

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

April 11, 2023

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 Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on April 11, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:           Emelie Eaton           Heidi Sparks  
  Michelle Mize  
  Casey Wheeler        Irv Wilke  
  Richard Klose         Jodi Mackay

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:         Richard Herr

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:             Michele, Braukmann, Civil City Attorney  
  Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant  
  Lyndy Gurchiek, Ambulance Director  
  JW Hopper, Interim Fire Chief

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

## MINUTES:

Motion by Council Member Wilke to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 28, 2023, as presented, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

- Police Monthly Report – March 2023

**COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims entered through April 7, 2023.**  
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 4/2/2023 totaling \$229,954.46.**

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

Motion by Council Member Klose to amend the approval of Payroll Register for PPE 4/2/2023 totaling \$229,954.46 to \$228,481.53, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve the consent items as amended, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

## REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of March 28, 2023.
- Tree Board Minutes of February 16, 2023.
- Library Board Minutes of January 10, 2023.
- Library Board Minutes of February 21, 2023.
- Public Works Committee Minutes of January 20, 2023.

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- City/County Planning Board Minutes of February 15, 2023.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT):** None.

**SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- **Resolution No. R23-21: Resolution Adopting Amendments To The Personnel Policy Manual For The City Of Laurel**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R23-21, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R23-22: A Resolution Of The City Council To Submit The Question To The Electorate Authorizing The City To Impose A New Mill Levy For The City Of Laurel Emergency Response Services Of A New 50.06 Mills To Fund Ems Services, Including Staffing, Volunteer Compensation, Training, And Ancillary Operations**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve Resolution No. R23-22, seconded by Council Member Wilke.

Ambulance Director Gurchiek briefly reviewed what the proposed Mill would do for her department. It will add additional full-time EMTs, increase wages to be competitive for existing staff, increase volunteer stipends, and look at increasing the Medical Director's stipend.

There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Ordinance No. O23-02: An Ordinance Amending Section 2.72.020 (Composition) Of The Laurel Municipal Code Related To Membership In The Laurel City-County Planning Board. (First Reading)**

Motion by Council Member Mize to adopt Ordinance No. O23-02, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Council Members Sparks, Wilke, Mackay, Klose, Wheeler, Mize, and Eaton voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT):** None.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

Public Works Committee's next meeting is Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Council Member Klose stated he would be absent from the City from May 11-17, 2023. He requested a motion granting him permission to leave the City on the next Council cycle.

**MAYOR UPDATES:**

Now that Council has approved the Mill to go before the voters this fall, the City will need to focus on education before the November vote.

The Southside project is moving along.

The splash park is moving along.

We received news today that the City's workers' compensation saw almost a 10% reduction for this next Fiscal Year. The City will also receive \$10k back from the premiums it paid this year.

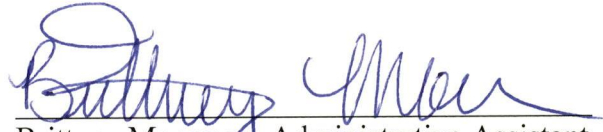
**UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:** None.

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Council Member Mize to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

  
Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

  
Dave Waggoner, Mayor

Attest:

  
Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer



