

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

APRIL 14, 2020

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the virtually via Zoom and called to order by Mayor Tom Nelson at 6:30 p.m. on April 14, 2020.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Emelie Eaton	Heidi Sparks
Bruce McGee	Richard Herr
Scot Stokes	Irv Wilke
Richard Klose	Don Nelson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director

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

Mayor Nelson asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

MINUTES:

Motion by Council Member McGee to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 24, 2020, as presented, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Resignation of Tony Krumheuer from the Police Commission.

COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- Vacating The Alley Located Between Lots 14-18 Of Block 4 Of Hageman Subdivision and Lots 1-5 Of Block 4 Of Hageman Subdivision 1st Filing Within The City Of Laurel.

Mayor Nelson stated this is the time and place set for the public hearing on the City of Laurel's Vacating The Alley Located Between Lots 14-18 Of Block 4 Of Hageman Subdivision and Lots 1-5 Of Block 4 Of Hageman Subdivision 1st Filing Within The City Of Laurel.

Mayor Nelson opened the public hearing.

Mayor Nelson opened the floor for public comment and asked that Staff present the item.

Nick Altonaga, Planning Director, stated that Council has gone over this in the past, of course with the intent and then again last week at the Workshop. This alley vacation runs between the Cenex and Taco Bell up into the property that is currently being developed by Wendy's. It is a big need for them to vacate this because there are a couple of codes that would necessitate curbing and gutter around the boundaries of their lots, which would completely cut off their lots, so this is a necessity. This will allow them to properly move traffic around and things like that. The Public Works Director had made a comment when he submitted his opinions on this matter. That we want to make sure that access is allowed for public and private infrastructure and utilities. The City does not have anything that runs in that alleyway currently. There might be some private utilities. The property owner is aware of that, and it has been mentioned in conversation and communications he has had with them. The Planning Director stated he sees this as a really good thing and makes the lot more cohesive and brings it together to ensure its connectivity. So that it is connected and actually able to be developed on. The City sees this as a good thing to allow that to be built on and a commonsense thing to be done because a lot of those other lots have had similar vacations and abandonments on them. This is continuing that and almost completing the trend.

Mayor Nelson stated that copies of the rules governing the public hearing were posted in the council chambers.

Mayor Nelson asked three times if there were any proponents. There were none.

Mayor Nelson asked three times if there were any opponents. There were none.

Mayor Nelson asked Staff to respond to any relevant questions. There were none.

Mayor Nelson closed the public hearing.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims for the month of March 2020 in the amount of \$ _____.**
A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's Office.
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 3/22/2020, totaling \$190,913.95.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 4/5/2020, totaling \$199,986.56.**
- **Approval of Workshop Minutes of March 3, 2020.**
- **Approval of Workshop Minutes of March 17, 2020.**

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

Motion by Council Member McGee to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Council Members Sparks, Herr, Wilke, Klose, Nelson, Stokes, and McGee all voted aye. Council Member Eaton was disconnected from the meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Upon Council Member Eaton's reentry into the meeting, she clarified that she needed to remove the Claims and both Payroll items from the Consent Agenda as the Budget/Finance Committee did not meet tonight. Both items will be on next week's Consent Agenda.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the consent items as amended, seconded by Council Member Herr. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion to approve the consent items as amended. Council Members Sparks, Herr, Wilke, Klose, Nelson, Stokes, McGee, and Eaton all voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- Budget/Finance Committee minutes of March 24, 2020.
- Park Board minutes of February 6, 2020.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Resolution No. R20-19: A Resolution Of The City Council Vacating The Alley Located Between Lots 14-18 Of Block 4 Of Hageman Subdivision And Lots 1-5 Of Block 4 Of Hageman Subdivision 1st Filing Within the City Of Laurel.**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve Resolution No. R20-19, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment.

It was questioned if this alley vacation would have any negative implications. It was clarified that it would not.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Council Members Sparks, Herr, Wilke, Klose, Nelson, Stokes, McGee, and Eaton all aye. Motion carried 8-0.



- **Resolution No. R20-20: A Resolution Approving A Task Order Between The City Of Laurel And The Department Of Justice Natural Resource Damage Program ("NRDP") For construction Of A Campground At Riverside Park.**

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve Resolution No. R20-20, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. Council Members Sparks, Herr, Wilke, Klose, Nelson, Stokes, McGee, and Eaton all aye. Motion carried 8-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Claims and both Payroll items were removed from the Consent Agenda because Budget/Finance did not meet this evening. All thee items will be on the next Consent Agenda.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

The Senior Center is going to serve Meals on Wheels two days a week with frozen meals. Contact the Senior Center (628-7571) or Council Member Klose (671-1814) for more information.

The National Cemetery is going to continue doing interments. Anyone in attendance must stay in their vehicles starting tomorrow.

It was questioned if there can be a discussion about when Boards/Committees/Commissions will begin meeting again. Mayor Nelson stated that any Board/Commission/Committee could contact him if they have urgent business to discuss. They can do a Zoom meeting if need be. They would need to contact him to discuss the need to meet.

Council thanked City Employees for keeping life moving as normal as possible. There have not been any disruptions in City services. Thank you.

MAYOR UPDATES:


Mayor Nelson stated that we would get better at streamlining technology as we use this process more. This is how the Council will meet until further direction from the State regarding social distancing. It does not look like we will go back to normal any time soon. There are a lot of Cities and Towns struggling with going virtual as well.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

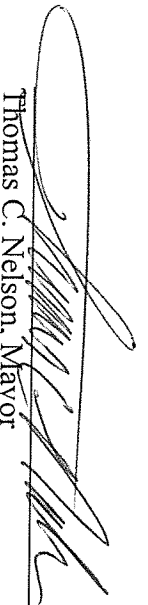
Motion by Council Member Herr to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member McGee. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight council members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.



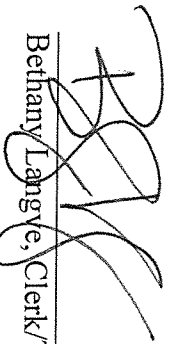
Britney Moorman, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 28th day of April 2020.



Thomas C. Nelson, Mayor

Attest:



Bethany Langye, Clerk/Treasurer