

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING January 10,
2023**

6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Council meeting was held Tuesday, January 10, 2023, in the City Hall Conference Room at City Hall, 17 S. 8th Street, Miles City, Montana and via Zoom.us. Mayor John Hollowell called the meeting to order. Council Members present were Ken Gardner, Rick Huber, Chris Grenz, Mathew Regan, Kathy Wilcox, and Roxanna Brush. Council Member Dwayne Andrews was not present.

Also present were Public Works Director Scott Gray, Fire Chief Branden Stevens, Police Captain Dan Baker, Public Utilities Director Tom Speelmon, and City Clerk/Minute Recorder Mary Rowe.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hollowell led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECT CITY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

** *Councilperson Wilcox nominated Councilperson Brush, seconded by Councilperson Grenz.*

Nominations were closed.

** *The nomination and election passed unanimously, 6-0.*

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MINUTES

City Council Minutes: 12/13/2022

** *Councilperson Grenz moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 13, 2022, subject to any changes, and seconded by Councilperson Regan. The motion passed by unanimous consent, 6-0.*

SCHEDULE MEETINGS

The following meetings will be held in the City Hall Conference Room:
Human Resources Committee 01/19/2023 @5:00pm

REQUEST OF CITIZENS & PUBLIC COMMENT

Tyler Trogden, 411 N. Stacy, requested that the City of Miles City take over the picnic shelter reservations, maintenance, and power bill at Spotted Eagle from Walleyes Unlimited. He explained that the power had only been on for two weeks but should be very minimal because the lights are all on timers and have motion sensors. He also noted that there is a three-sided sign that Walleyes Unlimited are putting up and one side is set up for reservations.

Director Gray agreed that the electricity would be minimal and stated that Spotted Eagle is currently on the weekly maintenance

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schedule, so they are there anyways. It would not be an additional staffing cost.

Mayor Hollowell referred the request to the Finance Committee.

APPOINTMENTS

Standing Committees:

Finance Committee- Ward I Vacancy, Rick Huber, Kathy Wilcox, and Roxanna Brush

Public Safety Committee- Ken Gardner, Chris Grenz, Kathy Wilcox, and Roxanna Brush

Public Service Committee- Ken Gardner, Chris Grenz, Mathew Regan, and Dwayne Andrews

Human Resource Committee- Ward I Vacancy, Rick Huber, Mathew Regan, and Dwayne Andrews

** *Councilperson Grenz moved to approve the standing committees as written, seconded by Councilperson Wilcox.*

** *Councilperson Wilcox moved to amend motion to include herself on the Human Resources Committee, replacing Councilperson Regan and move Councilperson Regan to the Public Safety Committee, replacing herself, seconded by Councilperson Regan, and passed 6-0.*

** *The amended main motion passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Non-Standing Committees:

Airport Commission- Council Member

** *Councilperson Gardner nominated Councilperson Gardner and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Board of Appeals

- Noah Mahan
- Nate Dunning

** *Councilperson Brush moved to approve the appointments as written, seconded by Councilperson Wilcox and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Local 600/Labor- Mayor Hollowell

** *Councilperson Wilcox nominated Councilperson Brush, seconded by Councilperson Grenz, and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Planning Board-

Designated by County, Appointed by Mayor- George Luther Jr.

City Resident- Taylor Kennedy

City Resident- Leif Ronning

City Resident- Jason Oddy

** *Councilperson Huber moved to approve the appointments as written, seconded by Councilperson Gardner and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

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Urban Renewal Agency Board
City Resident- Dawn Leidholt

- ** *Councilperson Brush moved to approve the appointments as written, seconded by Councilperson Grenz and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Historic Preservation

Designated by County, Appointed by Mayor- Doug Melton

- ** *Councilperson Grenz moved to approve the appointments as written, seconded by Councilperson Gardner and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Zoning Commission

- Amber Trenka
- Leif Ronning

- ** *Councilperson Gardner moved to approve the appointments as written, seconded by Councilperson Brush and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Solid Waste Board- Council Member

- ** *Councilperson Grenz nominated Councilperson Grenz and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

Economic Development- Council Member

- ** *Councilperson Regan nominated Councilperson Regan and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

CCMC Flood Control & PPI Committee- Council Member

- ** *Councilperson Gardner nominated Councilperson Gardner*

- ** *Councilperson Brush nominated Councilperson Huber, seconded by Councilperson Grenz.*

Nominations were closed.

- ** *Mayor Hollowell took a straw poll vote on the nomination of Rick Huber and passed unanimously, 6-0.*

STAFF REPORTS

Councilperson Wilcox thanked the staff that had submitted their staff reports.

Julie Emmons, SEMDC, requested verification on match fund availability. She noted that the grant does take matching funds into considering when awarding grants, but also that a match is not required. She stated that a fifty percent match would be \$179,235, but even a twenty five percent match is better than nothing. She also inquired as to whether or not the City would need an extension on the growth policy update, to which Mayor Hollowell said yes.

Mayor Hollowell referred the grant match funding request to Finance.

VACANCY INTERVIEWS

Tammy Davies and Pamela Bovee were both interviewed.

- ** Councilperson Huber nominated Tammy Davies for the vacant Ward I Council Seat. There was no second. The motion **failed**.
- ** Councilperson Brush nominated Pamela Bovee for the vacant Ward I Council Seat, seconded by Councilperson Wilcox, and **passed, 5-1** with Councilperson Huber voting no.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilperson Grenz addressed the following to Chief Stevens:

1. He had heard rumor that the ladder truck was out driving with kids on it when an emergency call came in. Chief Stevens informed him that they have not had a ladder truck for over a year and a half. Grenz corrected himself and said it must've been the new fire truck. Chief Stevens said it is not in commission yet and asked when this rumor was supposed to have taken place.
2. He wanted to clarify that he heard Chief Stevens correctly that the fire department roof had been leaking for twenty years. Chief Stevens stated it was closer to thirty years.
3. Does the ambulance go out of state? Chief Stevens said that it used to a long time ago, but they have not done that because they do not get reimbursed for those trips. He did clarify that if it were a life or death urgent situation he would make the trip.
4. Can you keep track when you refuse transfers? Chief Stevens informed him that it is tracked and is also in his staff report in the Council packet. Stevens also clarified that they do not voluntarily refuse transfers. The only reason they turn down transfers is when they do not have enough staff to do so..

Councilperson Grenz then explained that he had met with the County regarding leasing the land next to the Rural Fire Department. Then it was discussed that a trade be made; that land for the triangle piece of property behind the court house. He stated we should move forward with that if the County is still in. He asked if any TSEP grants have been applied for. He stated that he talked to County Commissioner Strouf about a Human Resources meeting regarding a joint City/County Planner position. He asked what a contractor needed to do to work for the City. Director Gray responded that the contractor would need to be bonded, insured, licensed, and give quotes or go through the bidding process if necessary. Grenz then addressed Captain Baker. He stated that a police officer that was coming off of shift used to go to the home of the officer coming on shift to pick them up, then drive the departing officer home and take the car from there. He asked if we did that again, would it cut fuel costs? Captain Baker stated that it would not because officers do not get take home cars.

Councilperson Brush inquired about a cottonwood tree that is in the river with its roots exposed.

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Councilperson Wilcox gave kudos to the streets crew for notifying residents when they would be early in an area and for getting the whole City plowed.

Councilperson Regan asked if the snow pile on Strevell was our snow storage location. Director Gray confirmed that it is our snow. Regan also asked about the Police signage and a bike rack at the VA building. Captain Baker will have them removed.

MAYOR COMMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION NO. 4493 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECEIPT OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE DONATED TO THE CITY, DESCRIBED AS LOT 25, BLOCK 40, MILWAUKEE PARK ADDITION.

** Councilperson Grenz moved to approve the Resolution, seconded by Councilperson Gardner.

A brief discussion about the location of the property took place.

** Councilperson Huber moved to table Resolution 4493 until the next meeting, seconded by Councilperson Gardner.

The location and contents of the property were further discussed.

** Councilperson Wilcox called for question, seconded by Councilperson Brush. On roll call vote, the motion to table Resolution 4493 until the next meeting passed unanimously, 6-0.

B. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER CLAIMS

** Councilperson Grenz moved to approve December Claims, seconded by Councilperson Brush.

There was a claims question and answer discussion.

** The main motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

** Councilperson Grenz moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilperson Brush and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26p.m.



John Hollowell, Mayor



Mary Rowe, City Clerk