



**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025**

The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, by Committee Chair, Heidi Sparks.

Members Present: Heidi Sparks- Chair, Jodi Mackay- Vice Chair, Irv Wilke, Jessica Banks, Shawn Mullaney

Others Present: Kurt Markegard- Interim Chief Admin Officer

Public Input:

General Items:

1. Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2024. Jodi made a motion to approve the minutes of December 16, 2024. Motion was seconded by Irv. Motion carried 5-0 to approve the minutes.
2. Emergency Call Out Report- Report attached
 - i. Jan 7- Fire Department was training by the Middle School, and noticed the fire hydrant they would be training on was broken and leaking. Bolts in the top of the valve were broken, and pressure forced the top off. Fire hydrant is ordered for replacement.
 - ii. Jan 12- Trailer on Lakawanna was leaking, flooded a few trailers and created a leak. Water lines ruptured.
3. KLJ Report- Report attached
 - i. Water Tank Funding Project- The grant we were applying for had more entities apply for the grant than they had money to disperse. Laurel was not selected for the grant funding. Matt is ordering an inspection of the existing water tank to get an updated assessment on the rust and necessary repair. Will start looking to see if we could qualify for a loan to handle this project. Also looking at other options to handle the recoating of the existing water tank without have the redundant water tank built and online.
 - ii. Love's Annexation- Cattails on the property, which indicates wetland. Plans being updated around this area.

New Business:

Old Business:

4. Update on West Railroad Project- Has been pushed to a 2028 project with the state
5. Update on Stop Signs- Carry this over to the next meeting

Other Items:

6. February Meeting- Jodi made a motion to move the February meeting to Tuesday, Feb 18, 2025, at 6:00pm before the council workshop. Irv seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Announcements

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 6:00pm in Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned at 6:26pm



City of Laurel Project Status Update January 17th, 2025



Laurel Water Tank Funding Project

(KLJ # 2304-01608)

Reason for Project: Existing City water Tank needs to be recoated on the inside and can't happen until City has a backup storage supply. They also have needs for upgrades to their upper pressure zones. See previously approved Water System PER and City of Laurel CIP. This project looks at funding opportunities and provides grant writing services from multiple sources

Project Scope: To research funding alternatives, create packages for submittal, and assist City in finding monies for completing the future water tank and upper pressure zone improvements for the City of Laurel

Current Status:

- Task Order Signed by City on 12/13/23
- Met with EDA to discuss Funding on 1/9/24
- Letter of Support from CHS Received
- Letter of Support from Wood's Powergrip
- Submittal uploaded to EDA on 7.11.24.
- Multiple calls back/forth with EDA to clarify information including need for the project, priority for the city, provision of procurement documents, and verification of budget.
- EDA reviewed mid October and are waiting for notice of award - All grants must be awarded (or declined) and contracted/obligated by 12/31/2024.
- As of 12/13/24, EDA is still telling us they don't have an update.
- Notified of EDA denial of funding on 1/7/2025
- KLJ reviewing other opportunities for funding
- Meeting between City and KLJ reviewing denial and other funding sources on 1/16/2025
- As of January 2025 City has spent \$16,917.76 of the \$56,000 budget for funding applications.
- City reviewing other opportunities and deciding on how to proceed.

5th to 7th Sewer Line Replacement

(KLJ # 2304-01231)

Reason for Project: Refurbishment of an 8" sewer line between 7th Avenue and 6th Avenue and a 10" sewer line between 6th Avenue and 5th Avenue in the alley way between 1st Street and Main Street in Laurel, Montana. The existing sewer line experienced several collapses last year.

Project Scope: To replace approximately 363 lineal feet of 8" and 383 lineal feet of 10" and will include the update of 3 manholes and associated surface replacement.



City of Laurel Project Status Update January 17th, 2025



Current Status:

- Work Order Signed by City in September 2023
- Survey scheduled for week of October 16th, 2023
- Base Drawing created and Working on preliminary design
- Preliminary Plans and EEOC sent to City on 12.14.23
- DEQ Approval received on 2.20.24
- Project began advertising on 3/14/24 and bid open will be 3.28.24
- Project awarded to Western Municipal Construction
- Construction started on June 10th 2024
- Sewer Line fully installed and accepted on 7/10/24
- Change Order Requested by City personal put together with cost estimate and submitted to City on 7/10/24
- City reviewed CO#1 cost and elected not to pursue
- Contractor achieved Substantial Completion on 8/1/24
- Contractor achieved Final Completion on 8/20/24
- Release of Retainage request submitted along with reconciliation Change Order
- Warranty walkthrough to occur in August of 2025

Laurel Planning Services (KLJ #1804-00554)

Reason for Project: KLJ has been retained to provide City of Laurel planning services as needed.

Project Scope: Planning services may include; subdivision, zoning, development, floodplain hazard management, miscellaneous reviews and other related work. KLJ will prepare staff reports, recommendations, and attend meetings upon request.

Current Status:

- Zoning Regulations Update.
 - Draft regulations sent to City April 11th, 2023
 - Zoning Map approved by Commission on August 16th, 2023
 - Staff Recommendation to Zoning Commission to occur on December 20th, 2023
 - Back to Planning Board Meeting on 1/17/23
 - City to publish advertisement for Public Hearing
 - To be presented at Workshop on 5/7/24
 - Adoption occurred at Council on 5/14/24
 - 2nd Reading and Public Hearing on 5/28/24.
 - Regulations adopted by Council. Minor wording and numbering corrections needed.
 - Wording and numbering corrections made and submitted to Kurt 7/3/24
 - Waiting on final comments from Kurt
- Love's Annexation
 - Annexation Application received 3/25/24
 - Revised Package received by City on 5/2/24
 - City requested KLJ to review on 7/12/24



City of Laurel Project Status Update *January 17th, 2025*



- KLJ's review sent back to City on 7/18/24
- Loves's submitted design for review on 12.10.2024
- Engineering review and comments sent back on 1.10.25
- Love's addressing comments

Other Notes and Information

Other potential projects have been identified during recent conversations between City staff and KLJ. City Public Works staff and KLJ task leaders meet monthly to discuss current and future projects. As these are tentative, the timing and extent of KLJ's services are TBD, unless noted otherwise.

Anticipated FY24 Projects

- Bulk Water Sales Station
 - Project task order to be started in early 2025
- West 7th Street Water and Valve Replacement
 - Pushed back until Town Pump renovations are completed.

Emergency Call Out for January 21, 2025, Public Works Committee Meeting

January 7, 2025, Fire hydrant leak and repair

January 12, 2025, Water leak under a trailer

January 18, 2025, sand streets

January 20, 2025, a call for a sewer backup and another call for frozen service line.