

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on February 20, 2024.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Canape	<input type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Banks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jodi Mackay

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney  
Brittney Harakal, Council Administrative Assistant  
Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer  
Kurt Markegard, Planning Director  
JW Hopper, Fire Chief  
KC Beiber, Fire Captain  
Matt Wheeler, Public Works Director  
Ryan Welsh, KLJ

**Public Input:**

There was no public comment.

Mayor Waggoner took a moment to thank KC Beiber for his service. KC is an 11-year veteran of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. He is a Staff Sergeant in the Montana Army National Guard. He is a UH60 Crew Chief. He has served 17 years, including two tours in Iraq from 2011 to 2012 and from 2023 to 2024. One tour in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in 2019-2020. He has served with A Company, C Company, and D Company 1-189 Aviation out of Helena, MT. A company 3-126 Aviation based out of Joint Base Cape Code, MA.

**General Items**

1. Appointment of Dennis Eaton to the Public Works Committee.

There was no discussion on the item.

### **Executive Review**

2. Resolution - Resolution Of The City Council Of Intent To Adopt An Official Schedule Of Fees And Charges For The City Of Laurel And Repealing All Previous Resolutions That Set Fees Or Charges That Conflict With The Schedule Attached Hereto Upon Its Effective Date.

There was no discussion on the item.

3. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Approving The Standards For Public Works Manual For The City Of Laurel Public Works Department.

This resolution has been pulled from next week's agenda. In the original task order, there was an outlined approval process. The Public Works Committee needs to review and recommend approval.

Ryan Welsh, KLLJ, briefly reviewed the changes made to the document. These Public Works Standards closely resemble the City of Billings standards to help with continuity for builders doing work within both communities. There were significant changes to the stormwater discharge sections of the standards.

It was questioned if the Council could receive the redlined version to be able to see all the changes that have been made.

It was questioned if developers would adhere to the stormwater discharge changes. It was clarified that the changes affect the stormwater required to be stored on site.

It was questioned if the Public Works Committee could receive the changes made before their next meeting on Monday. It was clarified that that document would be sent later this week.

4. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Approving Amendments To Appropriations And Revenues For The City Of Laurel's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget.

The Clerk/Treasurer reviewed the attached exhibit.

5. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Reschedule City Council Meetings Set On 2024 Holidays.

There was no discussion on this item.

### **Council Issues**

6. MoCones Public Hearing

The Planning Director reviewed the attached Staff report. He reiterated that there is no action before Council to vote on. There will be a public hearing only.

## 7. Sprinkler System at Kiwanis Park Discussion

The Public Works Director stated that the Park Board would like to have a sprinkler system installed at Kiwanis Park. This is one of the last few parks where pipes have to be laid manually. It is not an efficient use of manpower. He plans to put this in next year's budget. So far, they have received quotes for 89k and 79.5k. The Park Board would like to use the money made in Riverside Park from the derailment to complete this project.

Council noted that when they agreed to lease space in Riverside Park, it was with the understanding that those monies would be spent on park improvements even though those funds are part of the General Fund.

After Kiwanis Park, the only Park left to need a sprinkler system will be Nutting Park. These are big and expensive projects for our parks, so it is nice to get another Park taken care of.

### **Other Items**

Council asked for clarification if Budget Amendments also go to the Budget/Finance Committee. It was clarified that the Council approves the Budget, so it must also be approved by the Council and have a public hearing.

Council asked that there be a discussion on the cap for properties for Street Maintenance. It was clarified that there will be an upcoming discussion regarding the cap on properties.

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

All Council Members present will be in attendance at next week's meeting.

### **Announcements**

The council workshop adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittney Harakal

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.**

**EXHIBIT A**

**Budget Amendment  
Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Fund 2250 – Planning Appropriations

Original Appropriation	\$ 136600.00
Amended Appropriation	<u>\$ 168135.00</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$ 31535.00

**The City had to contract with KLJ to help with the planning duties and demands. The cost of this contract was considerably higher than the cost of a staff position. The Planning Department was granted a grant reimbursement for zoning regulations this year to offset these additional appropriations.**

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Fund 2250 – Planning Revenues

Original Budgeted Revenues	\$ 118135.00
Amended Budgeted Revenues	<u>\$ 168135.00</u>
Increase in Revenues:	\$ 50000.00

**The Planning Department received a grant reimbursement for zoning regulations this year.**

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Fund 2821 – HB 473 – Gas Tax

Original Appropriation	\$ 450000.00
Amended Appropriation	<u>\$ 650000.00</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$ 200000.00

**Increase appropriations due to new gas tax laws.**

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Fund 2821- HB 473- Gas Tax

Original Budgeted Revenues	\$ 279598.00
Amended Budgeted Revenues	<u>\$ 615521.00</u>
Increase in Revenues:	\$ 335923.00

**Unanticipated Revenue due to new gas tax laws.**

Fund 3508 – SID #118 – S Washington Ave Sidewalks

Original Revenue	\$	13132.00
Amended Revenue	\$	<u>14072.00</u>
Increase in Revenue :	\$	940.00

**Error when inputting budget numbers in budget book. This will have no effect on cash reserves.**

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Fund 2850 – 911 Emergency

Original Revenue	\$	57504.00
Amended Revenue	\$	<u>68055.00</u>
Increase in Revenue:	\$	10551.00

**Error in budget book. The wrong revenue amount was entered. This will not affect cash reserves.**

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Fund 2310 – TIFD

Original Appropriation	\$	2564901.00
Amended Appropriation	\$	<u>3423839.00</u>
Increase to Appropriation:	\$	858938.00

**There was a miscalculation in the budget book on the number of mills we receive from county for this fund. We were able to increase appropriation due to increased mills**

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Fund 2310 – TIFD

Original Revenue	\$	1013800.00
Amended Revenue	\$	<u>1364738.00</u>
Increase in Revenue :	\$	350937.00

**There was a miscalculation in the budget book on the number of mills we receive from county for this fund.**

Fund 2880 – Library Grant

Original Revenue	\$	4883.00
Amended Revenue	\$	<u>6105.00</u>
Increase in Revenue	:	\$ 1222.00

**The library received more revenue this year than expected. Increase revenue for unexpected increase.**

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Fund 2992 – ARPA

Original Appropriation	\$	1759302.00
Amended Appropriation	\$	<u>2857302.00</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$	1098000.00

**This is a budget correction for phase two of the ARPA allocated monies. This was left out of the budget due to grant completion.**

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Fund 2992 – APRA

Original Revenue	\$	15000.00
Amended Revenue	\$	<u>113000.00</u>
Increase in Revenue:	\$	1098000.00

**This is a budget correction for phase two of the ARPA allocated monies. This was left out of budget due to grant completion.**

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Fund 7030 – Library Federation

Original Appropriation	\$	4467.00
Amended Appropriation	\$	<u>7397.00</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$	2930.00

**Unanticipated Revenue from the state Library. Increase appropriation to offset the unexpected revenue.**

Fund 7030 – Library Federation

Original Revenue	\$	5100.00
Amended Revenue	\$	<u>8030.00</u>
Increase in Revenue:	\$	2930.00

**Unanticipated Revenue from the State Library. Increase appropriation to offset the unexpected revenue.**



## LAUREL CITY-COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

### STAFF REPORT

TO: Laurel City Council  
FROM: Kurt Markegard Planning Director  
RE: Laurel School Board's decision to let MoCones operate on public lands  
DATE: March 16, 2024

#### INTRODUCTION:

Del Henman investigated operating his ice cream business on school property. Mr. Henman was advised to inform the Laurel School District that they needed to inform the City of their intentions to use public lands contrary to City of Laurel's zoning regulations as allowed per MCA 76-2-402. The Planning Director requested a review of state law with the City Attorney and the conclusion was made that the Laurel School District can use their land for this purpose if the City Council holds a Public Hearing, and the School District sends a representative to the hearing.

City Council is given no authority in state law to approve or deny the Laurel School District intentions to use public land contrary to local zoning regulations.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

The Laurel City Council is given no authority in state law to approve or deny the Laurel School District intentions to use public land contrary to local zoning regulations.

Montana Code Annotated 2023

TITLE 76. LAND RESOURCES AND USE

CHAPTER 2. PLANNING AND ZONING

Part 4. Application to Governmental Agencies Group and Foster Homes

Local Zoning Regulations -- Application To Agencies

76-2-402. Local zoning regulations -- application to agencies. (1) Whenever an agency proposes to use public land contrary to local zoning regulations, a public hearing must be held and the agency shall attend the public hearing.

(2) The local governing body shall hold a hearing within 30 days of the date the agency gives notice to the local governing body of its intent to develop land contrary to local zoning regulations.

**History:** En. Sec. 2, Ch. 397, L. 1981; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 362, L. 2021.



Exhibit "A" Location for MoCones

