

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Tom Nelson at 6:31 p.m. on September 28, 2021.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Heidi Sparks
Richard Herr
Irv Wilke
Scot Stokes
Richard Klose

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Emelie Eaton
Bruce McGee
Don Nelson

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

Karen Courtney, Building Official

Mayor Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Mayor Nelson asked the Council to observe a moment of silence.

MINUTES:

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve the minutes of the regular meeting September 14, 2021, as presented, seconded by Council Member Klose. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Beartooth RC&D Correspondence**
- **Ambulance Monthly Report – August 2021.**
- **Laurel Airport Authority Minutes of August 24, 2021.**

COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims entered through September 24, 2021.**
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 9/19/2021 totaling \$204,606.49.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for Retro Pay for Non-Union totaling \$6,877.75.**
- **Council Workshop Minutes of September 7, 2021.**

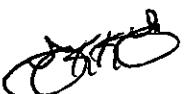
The Mayor asked if there was any separation of consent items. There was none.

Motion by Council Member Stokes to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- **Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of September 14, 2021.**
- **Tree Board Minutes of August 19, 2021.**
- **Public Works Committee Minutes of August 16, 2021.**



- **Emergency Services Committee Minutes of August 31, 2021.**

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Appointment of Alan Kasemodel to the Laurel Airport Authority for a five-year term ending June 30, 2026.**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve the Mayor's appointment of Alan Kasemodel to the Laurel Airport Authority for a five-year term ending June 30, 2026, seconded by Council Member Klose. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Appointment of Timothy Frick to the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department.**

Motion by Council Member Stokes to approve the Mayor's appointment of Timothy Frick to the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Resolution No. R21-103: A Resolution Approving An Increase In Firefighter Call-Out Pay For The City Of Laurel Fire Department.**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve Resolution No. R21-103, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Resolution No. R21-104: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign An Agreement With MP Environmental For Services Relating To Cleaning Of The City's Backwash Pond.**

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve Resolution No. R21-104, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Resolution No. R21-105: A Resolution Declaring The Existing Playground Equipment Located At Kids' Kingdom "Surplus Property" And Authorizing Its Removal And Disposal By City Staff And Volunteers.**

Motion by Council Member Stokes to approve Resolution No. R21-105, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Resolution No. R21-106: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign An Agreement With Lexipol, LLC For Services Provided For The City's Police Department.**

Motion by Council Member Herr to approve Resolution No. R21-106, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Resolution No. R21-107: A Resolution Requesting Distribution Of Bridge And Road Safety And Accountability Program Funds**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve Resolution No. R21-107, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- **Ordinance No. O21-04: An Ordinance Amending Certain Chapters Of Title 8 Of The Laurel Municipal Code Relating To Health And Safety Matters, Including Nuisances For The City Of Laurel. (First Reading)**

Motion by Council Member Wilke to adopt Ordinance No. O21-04, seconded by Council Member Sparks.

Karen Courtney, Building Official, briefly reviewed the minor changes made to this ordinance since last week when it was presented to Council. Those changes were highlighted and included with Council's packet.

Mayor Nelson asked if there was any public comment.

Barbra Anne Sprague Emineth, 501 Alder Ave, read the attached statement.

There was no council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Council Members Sparks, Herr, Wilke, Klose, and Stokes voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council asked that Council discuss a parking study at the next Workshop.

Council asked for an update on W. Railroad.

Cemetery Commission's next scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 5:30 in Council Chambers.

MAYOR UPDATES: None.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

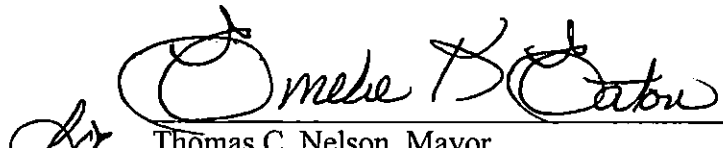
ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Sparks to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All five council members present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

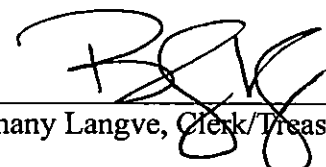
There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.


Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 12th day of October 2021.


Thomas C. Nelson, Mayor

Attest:


Bethany Langve, Clerk/Treasurer

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AGENDA - SCHEDULED MATTERS

- #20. Ordinance (NO. 021-04)
Amending Title 8 of Municipal code
Health & Safety matters

* It is time for a vote on this issue!!

My name is Barbara Anne Sprague Emineth
I live at 501 Birch Ave, and have for over 40 yrs
Alder

I came before council last week and did my best
to explain why our nuisance codes needed to be updated.
You also heard from our police chief as to how
these revised codes could be implemented + enforced.

In Jan. of this year there were multiple
citizens complaints filed on 506 Birch because of
all the garbage in their backyard. It is true
there have been times when the mess has been
cleaned up but it never lasts, Hoarding runs in
cycles.
because

In 2017 Karen Courtney explained that penalties
for code violators had inadvertently been left out
but that could be remedied - that was 4 years ago!

My first complaints about 506 Birch were made
maybe 2010 or so and here we are over 10
years later, trying to fix it.

Although this has been a learning experience
for me I don't want to appear before you anymore
at least about this issue. Please VOTE

Yes on Revising our nuisance codes not
because so many have put in the research
and work required to bring it forward but
because it is past time to resolve this
issue one way or another.

It is more important than any of you
may realize.
in this
moment!

Thank you

Baldwin C.
Spokane Emerald