

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING December 11, 2018
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Council meeting was held Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 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, Jeff Erlenbusch, Kathy Wilcox and Susanne Galbraith. Councilperson Dwayne Andrews was excused.

Also present were City Attorney Dan Rice, Police Chief Doug Colombik, Fire Chief Branden Stevens, Grant Administrator /Historic Preservation Officer Louise de Montigny, Planner in Training Ally Capps, Police Officer Chris Fetty and City Clerk/Minute Recorder Lorrie Pearce.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hollowell led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MINUTES

City Council Minutes: 11/27/2018

** *Councilperson Galbraith moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 27, 2018, and seconded by Councilperson Gardner. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 7-0.*

SCHEDULE MEETINGS

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

- Human Resource: Tuesday, January 15th @ 5:30 p.m.
- Flood Control: Wednesday, December 19th @ 5:30 p.m.

REQUEST OF CITIZENS & PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Mary Katherine Dunphy, Post Office Box 219, Miles City stated that she was concerned about the City's current expenses. It is looking at buying a \$1.2 million building for the police department, the ambulance fund is \$280,000 in the hole, the City borrowed \$249,600 for fire training center, there will be a cost of \$25,000 for an architect to evaluate the fire hall, and there are three active lawsuits against the City. She was wondering what the potential cost of the lawsuits was and would like a clarification of how much money is coming into the City and how much is going out.

Mayor Hollowell said there were two pending lawsuits, and he could not talk about the litigations. He explained that expenses are going up and revenue is stagnant and Council will be discussing the issue later in the meeting.

Union Representative Hannah Nash, 407 S. Lake asked for a status update on the Ad Hoc Committee for General Funds budget. Mayor Hollowell said he was waiting for two union representatives to respond to his e mail. He is giving them 2 days to respond.

Jeff Williams, 1611 Tompy, said he was happy that the City received the K9 and thought the \$1.2 million was not enough for a police facility. Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Williams for everything he did to help with funding the dog.

APPOINTMENTS

Urban Renewal Board- Dawn Leidholt

** *Councilperson Erlenbusch moved to approve Dawn Leidholt to the Urban Renewal Board position, seconded by Councilperson Gardner. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Hollowell swore Dawn Leidholt into the position.*

Police K9 Officer-Max

****** *Councilperson Uden moved to approve Max as the Police K9 Officer, seconded by Councilperson Gardner. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Hollowell swore Max into the position.*

PROCLAMATIONS

None

STAFF REPORTS

Branden Stevens: Reported that TransCanada will donate \$80,000 to the City for the purchase of two housing trailers. There will be a grand opening on January 5th for the training center and invited everyone to the 129th annual Miles City Firefighters Toy Dance and Auction on December 15 at the Centra.

Louise de Montigny: Explained that the TIFD Commissioners have been bankers, so it was nice to have Dawn Leidholt on board representing real estate.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilpersons Uden and Gardner: Both will be gone more than 10 days. Council approved the absences by unanimous consent.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Read a letter from the Executive Director at the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. The letter congratulated Fire Chief Stevens for achieving 20 consecutive years of National EMS Certification.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

None

BID OPENINGS

None

BID AWARDS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION NO. 4216- A Resolution Authorizing the City of Miles City to Enter Into a City Printing Contract With Boss Printing Company

****** *Councilperson Galbraith moved to approve the Resolution, read by title only and seconded by Councilperson Kassner. On roll call vote, the motion passed, 7-0. Resolution No. 4216 passed.*

B. RESOLUTION NO. 4217- A Resolution Authorizing the City of Miles City to Enter Into a Montana Department of Commerce Coal Board Contract Amendment to Assist With Funding Architectural and Engineering

****** *Councilperson Gardner moved to approve the Resolution, read by title only and seconded by Councilperson Erlenbusch. On roll call vote, the motion passed, 7-0. Resolution No. 4217 passed.*

C. RESOLUTION NO. 4218- A Resolution Approving a Bond Counsel Proposal With Jackson, Murdo & Grant, P.C. for Services Related to the Financing of Real Property

****** *Councilperson Galbraith moved to approve the Resolution, read by title only and seconded by Councilperson Kassner. On roll call vote, the motion passed, 7-0. Resolution No. 4218 passed.*

D. RESOLUTION NO. 4219- A Resolution Approving a Sales Agreement Between the City and Target Logistics Management, LLC, for Purchase of Two Trailers for use as Fire Department Housing

****** Councilperson Galbraith moved to approve the Resolution, read by title only and seconded by Councilperson Huber. On roll call vote, the motion passed, 7-0. **Resolution No. 4219 passed.**

E. RESOLUTION NO. 4220- A Resolution Approving a Standard Short Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect, Between the City and JGA Architects, Engineer, Planners, PC, For Services Related to the Miles City Fire and Rescue Preliminary Architectural Report PAR

****** Councilperson Galbraith moved to approve the Resolution, read by title only and seconded by Councilperson Kassner.

Chief Stevens explained that \$15,000 was budgeted for the preliminary architect report and he will find other ways to pay for the additional cost. He could use the \$30,000 received from MMIA.

****** On roll call vote, the motion passed, 7-0. **Resolution No. 4220 passed.**

F. Approval on implementing a 5% cut to all General Funds expenditures, effective January 1, 2019

****** Councilperson Uden moved to approve implementing a 5% cut to all General Funds expenditures, effective January 1, 2019, seconded by Councilperson Wilcox.

There was a long discussion on how the City could save money and that there is an urgency to find money or cut spending in General Fund. If the General Fund spends the money appropriated and the anticipated revenue is received, there will be approximately \$500,000 cash to start next fiscal year. Two years ago cash was at \$900,000, last year it was \$700,000, which shows a large decrease in those years and it will continue if the City does not take the problem seriously. Consensus of the Council was to allow the Ad Hoc Committee to meet and report their findings back to Council.

****** Councilperson Galbraith moved to postpone until the General Fund Ad Hoc has met, seconded by Councilperson Wilcox, and **passed** on roll call vote, 7-0

G. Approval of November Claims

****** Councilperson Galbraith moved to approve the November claims, seconded by Councilperson Uden and **passed** unanimously, 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

****** Councilperson Galbraith moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilperson Erlenbusch and passed unanimously.

The meeting was Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.


John Hollowell, Mayor


Lorrie Pearce, City Clerk