

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:29 p.m. on October 15, 2024.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Canape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Banks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jodi Mackay

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Brittney Harakal, Council Administrative Assistant  
Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney  
Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer  
Kurt Markegard, Planning Director  
Forrest Sanderson, LURA Consultant

**Public Input:**

There were none.

**General Items**

**Executive Review**

1. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The City Of Laurel And The Laurel Urban Renewal Agency (LURA) To Advertise A Request For Qualifications For An Engineering Consultant.

Forrest Sanderson, 124 Laptop Loop, Roberts, MT, LURA Consultant, stated that LURA had discussed the best way to move forward with the construction projects within the TIF District. The City has an MSA with KLJ Engineering and is non-exclusive. When the City went out for an RFP for On-Call Engineering services, it had Public Works projects in mind. LURA plans to do projects outside of Public Works type projects. The City's MSA with KLJ expires in 2025. LURA would like to have its own On Call Engineer to help keep projects moving forward should the City select another engineering firm. The goal is to ensure that the engineering firm selected has the capacity and capability to do the projects that the TIF District would like to do. The MSA will also be non-exclusive. LURA also wants to make sure that the firm selected has a firm understanding of how TIF District funds can be used.

Council asked why this was coming before Council; some had thought this was what Mr. Sanderson had been hired to do. It was clarified that Mr. Sanderson is not an engineer. He assists

in moving projects forward. However, an engineer still has to design and create the bid package for the project to be bid.

It was questioned if the City has a current engineering firm. It was clarified yes; the City currently has KLJ as their on-call engineer. However, that agreement was public works driven.

It was questioned who would pay for this engineer. It was clarified that it is budgeted for through the TIF District. Right now, project one is ready to be sent to an engineer for design. Project one consists of sidewalks, street trees, and street lights in the TIF District.

It was questioned if the TIF District wanted to create another plan. It was clarified that this is not for another plan. This is to move forward with an actual project. The goal is to go out and bid on a project.

## 2. Resolution - Reconciliation Change Order

This reconciliation change order is to close out the project. The total cost of the project is less than what was approved by Council. This change order will reduce the total approved amount for the project. The project is done and ready to be wrapped up.

## **Council Issues**

### 3. Closed Executive Session - Litigation Strategy

Mayor Waggoner finished out all other items on the agenda before moving to the closed executive session.

## **Other Items**

Council asked if the issues brought up by the Police Commission at the last Council meeting could be placed on an upcoming agenda.

The Civil Attorney briefly reviewed the legal role of the Police Commission. This item is not appropriate to be placed on the agenda as it does not require a decision by the Council. She will send out the legal framework that the Police Commission operates within for the Council to review.

The Public Works Committee's next meeting is on Monday at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

## **Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting**

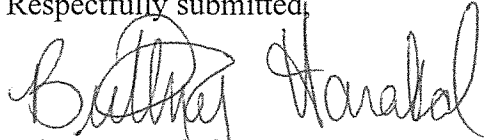
All Council Members in attendance plan to attend next week's Council meeting.

## **Announcements**

There were no additional announcements.

The Council workshop adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney Harakal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Brittney Harakal  
Administrative Assistant

**NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.**