

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

January 25, 2022

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 6:31 p.m. on January 25, 2022.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Emelie Eaton Heidi Sparks
 Michelle Mize Richard Herr
 Irv Wilke
 Richard Klose Bill Mountsier

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Scot Stokes

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: Jaime Swecker, Fire Marshall
 Gary Gotschell, Firemen
 Kurt Markegard, Public Works Director

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 January 11, 2022, 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:

- Beartooth RC&D Correspondence.
- Ambulance Monthly Report – December 2021.

COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims entered through January 21, 2022.**
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE through 1/9/2022 totaling \$208,094.18.**

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

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the consent items as presented, 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.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of December 28, 2021.
- Tree Board Minutes of December 16, 2021.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT):

Barb Emineth, 501 Alder Avenue, read the attached statement into the record.

DW

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Appointment of Ryan Roache to the Police Reserves.**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve the Mayor's appointment of Ryan Roache to the Police Reserves, 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.

- **Appointment of Bruce McGee to the Emergency Services Committee.**

Motion by Council Member Mize to approve the Mayor's appointment of Bruce McGee to the Emergency Services Committee, seconded by Council Member Mountsier. 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.

- **Appointment of Jonathan Gotschall and Lorenzo Olvera to the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department.**

Jaime Swecker, Fire Marshall, introduced Mr. Gotschall and Mr. Olvera to Council.

Motion by Council Member Herr to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jonathan Gotschall and Lorenzo Olvera to the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department, 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.

- **Mayor's Committee Appointments**

Mayor Waggoner made three slight changes to his Committee recommendation. Council Member Mountsier will be on Park Board. Council Member Sparks will be on the Budget/Finance Committee and Public Works Committee.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the Mayor's Committee Appointments, 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. R22-04: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign An Agreement With Thompson Painter Law Pc For The Provision Of Civil Legal Services For The City Of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Mountsier to approve Resolution No. R22-04, 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. R22-05: Resolution Of The City Council Approving The Development Agreement Between The GL Development LLC, The Laurel Depot LLLP, And The City For The Development And Construction Of Low Income Housing To Be Located Within The City Of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve Resolution No. R22-05, seconded by Council Member Wilke.

William Hanes, an architect with Collaborative Design Architects in Billings, was the architect of record for this project. He briefly spoke of his support for this project.

There was no council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven Council Members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R22-06: Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Yellowstone County Treasurer To Remove The United States Postal Service From The Official County Tax Rolls.**

Motion by Council Member Wilke to approve Resolution No. R22-06, seconded by Council Member Mountsier. 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.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council asked for clarification on the volunteer ambulance pay and if they have received a pay increase.

Council also requested a list of wages set via resolution. They would like a copy of those resolutions.

Big Sky Beef is looking for a location to put a meat processing facility. Council asked if Laurel would be an option.

Cemetery Commission will meet tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. in Council Conference Room.

It was clarified that no one should have been going door to door regarding a meeting. KLJ did have people in the area surveying the S. 4th Street project, but no one went door to door. Residents should receive something in the mail regarding a future meeting for the work on the south side.

MAYOR UPDATES:

Mayor Waggoner spoke with Council Member Wilke about removing the rifle range at Riverside Park. The Public Works Department has removed that structure.


There is a candidate that may be interviewed for the open Planner position.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

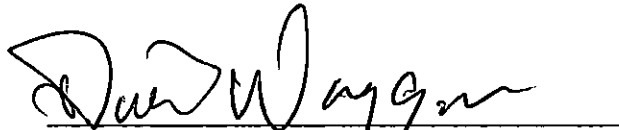
ADJOURNMENT:


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 7:00 p.m.


Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 8th day of February 2022.


Dave Waggoner, Mayor

Attest:

Bethany Langve, Clerk/Treasurer

sw

my copy where you have found one above the methane plant in Laurel?

Hi, My name is Barb Emmerth

I live at 501 Alder Avenue

Mr. Mayor, people are waiting to hear I am here to update the council

about what I understand the present situation with NWE and their proposed methane plant ~~site~~ they will be re-applying for the permit needed from the county commissioners to continue

their destruction on the south side of the Yellowstone river in order to install their Byron pipeline. Once they obtain that permit there will be by law a 14 day public input period. I will

be putting petitions in our local businesses for people to sign if they're opposed to the pipeline as well as the methane plant. On Feb. 10th at noon

there will be a peoples hearing where I will be speaking, all are invited to attend and to speak. We must make it perfectly clear that Laurel does not want this methane plant on our doorstep. I realize the city might now have

limited power to stop ~~it~~ ^{it will be at the 4th year} we each need to use our personal power!!

County courthouse

I am a city voter, I pick up
 garbage all over town. Recently I've
 been working on our town square.
 I have a question about the 3
 garbage receptacles that have been
 placed there. Who needs to be
 contacted about them? I think
 they were a good idea except they
 never get emptied and they are
 almost 15 ft. away in the
 alley. I also have never seen so
 much dog poop there despite the
 fact there's bags, a special place to
 put full bags, as well as a sign
 posting up to a \$500.00 fine for not
 using them. Maybe I'll take a photo
 next time I see someone allowing
 their dog to do its business and not
 pick it up. Maybe just by mentioning
 this on radio people will do better,
 I am always hopeful.

John D. Smith
 501 Alder 598-4629

3rd After putting in my name for the vacant seat in Ward 4 I learned that holding that position is as much a community service as it is a job making less than \$50.00 a week. I thank each of you for being here.

I do however ask that moving forward you each make an attempt to place your eggs as well as your politics on ~~the~~ top shelf and do your best to look out for the welfare of Laurel's citizens. I feel the council, in order to keep up with everything that needs to be discussed and hopefully resolved can no longer move at a snails pace. It does our city no good when issues take years to either be worked out or ignored.

Thank you for
your time.