

APPROVED MINUTES

The City Council held Council Meeting #1635 on Monday, August 21, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Peggy Williams.

The Pledge of Allegiance was completed, prayer was by Matthew Coblenz, roll call commenced. Present were Mayor Peggy Williams, Councilors Gary Beach, Melissa Berke, Zach McNew, Kristin Smith, Hugh Taylor, and Clerk-Treasurer Leann Monigold. Councilor Brian Zimmerman was not in attendance.

Mayor Williams welcomed all present.

Announcements:

None.

Committee Reports:

Police: Chief Ercanbrack reported for August 200 calls received, there were no issues during Ignite the Night, several traffic stops and no DUIs and no fights. Currently one applicant that will be starting shortly and another applicant and will be doing background shortly.

Zoning: Councilor Smith announced the Commission will meet on the Monday the 28th at 6pm putting a bow on the residential districts with a recommendation to move forward for Council to vote.

Mayor Williams announce there will be a Public Hearing on September 8th at 6pm for Accessory Dwelling Units.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Karen Dinkins, 1210 Dakota Ave., had concerns related to building permits. The house next door has totally gutted the house and has changed window and other changes. The Building Inspector told me they did not need a building permit. Ms. Dinkins read the building permit rules and said she has been unsuccessful in speaking to the Building Inspector after initial conversation and would like Council to know the Building Inspector is not doing his job.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., thanked three Council members for showing up at the Town Hall meeting and it was apparent there is a lack of transparency and EPA is covering for IP and the fiduciary responsibility to the people affected by their contamination of our aquifer. Attendees were not interested in social media but social media is interested in the community. Social Media are showing an interest in improving the Cemetery and lighting for the flagpole. Requesting that become an agenda item.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Approve Resolution #2019, Setting Tax Levy for Year 2024:

Mayor Williams read Resolution #2019.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve Resolution #2019, Setting Tax Levy for Year 2024 with the correction in sections one and section two to show the current tax year, Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., inquired if the section 2 of Resolution #1119 was the IP money that was supposed to go towards summer watering. Mayor Williams it is not the same, Street Maintenance/ Sprinkling is a separate item on your tax bill.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, and Smith, voted **FOR**. Councilor Taylor **ABSTAINED** because he participates in Fireman's Relief Agency pension program.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve Resolution #2018, Fixing the Annual Appropriations for the City of Libby for 2023-2024 Budget:

Mayor Williams read Resolution #2018.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve Resolution #2018, Fixing the Annual Appropriations for the City of Libby for 2023-2024 Budget, Councilor Berke **SECONDED**.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., referring to section II of Resolution #2018, inquired if IP Settlement Negotiations are still going on. Mayor Williams explained the amount shown reflects the money available for summer water irrigation from the IP Settlement and are currently not getting IP money.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve Resolution #2020, Setting Salaries and Wages of Elected Officers, Appointed Officers, and City Employees:

Mayor Williams read Resolution #2020.

Councilor McNew **MADE A MOTION** to approve Resolution #2020, Setting Salaries and Wages of Elected Officers, Appointed Officers, and City Employees Beach **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Paint it Pink Fun Run intersection closure request:

Mayor Williams announced will be held on September 30th.

Rachel Rebo, on behalf of Glacier Bank, requesting an intersection closure for Paint it Pink Fun Run on September 30th. Ms. Rebo presented a map to Council.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve Paint it Pink Fun Run intersection closure request Taylor **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all claims received to date:

Councilor Beach **MADE A MOTION** to approve all claims received to date, Councilor Berke **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all business license applications received to date:

Kooyman Construction.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve all business licenses received to date and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

General Comments from the Council:

Councilor Beach said he has been approached by residents on Commerce Way, a big giant grass lot, owned by Northwest Montana Human Resources, that is getting very overgrown and the concern is possible fire. Requesting if there is something that can be done. Council discussed there is an ordinance. Mayor Williams stated contact information would be looked into to get that taken care of.

McNew commented on the social media comment from earlier, the committee passed recommendation of the cemetery quite some time ago and was left in the Mayor and Administrator's hand, so sure they will be seeing something about that down the road.

Councilor Smith has concerns about the comments made about the Building Inspector and requested administration to possibly look into it.

Councilor Taylor commented the black top up by the sky course looks wonderful and they did a wonderful job.

Councilor Beach wanted to give recognition to the City Crews for doing a great job getting ready for Ignite the Nites, downtown looked real nice.

Adjournment:

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to Adjourn and Councilor McNew **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Berke, McNew, Smith, and Taylor voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:26 PM.

Mayor Peggy Williams

Clerk-Treasurer Leann Monigold