

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, JANUARY 05, 2021**

A Council Workshop was held via Zoom and called to order by Mayor Tom Nelson at 6:30 p.m. on January 5, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Nelson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Appointment to the Police Commission for a three-year term ending April 30, 2023. Council had no comment about this appointment.

2. Appointment to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2023. Council had no comment about this appointment.

Executive Review

3. Resolution - Resolution Of The City Council To Adopt The 2020 City Of Laurel Growth Policy.

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director, stated this is no new to Council. It has been in front of the Council for the past few months. This resolution is to adopt, which follows 30 days after the resolution of intent. The 30-day comment period has closed. No public comment was received.

Council thanked the Planning Director for all his hard work on this plan.

It was questioned where this plan goes from here. It was clarified it is the City's responsibility to adhere to the policy when looking at developments. This will be the City's guide for growth for the next five years. At which time it will be reviewed per MCA.

4. Ordinance - An Ordinance Creating A New Title 13 Entitled "Fire Prevention And Protection" And Amending And Renumbering Certain Sections Of Title 15 And 8 Of The Laurel Municipal Code Updating The City's Fire Prevention And Protection Codes.

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director, briefly reviewed the attached Staff report.

Council Issues

5. Meeting Venue Discussion

Mayor Nelson stated that some had had issues meeting virtually. He asked the Board, Commission, Committee chairs if they had any concerns about how they are meeting.

Council noted that some committee members do not have internet, making it challenging to meet virtually. They noted that members would socially distance themselves and wear masks. They agreed these meetings can comfortably meet in Council Chambers.

As far as City Council, Workshop, and Budget/Finance Committee will continue to meet virtually. There is still staff concerned with gathering in person. Since the Budget/Finance Committee meets directly before Council, it will also meet virtually. If anyone has questions or comments, please email the Mayor.

Other Items

Review of Draft Council Agendas

6. Draft Council Agenda for January 12, 2020.

There were no suggested changes.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Mayor Nelson stated he would gone at next week's meeting.

Announcements

Mayor Nelson stated that he has met with Laurel's representative Vince Ricci to work with the new budget director to get the 25% match that they did not want to participate in as approved by FEMA in 2011.

The council workshop adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brittney Moorman', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

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.

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Staff Report – Title 13 Ordinance

While reviewing Title 15 and Title 8, I found that there were Fire Protection codes in two separate locations. In order to organize and make searchability easier, I created Title 13 Fire Protection and Prevention.

When the 2012 IFC was adopted by Administrative Order in 2015, the jurisdictional amendments to the fire code were not updated to reference the sections in 2012 IFC (International Fire Code). Therefore, when moving to new Title, these references were updated to reflect the proper code reference in the IFC. As well the State of Montana had changed the Administrative Rules section that amended the Fire Code. This Ordinance will update to the proper State level references and amendments.

Other Fire Protection and Prevention Codes were in Title 8. This included Fireworks and Miscellaneous Fire Protection Regulations. These were reviewed and the language was changed to clarify the updated references to Federal, State and County regulations. By correcting the language within these Chapters, it allows citizens to be able to access the references and cleaned up sections that were not adopted by the State or had been deleted in previous years.

The creation of Title 13 will also allow for future Fire Protection and Prevention Regulations to be placed in one location within the Laurel Municipal Code.