

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 02, 2021**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Council President Eaton at 6:30 p.m. on November 2, 2021.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce McGee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scot Stokes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Nelson

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director  
Kurt Markegard, Public Works Director  
Stan Langve, Police Chief  
Bethany Langve, Clerk/Treasurer  
Matt Smith, KLJ

**Public Input:**

Council President Eaton read into the record the attached public comment from Carol Blades of 1809 DeNittis Lane.

**General Items**

**Executive Review**

1. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Approving A Memorandum Of Understanding Between The City Of Laurel And Local Union Local 303, American Federation Of State, County And Municipal Employees, AFSCME.

Stan Langve, Police Chief, stated as he was getting Code Enforcement Officer Sauter up and running, he noticed the contract really didn't fit this situation. To move retirement systems, he needed to retire for one day to move into the bid position. A new hire has a 1-year probation. He spoke with the City Attorney, who suggested that given the uniqueness of this situation, it is unnecessary to need 365 days; 30 days would be sufficient. The language is for this one position this one time and will not set a precedence in the future.

2. Resolution - A Resolution Authorizing A Lease Agreement Between The City Of Laurel And Laurel American Legion Post #123, For The Construction And Use Of City Owned Property For A Parking Lot Near The City's Cemetery.

Council Member Klose stated that he is a Council Member and a member of the America Legion Post #123. He will not be speaking or voting on this matter.

Ken Olson, 1702 Groshelle Boulevard, briefly described the parking situation up at the cemetery when there is an event held at either cemetery. Many people park along the highway. This parking lot would be used for either cemetery. It is critical for the citizens of Laurel.

3. Motion To Allow Council Member Sparks To Be Absent From The City Of Laurel For More Than Ten Days. (LMC 2.12.060)

Council Member Sparks stated she would be out of the City for a few weeks. She would like Council's permission to go. She will only be missing two Council meetings due to November having five Tuesdays.

### **Council Issues**

4. Discussion on Disbanding LURA/Ceasing the LURA Grant Program

Recently Council had a presentation by Janet Cornish and Lanette Windmaker. During this presentation, there was a discussion about the LURA grants and what LURA would do if there were no grant programs. So this is a discussion about disbanding them and having Staff manage the TIF District.

Leslie Atkins, 4100 McGirl Road in the Heights, I own the property of 217-221 W. Main Street here in Laurel. I have a question, does that mean that our taxes go back down? Because I pay an awful lot of extra taxes specifically to funds that LURA project. If that's going to be disbanded, does that mean my taxes are going to go down?

It was clarified that any TIF District that is formed is not a raise in taxes. It is a rerouting of the taxes. Rather than going into the General Fund, they go into a TIF District Fund.

Ms. Atkins, for the purpose of reuse in that district. With that, I would say my vote would be no. I've used TIF District funds to fix some of my exterior building to make that a way better building on the outside on the inside. And it's been a really wonderful program for me. And I realize that things have been twisted a little bit, and some of those funds were put in the wrong place, and people were allowed to use funds that weren't allowed to use funds. I understand that, but I hope that the program doesn't go away. Because it's been a great benefit to me.

Peggy Miller, Laurel, I would say I would vote in favor of keeping the LURA. I think that it can be reevaluated and restructured and rules and guidelines written a little bit better and different. Also, some of the Council Members have indicated at times that they weren't really sure what the LURA program was for. So again, I think it was maybe a matter of miscommunication and rules and regulations not necessarily known to both the Committee and to the Council Members. We have been recipients of it. We have been in Laurel for 40-years and have property in town and have put into the fund, and it has been a great resources. I think there are a lot of businesses that can benefit from it. And more so it really helps the town and the structure in the refurbishing

and just the beautification. And so, I would encourage you to reevaluate this and keep the program and again just work more on the guidelines and the rules and regulations.

Brandon Ellis, 221 W. Main Street, I own Dirty Paws of Montana, a small business. Being a new business, too, I would support these LURA funds; it would help people like me revitalize downtown and get small businesses up and going again. I understand some of the funds are misused. But if we just follow how it's supposed to be used, I think it would be helpful to revitalize the town. So me personally, if I had a vote, I would say keep LURA funding. Thank you.

Ken Olson, 1702 Groshelle Boulevard, I have to admit I've been out of the loop for a while. But the idea that this would even be considered kind of shakes me up a little bit. The amount of improvements that this has brought to our community is really astounding. I can't say walking from all the way west to all the way east on Main Street where there hasn't been a major improvement. Partly due to the creation of the TIF District and the LURA Board. If there has been a problem with the LURA Board, an oversight committee may be needed, a couple of Council people and a couple of LURA people may open up that route of discussion between the LURA and the Council so that there can be further understanding of exactly what goes on between the LURA and the Council. The Council has the final say, but the LURA sure has a lot of important information to get forward. I stand with every business owner of this community who understands the importance of the LURA as it's been created. I certainly hope that you would be keeping it the way that it is. Thank you.

Various Council Members voiced their opinions not to disband LURA but to rework the grant program as it has helped many businesses downtown. Council also expressed their interest in starting to offer low-interest loans as well.

Council asked if Janet and Lanette could be invited back to do joint training with Council and LURA to help rework their programs. The Clerk/Treasurer will follow up on this request.

##### 5. Discussion on Downtown Parking Study

Council President Eaton read into the record a public comment from Abbie Manley; see attached.

Council President Eaton read into the record a public comment from Brandon Ellis; see attached.

KLJ has been asked to put together information regarding a parking study.

Matt Smith, KLJ, the project's scope will be to study the parking in the Central Business District. They will then make recommendations that are ADA compliant.

It was clarified that the area being studied would be Alder Ave. to 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. This is an excellent use for TIF dollars. The TIF would pay for a large portion of this study as the TIF District ends at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Leslie Atkins, 4100 McGirl, I own property from 217-221 W. Main Street. Parking, folks, it needed to be done a long time ago. A long, long time ago. I am really glad you guys are taking it up now as an official item to discuss. It needs to be done. We are killing our small businesses. I own, I got two small businesses in my building now and eleven residential apartments. We simply do not have enough space. With the angled parking, it's perfect. And it works wonderfully; nobody was hurt. So I am glad KLJ is addressing our parking issues in the City. And I hope that the Council will stand up for that and stand up for our local businesses and residents of our Central Business District. Thank you.

Brandon Ellis, 221 W. Main, I won Dirty Paws of Montana, one of the renters in Leslie's building. I fully support downtown parking, not even just on 3<sup>rd</sup>—all of downtown. I've lived in Laurel for about 15-16 years now. And I've always seen the parking downtown has been horrible for quite a while now. And I know speaking with other business owners, they have tried to bring it up, and it's kind of been brushed aside over the years. Hopefully, we can find a resolution and get the studies done. That email you read is actually the email I sent to all of you guys. That is just 200 signatures from Change.org that I didn't do any canvassing of town yet. But if I have to, I can, but we really need to parking resolved down there, especially because I have a lot of elderly and disabled customers. Being a dog groomer, I get some service dogs in there, and the elderly customers really can't park there anymore. So for free, I have actually started offering pick-up service for their dogs from the elderly communities because it's kind of dangerous having to get in and out of their cars down on those streets right now. Thank you for getting it on the agenda, and hopefully, we can keep working towards getting this resolution going. Thank you.

Shannon Davis, I came here about a year ago. When we came here, my wife was blind. We have two young boys. First time we wintered here, there was snow pretty much everywhere. It was dangerous; it was icy, my wife was blind, she couldn't see her vision was on forward move. So I'm really making you guys put this into play considering the parking down there for the disabled. It means a lot and really how you guys follow through with it. Like I said with disabled people, businesses suffering because of the lack of parking. My wife tripping and falling last winter. That could have created a huge issue for the City, but we decided not to. Parking is vital; what Ms. Atkins did was a godsend, and to have that taken away, especially for those that are blind and those that can't walk, those that are in wheelchairs. I really hope you guys go through with it. And then it would be beneficial for everybody including businesses. Thank you.

Brandon Ellis read a letter from Amanda Spring, 1015 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue; see attached.

#### 6. Update On Clean-Up Efforts on Fir Avenue.

Council questioned the progress on the development on Fir Avenue.

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director, stated the developer Darrel Dyer is working with the owner of the lots, Jim Cotter, as they are under contract. They are cleaning up the property as a condition of annexation. Once the property is cleaned up, then they will move forward with annexation and the development. County Code Enforcement has been contacted to start to deal with it.

## 7. Update on IronHorse Subdivision - Has Building Begun

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director, stated the developer has been building out the road. There have been no requests for hooks up to develop the lots at this time.

### Other Items

- **W. Railroad Update**

Bethany Langve, Clerk/Treasurer, stated that the City Attorney is drafting a letter to the State. In 2019 the City received a letter asking the City to state its intentions. This letter would let the State know the City will come up with the gap funding on the project. We are hoping to have this letter drafted by the end of the week. The Council President will sign, and it will get sent off. Right now, the States timeline is to begin the project in 2026. The State will dictate the timeline of this project. The City received \$860,191.92 in the first half of the ARPA funds. It is up to the Council and Mayor what they would like to use these funds for. It can only be used for water and sewer improvements and must be used by a specific date. Also, in HB 1, the State did award \$1 million to the City. It was payment for the intake and will need to be used for the water system. These monies will be held in a restricted account until the City is ready to use them. The auditors are aware of these monies. The City can use it towards the new water reservoir as it is part of the water system. The second half of ARPA funds will come in June 2022.

It was questioned if those monies could be used toward a new water storage facility.

Matt Smith, KLJ, stated they are currently working on a preliminary engineering report. They are putting together final cost estimates for that report. They hope to have that report completed in December. This report can be beneficial in applying for additional grant funding.

Bethany Langve, Clerk/Treasurer, stated she strongly recommends paying off the intake loan with that million dollars. Water would only have one loan remaining. The others were paid off a while ago.

- **Resolution to remove Thomas C. Nelson from all banking institutions.**

Bethany Langve, Clerk/Treasurer, stated next week Council would see a resolution removing Mayor Nelson from all of our banking institutions. She needs a resolution from Council to be able to do that.

- **Mayor Vacancy**

Council President Eaton briefly reviewed the attached memo from the City Attorney regarding filling the Mayor's vacancy. This will be on next week's agenda.

There was a question on if the Council Member filling that role would then vacate their seat. The answer to that is no. On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, they would revert to their role on Council. Council would operate down one Council Member.

### **Review of Draft Council Agendas**

8. Draft Council Agenda of November 9, 2021.

The resolution removing Mayor Nelson from all banking institutions and filling the Mayor's vacancy will be on next week's agenda.

### **Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting**

Council Member Wilke will be absent from next week's meeting.

### **Announcements**

Mayor Nelson's funeral will be held Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

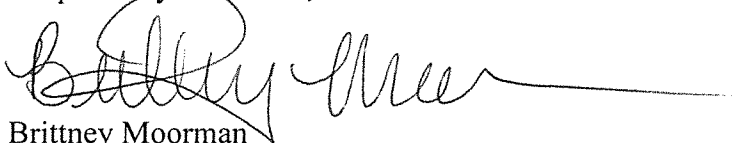
A Council Member recently noticed the poor condition of the front of the building. They had thought it was going to be fixed. It was clarified that this summer Council approved a small service contract to fix the front of the building. The work is not scheduled to be done until March or April 2022.

The next Park Board meeting is scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room.

Council offered their condolences to Mayor Nelson's family.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney Moorman", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brittney Moorman  
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.**

## **Brittney Moorman**

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**From:** Carol Blades <cblades41@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 1, 2021 10:18 AM  
**To:** Brittney Moorman  
**Subject:** commendations for city council  
**Attachments:** commendation for city council.docx

Hi Brittney,

Attached is a letter I would like you to share with each City Council member. I think you can easily forward it to each of them but I do not know how. If you cannot forward it to each council member please let me know.

Carol Blades

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"We cannot tell the precise moment when friendship is formed. As in filling a vessel drop by drop, there is at last a drop which makes it run over; so in a series of kindnesses there is at last one which mbmoormanakes the heart run over."

I want to give two shout outs of appreciation to the Laurel City Counsel for several recent events they were key in bringing to fruition. First, after several years of collaboration with the Lions Club, a safe, lovely, and user friendly paved path has been installed around South Pond, at the Lion's Family Park. It is directly across the street from Laurel Gardens and the Laurel Senior Center. This is a 'visionary' gift to Seniors, walking is a key to good health and wellbeing, and an equally valued gift to Laurel families. Mom's and Dad's could easily push a stroller around this pond now, introducing even infants and toddlers to fresh air, bird life and movement in the great outdoors. Wheel chairs, walkers, all such devices could easily navigate this broad smooth walkway.

Secondly, The Laurel City Counsel just tabled Northwestern Energy's request to rezone land along the Yellowstone for installation of a gas plant. They have basically said it is time for thoughtful input from various points of view, this is a massive decision that needs a substantial amount of community and statewide input. It is incredibly refreshing to see a small town city council stand up to a major corporation and pull in the reins on potentially disastrous plans. That is how representative government of the people and for the people is supposed to work.



## **Brittney Moorman**

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**From:** Abbie Manley <alfordsabitha@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:24 PM  
**To:** Brittney Moorman

Good afternoon,

My name is Abbie Manley. I have been a resident of Laurel for about 20 years. I would like to add my input on our continuing infrastructure issues. In particular I would like to speak on the parking issues down main street and 3rd Ave. It is fact that the city is growing and this area in particular has become congested. I lived on this corner in the appartment above Coburn Tax about 15 years ago and parking was an issue then. Now with the growth and restoration it has become horrible to try to park over there. The diagonal parking alleviated part of the problem, however the city reversed this. I understand that is the emergency services route. I would like an explanation why the city cannot simply use 2nd ave?

Thank you for your time,  
Abbie Manley

## **Brittney Moorman**

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**From:** Brandon Ellis <brandonellis1326@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 1, 2021 3:40 PM  
**To:** City Mayor; Ward 1A; Ward 1B; Ward 2A; Ward 2B; Ward 3A; Ward 3B; Ward 4A; Ward 4B; Brittney Moorman; Bethany Langve; Laurel City Planner  
**Subject:** I am sharing 'signatures of support for parking' with you.  
**Attachments:** signatures of parking.pdf

This is the current list of signatures gained on [Change.org](#) of those who support working together to find solutions to this problem of lack of downtown parking and also easy parking access downtown for the disabled and/or elderly. I am sending you this as support for the workshop meeting on 11/2 discussing a possible parking/traffic study.

Name	City	State	Postal Code	Country	Signed On
Brandon Ellis	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Ellyn Williams	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Maria Custodio	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Abbie Manley	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Eric Calhoun	Laurel	MT	59944	US	#####
Karisma Kaufman	Bozeman	MT	59718	US	#####
Lorrie Krell	Billings	MT	59101	US	#####
Justine Degele	Billings	MT	59102	US	#####
Leslie Atkins	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Chad Degele	laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Cameron Degele	Billings	MT	59106	US	#####
Jessica Cummings	Billings	MT	59105	US	#####
Olivia Grimes	Billings	MT	59106	US	#####
Peggy Forsberg	Billings	MT	59044	US	#####
Nelson Bailey	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Shawn Bradshaw	Billings	MT	59102	US	#####
Christopher Smith	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Marcia ketchem	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Tanya Freeman	Laurel	MT	59044-282	US	#####
Shannon Williams	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Jaymegirl_2020 Isaacson	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
David Newton	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Ben Lyons	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Trisha Baker	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Katrina welch	Laurel	MT	98271	US	#####
Pamela Wallace	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Mariah Bass	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Timothy Mark Smith	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Dawn Kuper	Billings	MT	59105	US	#####
Mykal Willoughby	Billings	MT	59101	US	#####
Charles Robert	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Connie Dolman	Park City	MT	59063	US	#####
Renee Melle	Billings	MT	59944	US	#####
Lindsey Farnsworth	laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Franco Carlo		NY		US	#####
JON INWOOD	Brooklyn	NY	11230	US	#####
Greg Schreiner	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
David Ligon	Salinas		93907	US	#####
Austin Ward	Corvallis	OR	97330	US	#####
Sarah Kuhr	Billings	MT	59044	US	#####
Becky Vandyke	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Shaynna Threefingers	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Ashley Winchell	Billings	MT	59102	US	#####
Kathleen Linger	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Amanda Spring	Laurel	MT	59044	US	#####
Karl Worthen	Laurel	MT	92782	US	#####

Jennifer Schessler	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Harold Mesenbrink	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Dianne Boren	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Sydney Bieber	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Ian Logan	Park City	MT	59063 US	#####
BillieJo Hutchinson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Krystal Cocho	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Colton Salo	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Kirsten Cormier	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
V. Ardell Bessler	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Joseph Shaw	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Heather Wilson	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Denette Jacobson	Park City	MT	59063 US	#####
Melissa Bautista	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Alvina Hernández Hernandez	Burlington	WY	82411 US	#####
Miguel Hernandez	Billings	MT	59106 US	#####
Krystal Maerling	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Danielle Bogunovich	Billings	MT	59105 US	#####
F1uffy4 Memez	Fontana		92336 US	#####
Debbie Huskinson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Ken Miller	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Peggy Miller	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Christopher LeDuc	Billings	MT	59105 US	#####
Carla Harmon	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Jaymi Van Rooyen	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Jodie Drange	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Donna Godwin	Billings	MT	59101 US	#####
madi achten	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Anne Heiser	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Rachel Patterson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Keith Carpenter	Billings	MT	59101 US	#####
Larry Gibson	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Jocelyn Krum	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Casey Huskinson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Sheila Roberts	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Claudine Farrar	Hardin	MT	59034 US	#####
Adam Kaluba	Burleson	TX	76028 US	#####
Joshua Lewis	Garland		75040 US	#####
Shelly Yarbrough	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Diane Kraft	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Pearl Spooner	Billings	MT	59105 US	#####
Steve Lavelly	Laur	MT	59044 US	#####
Alicia Wold	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Jessica Smith	Absarokee	MT	US	#####
Rhonda Miller	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Jesse Melvin	Billings	MT	59106 US	#####
Miranda Helzer	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####

Dionna Rudd	Dallas		30132 US	#####
Rylee Johnson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Natalia Souza	Alexandria	VA	22314 US	#####
Carter Frank	Southbury		6488 US	#####
Andrew Cummings	Billings	MT	59105 US	#####
Joe Broere	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Sara Romero	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Jennifer Haq	Alexandria	MN	56308 US	#####
Catherine Farnes	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Charity Watkins	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
daniella preudhomme	Miami		33187 US	#####
dianne lievens	moving to Laurel soon	FL	32162 US	#####
Rosa Broere	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Patty Knopp	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Becky Giudice	Worland	WY	82401 US	#####
Shelley Wold	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Diane Oversen	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Dani Stringer	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
David Wegner	Chicago	IL	60612 US	#####
Peggy LeBrun	Bozeman	MT	59718 US	#####
Jeremy Lavold	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Patrick Trainor	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Ashton Baggett	Brandon		39042 US	#####
Karen Anderson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Chris Green	Atlanta		30309 US	#####
Dana Burgess	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Jeremiah Johnson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Dianna Walker	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Chelsey Stein	Billings	MT	US	#####
davido draco	Irvington		7111 US	#####
Kelly Hazen	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Liam Miller	Helena	MT	59602 US	#####
alyson early	Billings	MT	59106 US	#####
Shanna Fredrickson	Billings	MT	59101 US	#####
Chuck PLATT	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Sara Wiggins	Forsyth	MT	59327 US	#####
Stephanie Beal	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Jason Wold	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Kimberly Pinter	Detroit	MI	48234 US	#####
Anna Anderson	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Melissa Wood	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Linda Lane	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Lori Mendenhall	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
michaella grauberger	billings	MT	59106 US	#####
Cassandra Kelly	Billings	MT	59101 US	#####
Scott Nagel	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Fran Bonogofsky	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####

Darci Colbrese	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Tracy Barndt	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Sheya Askin	Syracuse	UT	84075 US	#####
Deborah Allen	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Joshua Haase	Minneapolis		58413 US	#####
Sophia Arebalo	El Paso		79936 US	#####
Latasha Burns			US	#####
Hunter Hensley	Cincinnati		48221 US	#####
Richard Woodson	Port Clinton		43452 US	#####
Nolan Krimpenfort	Mason		45040 US	#####
Douglas Batista	Aurora		80013 US	#####
Faith Jewett	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Akeish Douglas	Marietta		30008 US	#####
Connie Phillips	Robins	IA	52328 US	#####
Andre Gabriel jr	Charlotte		28215 US	#####
Holee Miller	Denver	CO	80211 US	#####
Patty Smith	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Amanda Anderson	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Dianne Flack	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Laura Moore	string:LAUREL	MT	59044 US	#####
Desiree Irwin	Park city	MT	59063 US	#####
Paige Farmer	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Madalyn Ostwalt	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Rhoda Hoffman	Billings	MT	59105 US	#####
Debbie Jensen	Billings	MT	59101 US	#####
Jess Piper	LAUREL	MT	59044 US	#####
Aubrey Rode	Billings	MT	59106 US	#####
Amarra Kuiper	Otsego		49078 US	#####
Marcia Bray	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Sherri Knaub-Krant	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Mercedes Jenkins	Atlanta		30331 US	#####
marc perdomo	Port isabel		78578 US	#####
Andy Wang	Los Angeles		90057 US	#####
Swann Rice	Billings	MT	59102 US	#####
Scott Snowden	Laurel	MT	59044 US	#####
Ada Hodge	Groves	TX	77619 US	#####
Valana Morris	Des Moines		50310 US	#####

Amanda Spring  
1015 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Apt 1  
Laurel Mt 59044  
702-468-6466  
[Passion4makeup86@gmail.com](mailto:Passion4makeup86@gmail.com)

To whom it may concern,

My name is Amanda and I have lived in Laurel since 2013. I believe that downtown is way over do for some major parking upgrades! We need to move forward with traffic and parking studies down town. In 2013 I lived in an apartment downtown and parking was so hard to come by. I can't imagine what it's like for some of our older community living and shopping down town. It's hard for businesses to draw in customers, no one wants to fight for parking. I really hope the city puts this high on the list of priorities!

Thank you,  
Amanda Spring

CITY HALL  
115 W. 1<sup>ST</sup> ST.  
MAYOR OFC.: 628-8456  
PUB. WORKS: 628-4796  
WATER OFC.: 628-7431  
COURT: 628-1964  
FAX 628-2241

# City Of Laurel

P.O. Box 10  
Laurel, Montana 59044



Office of the City Attorney

## MEMORANDUM

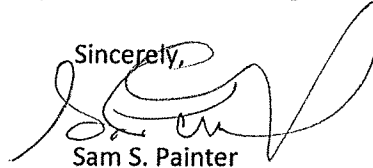
To: City Council Members  
From: Sam S. Painter, City Attorney  
Date: November 1, 2021  
Re: Succession Procedure Mayor Vacancy

In response to Mayor Nelson's passing, I am writing to advise you that there is a procedure to follow under these circumstances to ensure the City's ability to govern, function and provide services. City Ordinance ("LMC") and Montana law ("MCA") contain virtually identical provisions for the City Council to follow to temporarily resolve the situation presented.

The LMC provides that an office is vacant if the death of the incumbent happens prior to the expiration of his/her term. LMC 2.12.060. Upon such a vacancy, the City Council shall, by a majority vote of the members, appoint a person within thirty days to hold the office until his/her successor is elected and qualified. LMC 2.12.070.

Mayor Nelson's term was set to expire on the First Monday of January after the election or January 3, 2022. There are approximately sixty days remaining in Mayor Nelson's term that need to be filled. I suggest the City Council consider filling the remainder of Mayor Nelson's Term with a present Council Member who is willing to serve as Mayor until the Mayor elected in tomorrow's election is sworn into office at the City Council Meeting on January 4, 2022.

If the City Council decides to fill the vacancy, it shall by a majority vote at the next regularly scheduled meeting, appoint a Mayor. The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2021. I suggest the City Council place an agenda item on next week's agenda entitled "Appointment of Mayor to fill Vacancy." On November 9, 2021, the City Council can by nomination and majority vote, approve the appointment of a Mayor to serve Mayor Nelson's remaining term.

Sincerely,  
  
Sam S. Painter