

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HELD JUNE 01, 2020**

FINANCE COMMITTEE – 6:30 P.M

(Barnhart, Fisher, Karper)

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Don Barnhart
Councilor Darin Fisher
Councilor Doug Karper
Councilor Paula Robinson
Councilor John Piper
Councilor Mike Shepard

ABSENT

Councilor Jenny Lovering

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Barnhart requested a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by Councilor Piper, second by Councilor Robinson and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilor Fisher motioned to approve the consent agenda noting all claims appeared to be in order, second by Councilor Karper with Council voting as follows. Ayes: Mayor Barnhart, Councilor Fisher, Councilor Karper, Councilor Robinson, Councilor Piper and Councilor Shepard. Absent: Councilor Lovering.

Approval of Claims - June 1, 2020 - \$34,504.81

Approval of Payroll Claims - May 29, 2020 - \$74,995.24

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes - May 18, 2020

Approval of 3-year Contract - Backflow Testing - 406 Innovative Solutions, LLP

Approval of Contract Amendment - Morrison-Maierle - Well Project Construction Engineering and authorize City Manager to execute.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT (Items not on agenda)

None.

APPOINTMENTS:

Volunteer Fireman - Kelly Smith

Fire Chief Weeks said Kelly Smith has shown great interest in the Fire Department over the last several months and has completed the physical and was sworn in by the Clerk after all pre-appointment requirements were

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met but Chief said he was delayed in getting council approval due to COVID-19. Fire Chief said he recommends Mr. Smith being appointed as Probationary Volunteer Fireman. City Manager Nicosia concurred.

Councilor Piper made motion to appoint Kelly Smith as Probationary Volunteer Fireman, second by Councilor Shepard and the motion carried.

Fire Chief Weeks thanked Mayor and Council for their support gave them each a challenge coin from the Fire Department.

City Manager Nicosia reported that Fire Chief Weeks submitted a grant application to Weyerhaeuser and last Friday we received notification we were awarded \$24,198. for SCBA's.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Barnhart read the following Notice of Public Hearing: The Columbia Falls City-County Planning Board will hold a public hearing for the following item at their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 9th, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers of City Hall, 130 6th Street West, Columbia Falls, Montana. The Columbia Falls City Council will hold a subsequent hearing on July 6, 2020 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the same location. Both hearings will be conducted in accordance with the most current recommended and/or required public health and safety protocols in place at the time of the hearing. The City website, <https://cityofcolumbiafalls.org>, will contain updated information if there is any change to the planned hearings.

Request to establish a Planned Unit Development in the Columbia Falls Zoning Jurisdiction:

Erik Eckert is requesting a Planned Unit Development overlay for the property located on 7th Street East between 1st and 2nd Avenues East. The PUD takes three existing city lots all zoned CR-5 and reorients them creating four townhouse units. The overall effect is a reduction in units from six to four. No other deviations are requested through the PUD. The property is described as Lots 8, 9, & 10, Block 46, Columbia Falls Townsite in Section 8, Township 30 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., Flathead County.

Public Hearing - June 1, 2020: Request for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a dog kennel:

Brunz Enterprises LLC (Will & Andrea Brunz) is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to operate a dog kennel on property located at 443 Rogers Road in Columbia Falls. The 11.8 acre property is described as Assessor's Tract 2M (Tract 4 of COS 20092) in SW1/4SE1/4 of Section 16, Township 30 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., Flathead County. The property is zoned SAG-5 in the Columbia Falls Zoning Jurisdiction. Commercial Kennels require a Conditional Use Permit in the SAG-5 Zoning District.

Mayor Barnhart read the hearing notice and requested the planner to present the staff report. City Planner Mulcahy said this Conditional Use Permit application went before the Planning Board on May 12, 2020. The Board recommended approval subject to conditions as submitted along with two additional conditions added by the Board. Mulcahy delivered Staff Report CCU-20-01. Staff recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit to operate a dog kennel.

Mayor Barnhart opened the Public Hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Will Brunz, 531 Windy Acres Dr., said he and his wife Andrea are the applicants. Mr. Brunz said from the prior Planning Board meeting they will not be able to have waste removal 7 days a week due to no waste removal

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company available 7 days a week. They can only get removal 6 days a week. Mr. Brunz said he is happy to answer any questions.

Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Councilor Robinson motioned to adopt Staff Report CCU-20-01 as findings of fact, second by Councilor Shepard with council voting as follows. Ayes: Robinson, Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Piper and Barnhart. Absent: Lovering.

Councilor Fisher motioned to amend Condition 4. To add, on days waste removal is not available the applicant will store daily waste in a sealed container, second by Councilor Robinson and the motion carried.

Councilor Fisher moved to approve Conditional Use Permit as conditioned and amended, second by Councilor Shepard with council voting as follows. Ayes: Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Piper, Robinson and Barnhart. Absent: Lovering.

NEW BUSINESS:

Award Bids - LHC, Inc. - Water Supply Well No. 3 Project

City Manager Nicosia said the sole bidder for the Water Supply No. 3 project was LHC, Inc.; the total base bid is \$1,713,445.59. C. R. Leisinger, PE, Project Manager, Morrison-Maierle reviewed the bid documents and found no irregularities. Staff recommends approval to award the bid to LHC, Inc. for the Base bid and Additive Alternate A in the amount of \$204,267.56 for a total bid award of \$1,917,713.15.

Councilor Piper motioned to award the base bid and Additive Alternate A for Water Supply Well No. 3 project to LHC, Inc. for a total of \$1,917,713.15, second by Councilor Shepard with council voting as follows. Ayes: Fisher, Karper, Piper, Robinson, Shepard and Barnhart. Absent: Lovering.

ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 1817 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Authorizing the Formal Naming of Riverbend Park to the Julie Plevel Park

Jessie Plevel, daughter of former councilmember Julie Plevel said her mom gave her all to the City of Columbia Falls and city parks that she loved so much. The Plevel family is honored the park will be named after their mother/wife. Jessie said the family further discussed the name and would like the park to be named "Julie Plevel Park."

Councilor Fisher motioned to approve Resolution 1817 naming the Riverbend Park to the Julie Plevel Park, second by Councilor Shepard with council voting as follows. Ayes: Karper, Piper, Robinson, Shepard, Fisher and Barnhart. Absent: Lovering.

Mayor Barnhart said he spent 10 years on Council with Julie and she was one of the most dedicated councilmembers with which he served. She loved kids and the parks and that was her focus. She will be missed. Councilman Shepard said he sat next to her for 10 years on Council and she tempered him. Councilman Karper said he too spent 10 years on Council and on the Tree Board with Julie and she always had

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a smile on her face. Councilman Fisher said served with her on Council and Parks Committee and appreciated working alongside her.

Resolution 1818 - A Resolution of the City Council of Columbia Falls, Montana Establishing Fees for the Use of the City's Pool for the 2020 Season

City Manager Nicosia and staff are working to comply with Phase 2 guidelines for the 2020 pool season. Nicosia said they will meet with the Health Department to make sure we are in compliance before opening. Nicosia noted that the guidelines require our staff to clean every two to three hours so we are proposing to open 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm for lap swim, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm open swim, and 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm open swim. We will be limited to 50 people in the facility, counting staff, during Phase 2. City staff is recommending the 2020 seasons fees: \$2 per person to enter the pool; punch cards to purchase for \$20 or \$40. Season passes will remain the same but purchasers will be reminded that they do not guarantee use and are non-refundable.

Councilor Karper motioned to approve Resolution 1818, second by Councilor Robinson with council voting as follows: Ayes: Karper, Piper, Robinson, Shepard, Fisher and Barnhart. Absent: Lovering.

Resolution 1819 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana Adopting a Revised Fee Schedule for Beer, Wine and Liquor Licensing

City Manager Nicosia said the City needs to set the liquor licensing fees as they were previously set in the ordinance and with the municipal code update, the fees are now set as needed by Resolution. The City will follow the license fee schedule as established in State Statute.

Councilor Fisher motioned to approve Resolution 1891, second by Councilor Shepard with council voting as follows. Ayes: Robinson, Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Piper and Barnhart. Absent: Lovering.

REPORTS / BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilor Karper said he and his wife were down at River's Edge Park and the fishing pond is awesome. Councilor Shepard thanked the Police Dept. for the escort on the memorial walk down to the Marantette Park Veteran Wall. Mayor Barnhart said the attendance for the Memorial Day walk was an increase from prior years.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City park staff is setting out the picnic tables and we have started doing reservations at city parks with social distancing and cleaning. We will not do reservations back to back as we need to have time to clean. The river by River's Edge Park is high at this time. Nicosia has made contact with the mosquito control folks from the county and they will keep an eye on the mosquito flats area. The recent storm took two trees out at River's Edge Park, we didn't get the hail that others did nor did we have downed power lines. The City was denied the BNSF lease for expanding at Depot Park. Nicosia wrote to them stating the city would have paved the driveway and parking area. Nicosia requested the reason(s) for the denial but has not heard back. The City was pleasantly surprised with the bid of \$34 for backflow testing for the next three years; it has not been below \$40 in the past. The letters for the service line insurance were mailed out last week. Mayor Barnhart said talking with a city employee it sounds like a good deal.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council Correspondence

ADJOURN

Councilor Shepard motioned to adjourn second by Councilor Karper and the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk