusch moved to approve the minutes of the Flood Control Committee Meeting of October 18, 2017, and seconded by Councilperson Kassner. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

**Public Safety Committee Minutes: 10/20/2017
Public Safety Committee Meeting
October 20, 2017**

The Public Safety Committee met Friday, October 20, 2017 at 4:30 pm in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Committee Members Jeff Erlenbusch, Brant Kassner and Ken Gardner. Also present were City Clerk Lorrie Pearce, Acting Fire Chief Branden Stevens, Mayor John Hollowell, Fire Captain Edward Kanduch, Council Member Kathy Wilcox and Committee Recorder Linda Wilkins. Excused was Committee Member John Uden.

Chairperson Gardner called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens
None
2. Request of Committee Members
None
3. Review and Recommend – Action on Public Nuisance
***Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to City Council for approval an Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 of Miles City, Montana, with Regards to Weeds, and the Enforcement of Nuisances, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch.*

Committee Member Erlenbusch saw a typo error on page 2 third full paragraph in the middle change "to" to "...through the office of the City..." He asked who is going to look up and find out who the owners are of the property. City Clerk Pearce pointed out that the ordinance does say that the code enforcement officer was assigned this task. Chairperson Gardner thought it best to put the assignment of duties outlined in this ordinance into the Mayor's hands. Committee Member Erlenbusch thought maybe the general office clerk in the Police Department would be able to handle this task; this of course would go through the Chief of Police. He also thought that under the second bullet, second line the words "...by personal service..." should be deleted since most times the person at the address being served may be the renter of the property. Chairperson Gardner would like to talk to the police chief about this topic and take some of the load off the code enforcement officer. Mayor Hollowell commented that the title searches would probably go through Security Abstract and Title and more than likely there will be a charge for these searches. Committee Member Erlenbusch asked has the city attorney looked at this public nuisance ordinance. Chairperson Gardner answered yes he is the one that drew it up. Council Member Wilcox commented that in

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section 15-5 where it says "unsightly appearance" this is a subjective comment. Mayor Hollowell stated that usually it's a citizen complaining about weeds and is a pretty good indicator that something needs to be done.

***Committee Member Kassner amended the motion to review and recommend amended language, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch.*

Clerk Pearce asked where the money was going to come from for the costs associated with implementing this process. Mayor Hollowell said that this would be a recuperation process, but it would be good to put the money into a special fund so funds are available for the process. Clerk Pearce also pointed out that the Treasurer needs to be specifically mentioned in the seventh bullet down on the second page where it mentions liens. She thought a lien would go through taxes and the treasurer would know how this works. Committee Member Erlenbusch asked about restitution, would we need to make a revision to this ordinance or in another ordinance for fees. He also commented that it is the end goal to do this ordinance correctly. He thought the answers to their questions should come from the City Attorney. Clerk Pearce said the ordinance is on the next Council agenda but the item can be postponed. Chairperson Gardner commented that this will be a process and having it go on to City Council will help with any changes that may be needed, but he is happy with the movement forward.

***On roll call vote the amended motion passed 3-0.*

4. Review & Recommend – Fire Protection Contract with the Miles City Fire Department and Out of District Property Owners Resolution 4113

***Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to City Council for approval the Fire Protection Contract with the Miles City Fire Department and Out of District Property Owner Resolution 4113, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch.*

Chairperson Gardner stated that Attorney Rice has approved the contract and asked Acting Fire Chief Stevens to discuss the contract and the need for a water tender truck for the fire department. Acting Chief Stevens said the fire contract offers protection for structures outside the city limits, but one of the main reasons is so businesses and residents can take advantage of the City's ISO ratings. The contracts coverage area is about 10 miles out from the city limits. The Fire Department was servicing wildland fires for the county, but the contract is being changed to take out fighting wildland fires. He has some concerns about the department's ability to effectively service these contracts. People are buying a service that he feels cannot effectively be delivered. If the contracted property is not 1500 feet from a fire hydrant, there is not an adequate water supply to fight the fire. In order to have an adequate water supply available at all fires the department would need to buy a water tender truck. He put together a handout of tender trucks they would like to look at, in the future. He thought the fire department could find a quality water tender truck in the price range of \$75,000 to \$150,000 that would service the department for about 15 years. The properties serviced in this contract are usually serviced by both the City and County Fire Departments. The County has water tender trucks, so there is usually not an issue when the county tender trucks are available; however, this summer at times these trucks were out 60 miles fighting wildfires. This could have posed a serious problem had any fires broken out in the contract areas. Acting Chief Stevens said he could not in good conscience dispatch his firefighters to fight a fire under these circumstances. Councilperson Wilcox asked for a recommendation. Acting Chief Stevens recommended the fire department continue doing what they are doing, the contract does provide for the discretionary right of the Fire Department not to respond to a fire. What usually occurs is the City Fire Department responds and the County Fire Department is right behind with their water tender trucks. Most people purchase the contract for the insurance rating not necessarily the protection, but he wants to make sure we are offering fire protection. A tender truck with the department will also help with the City's ISO rating. The modification of this contract only involves taking out wildland fires which Acting Chief Stevens stated needs to be moved on to council.

***On roll count vote the motion passed 3-0.*

5. Review & Recommend – Traffic Mirror at the corner of Stower St., Missouri Ave., S. Montana and S. 8th St.

Chairperson Gardner has some concerns with placing the mirror at this intersection.

**Committee Member Gardner moved to recommend the traffic mirror at the corner of Stower St., Missouri Ave., S. Montana and S. 8th St., seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch.*

Mayor Hollowell stated the request comes from Nancy Mitchell. She feels so strongly about this that she is willing to pay for the mirror. The Mayor has researched this and this is not an uncommon practice. He thought it would be good to investigate the issue a bit further in consultation with Public Works Director Gray. Committee Member Erlenbusch said the state

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keeps records that could be investigated to see what accidents have happened at this intersection.

***On roll count vote the motion passed 3-0.*

6. Review Cowtown BBQ Parking on Park St.
 - Chairperson Gardner spoke with Scott Thompson, who organizes the parking for the Cowtown BBQ. If parking occurs along Park Street the fire department needs about 11 feet of fire lane to get through on this street. He told Mr. Thompson there would need to be at least 15 feet so fire trucks can get through.
 - Committee Member Erlenbusch suggested that the pull outs on the campers face in toward the park.
 - Committee Member Kassner thinks the police department needs to crack down harder.
 - Committee Member Erlenbusch stated the City gave permission to use the streets, but someone needs to make sure that the small fire lane does not happen again.
 - Chairperson Gardner told Mr. Thompson that he would need to get in touch with Battalion Chief Stevens to have him inspect the fire lane. He will also stay in touch with Mr. Thompson and will make sure there is not an issue with the fire lane on Park Street.
 - Committee Member Erlenbusch thought the committee should find out from Director Gray where the campers will be located.
 - Chairperson Gardner thought we needed to stay on top of it this year and if it gets any bigger maybe they should look for a different venue.
 - Committee Member Kassner suggested possibly closing off Main Street, this would help the businesses downtown.

7. Adjournment

***Committee Member Erlenbusch moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Kassner and passed unanimously, 3-0.*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

*** Councilperson Gardner moved to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting of October 20, 2017, seconded by Councilperson Uden. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

SCHEDULE MEETINGS

The following meetings will be held in the City Hall Conference Room:

- Flood Control Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 15th @ 6:00 p.m.

REQUEST OF CITIZENS & PUBLIC COMMENT

Miles City Star Staff Reporter Abe Winter asked, “Mayor Hollowell what can I tell people about the Fire Chief?” Mayor Hollowell commented the Fire Chief has resigned. Reporter Winter introduced the new Miles City Star Reporter Austin Lott to the Council.

Citizen Ken Stabler, PO Box 1774, as a leaseholder in the Industrial Site had concerns on the Site Leases. In the past when leases have been renewed none of these leases have been the same. This is my concern, is City Council going to lease property out from under a current leaseholder. What is his security in leasing property in the Industrial Site? City Attorney Rice responded that some of these leases go back fifty years. Lease renewals and policy states that leases have to go out for bid. City staff and himself are working on revisions to that policy. At this time, the City has adopted a new lease policy that reads, if the leaseholder has made substantial improvements to the property, they will now be able to do a lease extension or a renewal with the tenant at the current rate. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will not let a parcels be subdivided without city sewer and water services if the parcel is less than two acres.

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Director Kelm said it would cost the City around \$500,000 to upgrade the water and sewer in the Industrial Park. There is currently city water but there is not a sanitary sewer.

Citizen Jerry Singleton 305 South 3rd street stated he would like to see the Industrial Site be an agriculture subdivision if the leasing issues were resolved. Lessees may be willing to help offset the cost to upgrade the sewer and water system in the form of an SID.

APPOINTMENTS

None

PROCLAMATIONS

None

STAFF REPORTS

Planner Colton reported the City was awarded the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) grant for \$15,000 for the Water and Sewer Departments. This grant is State funded with coal money. It will go into Capital Improvement for Public Utilities.

Acting Chief Stevens wanted to thank the Council for amending the budget last year, which allowed the Fire Department to get the current pump trucks repaired so that they passed the required pump test. This year Engine 8, Engine 7 and Tower 11 all passed the required pump test. Tender 23 is still out of service without a future replacement. The Fire Department is working on Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) for a new tender truck. This grant should be open in a few months. The new ambulance should be here in August. Acting Chief Stevens wanted to commend his fellow firefighters of the volunteer time they were giving to help with donations and event planning for the Toys for Tots Dance. December 8, at the Miles City Community College in the Centra. Acting Chief Stevens updated Council on the current staffing issues at the fire department; they are down one full time position and, one full time staff member would be leaving on November 22nd. Interviewing would start again on December 2nd. There has been a lot of overtime and the three new firefighters will be out of the academy on November 23rd. Currently Eddy Kanduch, Mike Miller and Acting Chief Stevens are on call until the middle of January. We have been installing smoke detectors in the community and that has been going over very well.

Council Member Uden asked if the Fire Department was down a Captain and a Lieutenant. Acting Chief Stevens responded the department is only down these positions by title. There has been a letter sent to the Firefighters Union requesting time requirements be waived. Two individuals have the education requirements and will be testing January 18th for the Captain and Lieutenant positions. The requirement now is five years; the average firefighter in Miles City has 1.5 years in service. The Union did grant the time requirement as of this afternoon. Council Member Huber asked about the status of Knox Boxes. Acting Chief Stevens replied that Knox Boxes are now required on all new structures.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Uden wanted to thank Reporter Winters for his time with the paper and that he has really enjoyed his refreshing personality and wished him the best.

Council Member Erlenbusch thanked the Mayor and fellow Council Members for the chance to go to the Community Builders Seminars, speaking very highly of the training.

MAYOR COMMENTS

- Susanne Galbraith has made a request to be gone for more than ten days.

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***Council Member Uden moved that Council Person Susanne Galbraith be approved to be absent from the City for more than ten days, seconded by Council Member Kassner. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

- Fire Chief Warren has turned in his resignation and it will be effective December 1, 2017.
- On building and new development, there is workflow or a process called Image Silo. This would make storing documents and making them electronic so that maps and archived records can be used simultaneously. Data Imaging Systems is willing to give a presentation if Council thinks this would be useful and would like more information. Planner Colton will contact Matt Davison on the scheduling.
- Historical Preservation and Program Administrator Connie Muggli has sent out a letter of support for the eastern Montana Brownfield Coalition. They are striving for a \$600,000 grant. This is for any Brownfield Activities that happen in eastern Montana. There is a business in town that has an architect coming from Billings to look at a building for increasing energy efficiency. The City may be able to tap into that architect and have them come look at City Hall and give ideas on how to make the building more energy efficient. The assessment would be paid for by an unnamed unity if the Council decides to have the engineer make the assessment for City Hall.
- Patti Bissell the Utilities Billings Clerk had a baby boy on Sunday, Flint William Bissell.
- Congratulations to Jess Lockwood out of Volberg, Montana for winning the PBR Nationals.
- Today is Scotts Gray's birthday.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

BID OPENINGS

BID AWARDS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Planning Boards Vision and Mission Statement

The Council discussed the Vision Statement. This would be the City Governments vision embracing Miles City, Montana's unique western heritage but also incorporating progressive thoughts on growth and industry.

B. Approval of October Claims

- ** Councilperson Uden moved to approve the October claims, seconded by Councilperson Kassner and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

ADJOURNMENT

- ** Councilperson Uden moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilperson Kassner and passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.


John Hollowell, Mayor


Ally Capps, Recorder