



**AGENDA
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 09, 2023
6:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

NEXT RES. NO.
R23-28

NEXT ORD. NO.
O23-03

WELCOME . . . By your presence in the City Council Chambers, you are participating in the process of representative government. To encourage that participation, the City Council has specified times for citizen comments on its agenda -- once following the Consent Agenda, at which time citizens may address the Council concerning any brief community announcement not to exceed one minute in duration for any speaker; and again following Items Removed from the Consent Agenda, at which time citizens may address the Council on any matter of City business that is not on tonight's agenda. Each speaker will be limited to three minutes, unless the time limit is extended by the Mayor with the consent of the Council. Citizens may also comment on any item removed from the consent agenda prior to council action, with each speaker limited to three minutes, unless the time limit is extended by the Mayor with the consent of the Council. If a citizen would like to comment on an agenda item, we ask that you wait until the agenda item is presented to the Council by the Mayor and the public is asked to comment by the Mayor. Once again, each speaker is limited to three minutes.

Any person who has any question concerning any agenda item may call the City Clerk-Treasurer's office to make an inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Your City government welcomes your interest and hopes you will attend the Laurel City Council meetings often.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of the Council

Approval of Minutes

- [1.](#) Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2023.

Correspondence

- [2.](#) Police Monthly Report - April 2023.

Council Disclosure of Ex Parte Communications

Public Hearing

Consent Items

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

*The Consent Calendar adopting the printed Recommended Council Action will be enacted with one vote. **The Mayor will first ask the Council members if any Council member wishes to remove any item from the Consent Calendar for discussion and consideration.** The matters removed from the Consent Calendar will be considered individually at the end of this Agenda under "Items Removed from the Consent Calendar." (See Section 12.) The entire Consent Calendar, with the exception of items removed to be discussed under "Items Removed from the Consent Calendar," is then voted upon by roll call under one motion.*

3. Claims Entered through May 5, 2023.
4. Approve Payroll Register for PPE 4/30/2023 totaling \$232,672.19.
- [5.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of November 15, 2022.
6. Closed Executive Session Minutes of November 15, 2022.
- [7.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of December 6, 2022.
- [8.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of December 20, 2022.
- [9.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of January 3, 2023.
- [10.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of January 17, 2023.
- [11.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of February 7, 2023.
- [12.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of February 21, 2023.
- [13.](#) Special Council Workshop of February 28, 2023.
- [14.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of March 7, 2023.

- [15.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of March 21, 2023.
- [16.](#) Closed Executive Session Minutes of March 28, 2023.
- [17.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of April 4, 2023.
- [18.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of April 18, 2023.
- [19.](#) Council Workshop Minutes of May 2, 2023.

Ceremonial Calendar

- [20.](#) Poppy Day Proclamation

Reports of Boards and Commissions

- [21.](#) Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of April 25, 2023.

Audience Participation (Three-Minute Limit)

Citizens may address the Council regarding any item of City business that is not on tonight's agenda. Comments regarding tonight's agenda items will be accepted under Scheduled Matters. The duration for an individual speaking under Audience Participation is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the Council will not take action on any item not on the agenda.

Scheduled Matters

- [22.](#) Resolution No. R23-28: A Resolution Of The City Council Approving Amendments To Appropriations And Revenues For The City Of Laurel's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget.
- [23.](#) Resolution No. R23-29: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The City Of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board To Work With City Staff To Prepare Comprehensive Updates To The City Of Laurel's Growth Management Plan.
- [24.](#) Resolution No. R23-30: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With True North Contracting.
- [25.](#) Resolution No. R23-31: A Resolution Of The City Council Approving And Adopting The Updated Water System Preliminary Engineering Report Prepared By KLJ Engineering, Inc. For The City Of Laurel.

Items Removed From the Consent Agenda

Community Announcements (One-Minute Limit)

This portion of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for citizens to address the Council regarding community announcements. The duration for an individual speaking under Community Announcements is limited to one minute. While all comments are welcome, the Council will not take action on any item not on the agenda.

Council Discussion

Council members may give the City Council a brief report regarding committees or groups in which they are involved.

Mayor Updates

Unscheduled Matters

Adjournment

The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing accommodation must notify the City Clerk's Office to make needed arrangements. To make your request known, please call 406-628-7431, Ext. 2, or write to City Clerk, PO Box 10, Laurel, MT 59044, or present your request at City Hall, 115 West First Street, Laurel, Montana.

DATES TO REMEMBER

File Attachments for Item:

1. Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2023.

draft

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

April 25, 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 25, 2023.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: Michele, Braukmann, Civil City Attorney
 Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant
 Matt Wheeler, Public Works Director
 Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer
 JW Hopper, Fire Chief
 Ryan Welsh, KLJ

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 April 11, 2023, 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: None.

COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- Public Hearing: 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.

Mayor Waggoner opened the public hearing and asked Staff to present the item.

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney, stated these changes are to reflect the current Membership of the City/County Planning Board as outlined in the interlocal agreement.

Mayor Waggoner opened the floor for public comment and stated that copies of the rules governing the public hearing were posted in the Council chambers.

Mayor Waggoner asked three (3) times if there were any proponents. There were none.

Mayor Waggoner asked three (3) times if there were any opponents. There were none.

Mayor Waggoner stated that he would not have Staff respond to questions as there were none.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Claims entered through April 21, 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 4/16/2023 totaling \$217,006.92.**

draft

- **Workshop Minutes of October 18, 2023.**
 - **Workshop Minutes of November 1, 2023.**

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

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve the consent items 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.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of April 11, 2023.
- Public Works Committee Minutes of March 20, 2023.
- Emergency Services Committee Minutes of February 27, 2023.
- Park Board Minutes of April 6, 2023.
- Tree Board Minutes of March 20, 2023.
- City/County Planning Board Minutes of March 15, 2023.
- Laurel Urban Renewal Agency Minutes of March 6, 2023.
- Laurel Urban Renewal Agency Minutes of April 17, 2023.
- Emergency Services Committee Minutes of January 23, 2023.
- Emergency Services Committee Minutes of March 27, 2023.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Motion to allow Council Member Klose to be absent from the City of Laurel for possibly more than ten days. (LMC 2.12.060)**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to allow Council Member Klose to be absent from the City of Laurel for possibly more than ten days (LMC 2.12.060), seconded by Council Member Wilke. 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.

- **Appointment of JW Hopper as Fire Chief.**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the Mayor's appointment of JW Hopper as Fire Chief, seconded by Council Member Sparks. 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.

Council President Sparks swore in Fire Chief Hopper and presented him with his badge.

- **Appointment of Steven Hurd to the Cemetery Commission for the remainder of a term ending June 30, 2024.**

Motion by Council Member Herr to approve the Mayor's appointment of Steven Hurd to the Cemetery Commission for the remainder of a term ending June 30, 2024, seconded by Council Member Wilke. 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.

- **Resolution No. R23-23: Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute Lease Agreements With Laurel Little League And American Legion Baseball Post #123 For Baseball Facilities And Pool Building As Described In The Lease Agreements.**

Motion by Council Member Mize to approve Resolution No. R23-23, 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.

draft

- **Resolution No. R23-24: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With Play Space Designs For Phase Two Of The Laurel Splash Park.**

Motion by Council Member Mackay to approve Resolution No. R23-24, seconded by Council Member Wilke. 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.

- **Resolution No. R23-25: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Approve A Work Change Directive For The Project Known As The WTP Lift Well Replacement.**

Motion by Council Member Wheeler to approve Resolution No. R23-25, seconded by Council Member Sparks.

Ryan Welsh, KLJ, stated when the contractor got into the area, they found that the lines were not where they said they were. This required the shoring to be moved and the excavation to be redone.

It was questioned if these lines are thoroughly documented for future needs. It was clarified that these lines are documented correctly.

A vote was taken on the motion. All eight Council Members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **Resolution No. R23-26: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing Participation In The Montana Board Of Investments Of Short-Term Investment Pool And Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of Documents Related Thereto.**

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve Resolution No. R23-26, seconded by Council Member Wilke. 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.

- **Resolution No. R23-27: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Approve A Change Order For The Project Known As The South 4th Street Reconstruction.**

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve Resolution No. R23-27, seconded by Council Member Sparks.

Ryan Welsh, KLJ, stated this Change Order is due to a waterline located 70 feet from the right-of-way. This Change Order brings that waterline into S. 5th Street.

There was no Council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All eight Council Members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

- **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. (Second Reading)**

Motion by Council Member Eaton to adopt Ordinance No. O23-02, seconded by Council Member Wilke. There was no public comment or Council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Council Members Sparks, Herr, Wilke, Mackay, Klose, Wheeler, Mize, and Eaton voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT):

Arbor Day is next Tuesday. There will be a ceremony in Thomson Park at 11:00 a.m.

There is a Clean-up Weekend this Saturday and Sunday put on by Grace Bible Church.

A Community Clean-up is planned for May 6th to clean up the Parade Route for the 35th Annual Montana Peace Officers Memorial Parade & Ceremony.

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Council Minutes of April 25, 2023

On May 13th, Laurel will host the 35th Annual Montana Peace Officers Memorial Parade & Ceremony. The parade will start at 11:00 a.m.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

MAYOR UPDATES:

Mayor Waggoner stated a Council Workshop falls on July 4th this year. He asked Council if they would like to move this meeting or cancel this meeting—either way, it will need to be done via resolution.

Mayor Waggoner stated that the list of upcoming vacancies for the Boards/Committees/Commissions is on the City's website.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member MacKay 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 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 6:55 p.m.


Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 9th day of May 2023.

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

Attest:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer

File Attachments for Item:

2. Police Monthly Report - April 2023.



Laurel Police Department

215 W. 1st Street Laurel, Mt. 59044 ▪ Phone 406-628-8737 ▪ Fax 406-628-4641

Total Calls

Printed on April 30, 2023

[CFS Date/Time] is between '2023-03-27 00:00' and '2023-04-24 23:59' and

[Primary Incident Code->Code : Description] All

Code : Description

Totals

10-15 : With Prisoner	0	0
: Abandoned Vehicle	28	28
: Agency Assist	63	63
: Alarm - Burglary	11	11
: Alarm - Fire	3	3
AMB : Ambulance	72	72
: Animal Complaint	6	6
: Area Check	6	6
: Assault	3	3
: Bad Checks	0	0
: Barking Dog	3	3
: Bomb Threat	0	0
: Burglary	1	1
: Child Abuse/Neglect	0	0
: Civil Complaint	11	11
: Code Enforcment Violation	1	1
: Counterfeiting	0	0

Code : Description	Totals	
: Criminal Mischief	9	9
: Criminal Trespass	3	3
: Cruelty to Animals	0	0
: Curfew Violation	3	3
: Discharge Firearm	0	0
: Disorderly Conduct	7	7
: Dog at Large	24	24
: Dog Bite	4	4
DUI : DUI Driver	5	5
: Duplicate Call	5	5
: Escape	0	0
: Family Disturbance	16	16
: Fight	3	3
FIRE : Fire or Smoke	20	20
: Fireworks	0	0
: Forgery	1	1
: Found Property	3	3
: Fraud	2	2
: Harassment	3	3
: Hit & Run	5	5
: Identity Theft	0	0

Code : Description	Totals	
: Indecent Exposure	2	2
: Insecure Premises	1	1
: Intoxicated Pedestrian	3	3
: Kidnapping	0	0
: Littering	1	1
: Loitering	2	2
: Lost or Stray Animal	11	11
: Lost Property	3	3
: Mental Health	0	0
: Missing Person	2	2
: Noise Complaint	4	4
: Open Container	0	0
: Order of Protection Violation	0	0
: Parking Complaint	18	18
: Possession of Alcohol	1	1
: Possession of Drugs	0	0
: Possession of Tobacco	3	3
: Privacy in Communications	1	1
: Prowler	0	0
: Public Assist	52	52
: Public Safety Complaint	6	6

Code : Description	Totals	
: Public Works Call	9	9
: Report Not Needed	2	2
: Robbery	0	0
: Runaway Juvenile	2	2
: Sexual Assault	3	3
: Suicide	0	0
: Suicide - Attempt	1	1
: Suicide - Threat	5	5
: Suspicious Activity	96	96
: Suspicious Person	18	18
: Theft	25	25
: Threats	11	11
: Tow Call	1	1
: Traffic Accident	13	13
: Traffic Hazard	7	7
: Traffic Incident	19	19
: TRO Violation	1	1
: Truancy	1	1
T/S : Traffic Stop	246	246
: Unattended Death	0	0
: Unknown - Converted	0	0

Code : Description	Totals	
: Unlawful Transactions w/Minors	0	0
: Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	0	0
: Vicious Dog	4	4
: Warrant	10	10
: Welfare Check	21	21
Totals	926	926

File Attachments for Item:

5. Council Workshop Minutes of November 15, 2022.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on November 15, 2022.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Mountsier

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney
Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director

Public Input:

Kindra Skidmore, 2120 Robinson Rd. Cynthiana, KY, is with Kiwanis International. There is a community meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. at the Library. They are looking to bring the organization back to Laurel. All money raised within a community will stay in the community.

Paul Kober, 1008 E. 8th Street, stated he represents the Lions. The Lions want to bring more playground equipment to Lions Park; see the attached handout. There will be edging to keep the gravel off the sidewalk.

General Items

1. Beartooth RC&D Presentation

Joel Bertolino and Myrna Lastusky briefly reviewed the attached document.

2. Appointment of Rick Musson to the Police Commission for the remainder of a three-year term ending April 30, 2024.

It was questioned if this Board was necessary. It was clarified that MCA does require the City to have a Police Commission. Their duties are very narrow. They are tasked with two duties. First, to ensure those hired are fit to serve as Police Officers. Second as an avenue for appeals on personnel issues. However, personnel issues now fall under their union representation.

Executive Review

3. Resolution - Resolution Approving A Memorandum Of Understanding By And Between The City Of Laurel And Beartooth Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.

There was no discussion on this item.

4. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With True North Contracting

The asphalt plant will be closing very soon, and the work described in this contract may need to be held until this spring when the asphalt plant opens again.

5. Resolution - Resolution Approving A Memorandum Of Understanding By And Between The City Of Laurel And The Montana Department Of Transportation For The Planning And Construction Of West Railroad Street.

This resolution states that the City will agree to fund the W. Railroad project and will pay for all additional costs.

It was questioned if this resolution is what is holding up the process. It was clarified that this was correct, and this resolution will move this project forward.

The State has selected Sanderson Stewart to work on this project.

6. Ordinance - An Ordinance Amending Section 14.04 Of The Laurel Municipal Code Relating To The Construction Board Of Appeals For The City Of Laurel

The Construction Board of Appeals is no longer needed and therefore needs to be removed from our code.

Council Issues

7. Closed Executive Session - Litigation Strategy

Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

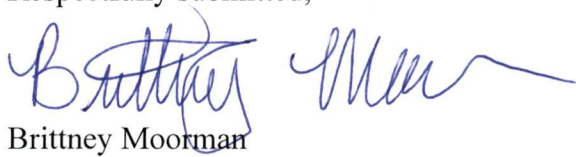
Announcements

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

The City was approved for the \$1 million grant, which is a massive burden off the Street Maintenance. The Clerk/Treasurer, Public Works and Planning Director, Civil Attorney, and KLJ worked hard to get this application turned in.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

Traditional Style



Classic Teeter-Totter

Manufacturer: SKU: 90017009XX
SRP

\$1,756.00 ~~MSRP: \$2,065.00~~
You Save 15% (~~\$309.00~~)

Qty

Age Group: 5 to 12 years

Footprint: 1' x 10'

Space Needed: 13' 0" x 22' 0"



See Saw (choose 2, 4, 6, 8, 12 seats)

Manufacturer: SKU: 801212H
SportsPlay Equipment

\$1,146.00 ~~MSRP: \$1,364.00~~
You Save 16% (~~\$218.00~~)

Size "

4 Seats ~\$490.00

Qty

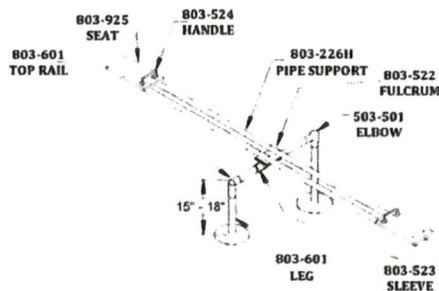
Age Group: 5 to 12 years

Footprint: 2 Seats (2' x 12'); 4 Seats (4' x 12'); 6 Seats (8' x 12'); 8 Seats (12' x 12'); 12 Seats (12' x 20')

Space Needed: 14' 0" x 24' 0"

Highlights:

- Two parallel metal poles make up the see saw
- Solid seats on either end
- Wide handles that are easy to hold
- Can order with multiple see saws on one structure



Non-Traditional



Motion Play

DRAGONFLY

Product #: 10001136

\$3,327.00

Age Group: 5-12

Space Required: 16' 0" x 20' 0"

Weight: 240 lb

Play Activities: 1

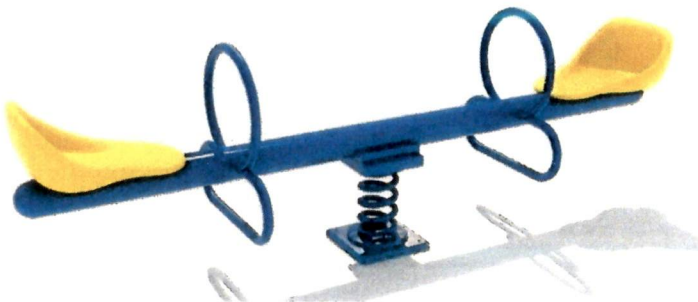
Certification: ASTM, CPSC, CSA

Quantity:

- 1 +

ADD TO QUOTE

Toddler usage seesaw with spring



1 +

ADD TO QUOTE

COMPARE

Size: 1' 6" long x 6' 4" wide x 2' 7" high Use Zone: 13' 6" x 18' 4" high

Age Group: 2 to 5 years

Material Type: Metal

Weight: 105 LBS

Public Playground safety handbook excerpt:

5.3.5 Seesaws

5.3.5.1 Fulcrum seesaws

The typical seesaw (also known as a "teeter totter") consists of a board or pole with a seat at each end supported at the center by a fulcrum. See Figure 16. Because of the complex way children are required to cooperate and combine their actions, fulcrum seesaws are not recommended for toddlers or preschool-age children.

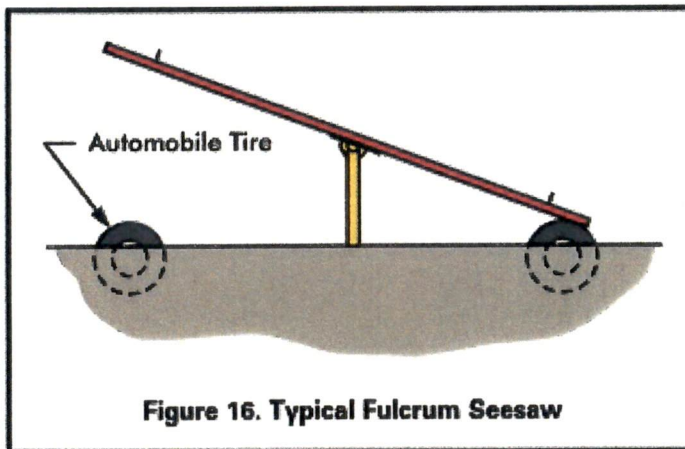


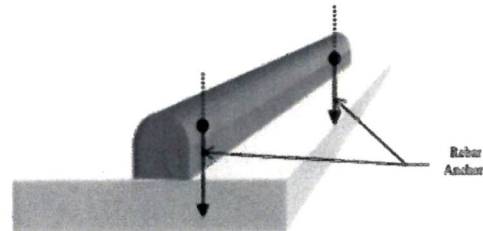
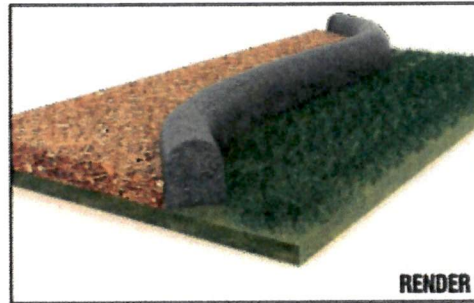
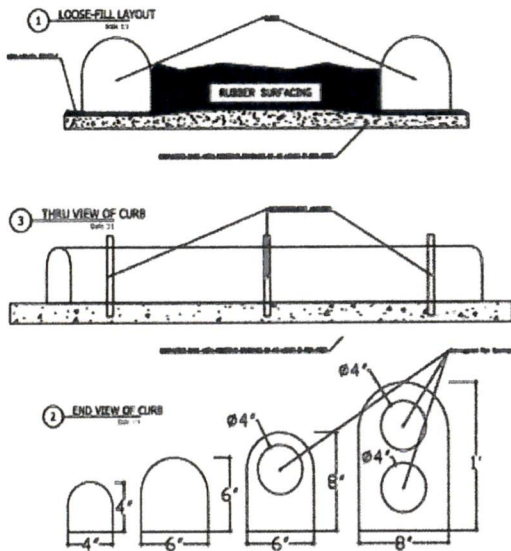
Figure 16. Typical Fulcrum Seesaw

- The fulcrum should not present a crush hazard.
- Partial car tires, or some other shock-absorbing material, should be embedded in the ground underneath the seats, or secured on the underside of the seats. This will help prevent limbs from being crushed between the seat and the ground, as well as cushion the impact.
- The maximum attainable angle between a line connecting the seats and the horizontal is 25°.
- There should not be any footrests.

5.3.5.2 Spring-centered seesaws

Preschool-age children are capable of using spring-centered seesaws because the centering device prevents abrupt contact with the ground if one child dismounts suddenly. Spring-centered seesaws also have the advantage of not requiring two children to coordinate their actions in order to play safely. Spring-centered seesaws should follow the recommendations for spring rockers including the use of footrests (§5.3.7).

Plan on using a border material such as this:



Product Details:

- Made from 100% recycled waste stream tire buffings
- Drainage channels alleviate pooling of water
- Flexible enough to shape and curve for freedom of design

Sizes:

- 4" X 4" X 8' = 33 lbs.
- 6" X 6" X 8' = 67 lbs.
- 6" X 8" X 8' = 68 lbs.
- 8" X 12" X 8' = 112 lbs.

Colors:

Brown, Green, Red, Black



2022 City of Laurel Project Review November 15, 2022

Thank you for being a great partner as we work together to help the businesses and residents of our 5-county region! Here are some of the projects we have been working on in Yellowstone County and City of Laurel this year:

- Revolving Loan Fund
 - Ten loans in Yellowstone County totaling \$738,295.63.
 - Five loans in Laurel totaling \$278,235.40.
- SSBCI loan assistance program
- EDA Cares Act funding – grant conclusion 6/30/2022
 - Yellowstone Economic Response & Recovery
 - Included formation of the Economic Response & Recovery Team (ERRT), local expert trainings, business check-ins, and a Targeted Industry Study that led to the [Downtown Billings Housing Study](#)
 - Economic Resiliency & Tourism
 - Deb Brown’s visit in June, Bozeman Trail work
 - [Cushing Terrell Regional Housing Study](#)
 - [Cushing Terrell Regional Housing Study Presentation](#)
- Completion of [5-year CEDS](#) (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) document
- USDA LFPP (Local Food Producers Program) collaborative grant application
- Small Business / Community Assistance
 - 406 Bovine LLC
 - F Bar 3 Vineyard
 - Yellowstone Valley Farms
 - Laurel Rod & Gun Club

Stay Tuned for these projects in the works:

- Brownfields Community-wide Assessment Grant Application
 - Please alert us to any potential properties
- RMAP (Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program) Application

Opportunity to keep on your radar:

C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Capital Enhancement): <https://lastbestpace.com/>

Thank you again! Please refer to your digital copy of this to access hyperlinks. You can also find most info posted on our website at www.beartooth.org. Don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions or need our assistance.

Joel Bertolino, Executive Director/Food & Ag Director: jbertolino@beartooth.org

Jacy Head, Economic Development Direct: jhead@beartooth.org

Nan Knight, Finance Director: nknight@beartooth.org

Myrna Lastusky, Administrative Assistant: mlastusky@beartooth.org

Beartooth Office Phone: 406-962-3914

File Attachments for Item:

7. Council Workshop Minutes of December 6, 2022.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2022**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:31 p.m. on December 6, 2022.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Mountsier

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney
Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director

Public Input:

Casey Felder, 1434 McMullen Lane, read the attached statement.

Steve Krum, 249 24th Avenue W, read the attached statement.

Aaron Felder, 1434 McMullen Lane, spoke regarding the information that has been presented in court. He asked that Laurel look at how they will stand on this issue.

Ray Southworth, 1632 Alderson Avenue in Billings, stated he is a member of the American Legion. He was born and raised in this town since 1953. He thanked Council for all that they do. It's a hard job.

General Items

1. Arbor Day 2023 Proclamation.

There was no discussion on this item.

2. Appointment of Sara Naylor and Fred Reilutz to the Laurel Fire Department.

There was no discussion on this item.

3. Appointment of Mary Nelson to the Library Board for a five-year term ending June 30, 2027.

The Library Director encouraged Council to appoint Mary to the Library Board. She has lived in Laurel for nine years and has been very involved with the Library, and she will bring roundness to the Library Board.

4. Appointment of Mike Kirschenmann to the Police Commission for a three-year term ending April 30, 2022.

There was no discussion on this item.

5. Appointment of Paul Kober to the Park Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2026.

There was no discussion on this item.

6. Appointment of Jon Ruff to the Park Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2022.

The term end date is 2026. There was a typo on the agenda. This appointment is for Jon Rutt.

7. Appointment of Irv Wilke to the Park Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2022.

The term end date is 2026.

8. Appointment of Evan Bruce to the Park Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2022.

The term end date is 2026.

9. Appointment of Evan Bruce to the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

There was no discussion on this item.

10. Appointment of Janice Lehman to the LURA - Advisory for a four-year term ending December 31, 2026.

It was questioned if LURA has enough people on their Board to be able to have their meetings. It was clarified that they now have enough members to have a quorum. However, they have not had a meeting, but will soon.

Executive Review

11. Resolution - Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign A Memorandum Of Understanding Regarding House Bill 121.

This MOU is in response to House Bill 121. It changed who has the authority to make public health decisions during emergency circumstances. The Board will consist of Council Members from both Laurel and Billings, as well as County Commissioners. Laurel will have one City Council Member sit on this Board. Billings has requested a slight change to what constitutes as an emergency. Council will see that change reflected at next week's meeting.

12. 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.

The Schedule of Fees is set yearly. These fees are set to be effective January 1, 2023.

13. Resolution - Resolution Of The City Council To Approve The Proposed Increase In The Rates And Charges For The Users Of The Municipal Solid Waste Facilities And Equipment To Be Effective January 1, 2023.

There will be a public hearing at next week's meeting to get public feedback before the Council's vote. Council was presented with the information three weeks ago; the public hearing will present the same information, just in a public format.

14. Ordinance No. O22-07: An Ordinance Amending Section 14.04 Of The Laurel Municipal Code Relating To The Construction Board Of Appeals For The City Of Laurel

This is the second reading of this ordinance. There will be a public hearing at next week's meeting.

Council Issues

Park Board has three requests for a future Council Workshop. First, that no camping areas be opened for contractors during the CHS turnaround. Second, cameras be installed for both Riverside Park and Lions Park due to recent vandalism. Third, a report back on the request for a park maintenance district. They would also like an update on the reservations for shelters and buildings.

Pearl Harbor Day is tomorrow. There is a Pearl Harbor Day ceremony at the City Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. to honor people who were killed at Pearl Harbor. At noon at the Yellowstone National Cemetery, there will be another ceremony. The person who sent out the notice that we were under attack that day is buried in the Yellowstone National Cemetery.

It was requested that the City look into putting lights on Bernhardt Road by Walmart. The parking lots in the area are well-lit, but the street is very dark. There is a lot of traffic on this road, and some close calls have recently occurred.

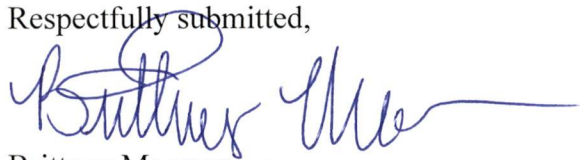
Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Announcements

The council workshop adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

Kasey Felder
1434 McMullen Ln Laurel

I am here to speak briefly about community. Community means a particular area or place considered together with its inhabitants. I have been a member of the Laurel community for over 40 years. I shop at the small, local businesses and the chain stores. I attend local events and support local causes. I do not live within the city limits. I do live within the Laurel community. The city's jurisdictional reach goes beyond its city limits. Decisions have been made by the city county planning board and the Laurel city council that have affected me and my neighbors in the last several years. There's a highway commercial complex that was approved on Thiel Road even though the Laurel city-county planning board recommended against it. So far, the complex has not been a benefit to the area. Residents get to deal with commercial tenants who don't store hazardous chemicals correctly (in the floodplain mind you), their garbage and have been irresponsible with burning trash on a windy day which was quite a disaster and very scary for several of my neighbors. My point is that the city of Laurel should take charge of its community, whether inside the city limits or not. The city's growth plan is there to guide community leaders and support all community residents who might be impacted by the growth plan. Thank you for your time.

Hello Mr. Mayor, Council Members.

Steve Krum, 249 24th Avenue West, Laurel, Montana 59044.

I do not live in the city limits, but I am a member of the Laurel Community and have been for over 60 years. Why am I here, our daughter Kasey, Granddaughter Madeline and Son-in-Law Aaron live just south of the proposed plant location. This plant is a danger and hazard to my family, their neighbors as well as the community of Laurel, from air, noise, and light pollution. We been fighting this plant for over a year now and will continue to do so because this plant does not belong in the Laurel Community.

Recently while going through NWE TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS May 2021 Before the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana DOCKET NO. 2021.02.022 Application for Approval of Capacity Resources Pages I found the Laurel site was not the original proposed site, not NWE first choice.

Recent research has turned up something I had only heard rumors about almost from the beginning of this issue, Billings said NO to this plant. Why didn't the Billings Chamber, Big Sky Economic Development Council or Billings local businesses want it in Billings?

The Original location was in Lockwood, west of the Exxon Refinery between Klenck Ln and Cerise Rd (Line 99 exhibit SAL-6 Page 18)

SAL testimony Page 8, Table SAL-1, two site visits are mentioned March 10 and 11th 2020. David Gates March 10th, and Lockwood March 11th.

To find the Exhibits in the testimony I had to go to the PSC site, enter the docket number and date.

In SAL testimony page SAL 18 it states there were 5 addendums, starting early March and no mention of any site change until May 11th

addendum 3, and addendum 4 making a comment that NWE would like it to be in Billings Area on May21st.

Somewhere during this time frame somebody raised a red flag to the project and it was quietly moved to the now Laurel site without any publicity, public hearings or comments from local businesses or news media. WHY and WHO said NO Billings location and even more curious, WHO said Yes to the Laurel Location?

Did the County Commissioners know about this? Not good enough for Lockwood, But okay for the Laurel Community? Was it the Billings Chamber or Business Community saying NOT RIGHT for Billings but okay for Laurel? Was Laurel Elected Officials aware of this and why? The Laurel Community needs to know the facts as to why not Billings but okay for Laurel, and why was it done so QUIETLY. We have Laurel Community residents and businesses that will be negatively impacted. The Mayor and City Council need to take a stand and get answers to these questions and take control of Laurel's future.

Finally, I would like to invite the Mayor, Council Members and CCPB to the Northern Plains Rally being held Tuesday, December 13th, between 11 a.m. and 12:30 a.m. at the Town Square. Our purpose is to raise awareness of Laurel residents of the negative impact and dangers of this plant to our community and to ask the Mayor and City Council to take a stand for Laurels future and follow the Their Growth Plan Laurel worked so hard on to plan for a better future for the Laurel Community. Thank You Mr. Mayor and Council members for your time and a Happy and Safe Holidays to You All....

Thank You.



Before the Public Service Commission
of the State of Montana

DOCKET NO. 2021.02.022

**Application for Approval
of Capacity Resources**

TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS

May 2021

Table SAL-1. RFP Timeline

Activity	Timing
RFP Announcement(s)	December 12, 2019
Bidder Prequalification	December 2019 - January 2020
RFP Release	January 31, 2020
EPC Bidder Site Visits	March 10 - 11, 2020
Bidder Web Conference 1	April 9, 2020
Virtual EPC Site Visit	May 22, 2020
Bidder Web Conference 2	May 28, 2020
Proposal Due Date	July 10, 2020
Phase 1 Evaluation (Completeness/Screen)	July and August 2020
Phase 2 Evaluation (Short List Establishment)	September - November 2020
Phase 3 Evaluation (Portfolio Selection)	December 2020 - February 2021
Negotiations	February - April 2021
Announcement of Selection	April 21, 2021

1 **Q. How was the RFP announced?**

2 **A.** On December 12, 2019, Aion announced the RFP by sending an email to
3 more than 450 entities to encourage participation from a broad range of
4 potential bidders. The announcement was also included on
5 NorthWestern's website and PRNewswire and a notice was also posted to
6 the Commission's website along with a copy of the draft RFP. Interested
7 potential bidders were instructed to contact Aion through a dedicated RFP
8 e-mail address in order to receive bidder prequalification materials.

9
10 **Q. Please describe the bidder prequalification process.**

11 **A.** Upon receiving a response to the RFP announcement from an interested
12 potential bidder, Aion sent bidder prequalification materials, including a

1 prequalification questionnaire and a non-disclosure agreement, to that
2 potential bidder.

3
4 Aion reviewed the materials that the potential bidders submitted for
5 prequalification, evaluating safety records and relevant industry
6 experience. Only two potential bidders did not make the list of prequalified
7 bidders. Those potential bidders did not meet the safety standard for
8 prequalification. The safety prequalification requirement was based on
9 satisfying an average experience modification rate threshold of 1.0 over
10 the previous 3 years.

11

12 **Q. How was the RFP issued?**

13 **A.** Aion issued the RFP to 60 prequalified bidders via the RFP email on
14 January 31, 2020.

15

16 **Q. Did Aion document the announcement and issuance of the RFP?**

17 **A.** Yes. Aion provided NorthWestern with the Announcement,
18 Prequalification, and Issue report included as Exhibit SAL-3.

19

20 **RFP Roles and Responsibilities**

21 **Q. Please identify the NorthWestern staff and external consultants who**
22 **supported the RFP process.**

23 **A.** The NorthWestern staff and external consultants who supported the RFP
24 process (collectively referred to as the "RFP Team") included:

Question No.	RFP / Specification Section Number	Question	Response	Additional Notes
41	DGGS Site Visit Question	Please describe the planned scope of supply and responsibilities for the DGGS on-site ammonia storage and forwarding system.	Ammonia forwarding pumps will be provided by the selected engine manufacturer as part of the owner furnished equipment (OFE). For a contractor not utilizing NorthWestern's OFE, Contractor must provide the ammonia forwarding pumps. Contractor will receive and set the new skid near the existing ammonia storage tanks. Existing ammonia pumps are located on the north side of the existing tanks. There are existing 2 inch drain connections on each ammonia tank that can be used to integrate the new pumps, but the drain capability must be maintained. There is space available for a new skid adjacent to the tanks, e.g., on the south side.	
42	DGGS Site Visit Question	At DGGS, are there access routes to the developable area that does not require going under the existing NH3/FO pipe bridges?	Yes. There is access on the south side of the existing units as well as on the far side of the fuel oil unloading area (east side).	
43	DGGS Site Visit Question	Does the water supply to the DGGS site come from the Silver Lake water supply?	Yes, the Silver Lake water supply supplies the plant Raw/Service Water system with an available supply of 2 MGD. Demineralized water is derived from this source. The demin water supply system can provide any necessary water for a new engine project. Projects utilizing other technologies that may require more water must not interfere with existing unit operation.	
44	DGGS Site Visit Question	For DGGS, what is the available source of construction water?	For the construction water, the layout in Appendix B1 to the specification shows one location for a terminal point (hydrant); others are available, if needed.	
45	DGGS Site Visit Question	For DGGS, there are existing electrical transmission lines in the area of the developable site, what is planned for these transmission lines?	The north boundary of the developable area is adjacent to electrical lines, one of which falls within the boundary. This line will be relocated to along the south fence, outside of the developable area. This work will be performed by NorthWestern and will be completed prior to contractor mobilization.	
46	DGGS Site Visit Question	What is the plan for the existing spare GSU transformer at the DGGS site?	The base scope includes contractor furnishing and installing a new GSU transformer and circuit switcher. Owner will remove the existing GSU transformer prior to contractor mobilization. Owner will also make high side electrical tie-ins. For Alternate Scope and pricing, contractor is to assume that the existing transformer will be reused and that the terminal point is at the manhole near the existing PDC (TP-9(ALT) as identified in the layout included in Appendix B1 to the technical specification). Contractor would be responsible for providing electrical cabling at the manhole for connection to the low side of the GSU by Others.	
47	DGGS Site Visit Question	What is the available source for construction power at the DGGS site?	Contractor will need to apply for construction power with NorthWestern. For purposes of the bid, assume there is no fee for the application. Contractor will be responsible to provide step down transformers, breakers, and distribution from the source. The terminal point for this supply is identified on the layout drawing in Appendix B-1 of the technical specification but others may be available. An update will be provided to EPC Bidders if additional construction power terminal points are identified.	
48	DGGS Site Visit Question	What was at the DGGS site prior to the Dave Gates Generating Station?	Nothing was in the area in the recent past. Mill Creek Substation was there prior to the construction of the DGGS.	
49	DGGS Site Visit Question	Are there any major underground utilities or sub-grade concerns in the developable DGGS area?	The Geotech package included in Appendix B1 to the technical specifications represents the currently available data.	
50	DGGS Site Visit Question	Is there an existing grounding grid in or near the DGGS developable area?	There is some existing grounding along the fence line. Available information will be provided via a formal Addendum to the RFP documents.	
51	DGGS Site Visit Question	Does the DGGS property end at the fence line?	Contractors can assume that space is available up to the fence line.	
52	DGGS Site Visit Question	What drove the decision to focus on RICE?	A full lifecycle technology assessment. However, NWE will consider other technologies as part of the all-source RFP.	
53	DGGS Site Visit Question	Can Bidder submit a bid with an alternate OEM besides the two OEMs NorthWestern is considering?	Yes. A turnkey bid would be required.	
54	DGGS Site Visit Question	Is an SCR system required, regardless of technology offered?	The emissions control equipment will need to meet Montana DEQ requirements, which is expected to require Best Available Control Technology (BACT).	
55	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Are there defined terminal points for the various site utilities at the Lockwood site?	Contractors will need to coordinate with the City for water supply, sewer, waste water, etc. For the basis of the proposals, additional information will be added to the layout drawing in Appendix B2 to the Technical Specification and provided to the bidders via a formal RFP Addendum.	

Question No.	RFP / Specification Section Number	Question	Response	Additional Notes
56	Lockwood Site Visit Question	What are the site drainage expectations at the Lockwood site?	For stormwater, contractors are to utilize natural drainage to existing ditches/drainage provisions. Contractor would need to determine if a retainage pond is required by local code. Contact storm water would need to be routed to a Contractor furnished oil/water separator and sent to city sewer. Contractors should coordinate with the City on any water discharge potential or limitations and/or how high water runs in the bermed canal on the north east side of the site to determine impacts on design, if any.	
57	Lockwood Site Visit Question	What is the intended natural gas supply to the Lockwood site, what capacity will be available, and would it also supply the nearby refinery?	NorthWestern will bring in a new high pressure gas line from a location about 3 miles southeast of the Lockwood site specifically for the power project. This line will be sized to provide the necessary capacity for the project. The terminal point will be on the south side of the site. Nominal gas pressure is assumed to be 300 to 400 psig. Contractor will be responsible for heating, regulation, and distribution.	
58	Lockwood Site Visit Question	In what direction will the electrical transmission exit the Lockwood site?	There will be a 230 kV interconnect on the southwest side of the site.	
59	Lockwood Site Visit Question	What are the existing monitoring wells being used for on the Lockwood site and will they need to remain in place?	The monitoring wells are in place to monitor ground contamination from a past release of solvents from a nearby site. Bidders are to assume that the monitoring wells are to remain in place.	
60	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Will local assembly of engines be required once they are delivered to the site?	The large engine option will require local assembly. The small engine option will not require local assembly (delivered as an assembled skid). The equipment supplier will assemble and set/align the RICE gensets on the Contractor's foundations. Contractor will need to provide a level ground and gravel compacted assembly area for the large engine OEM to assemble the RICE gensets. Care, custody, and control of the engines will transfer to the Contractor when the OEM places them on the foundation.	
61	Lockwood Site Visit Question	What is the setback distance at the Lockwood site?	Bidder is referred to the municipality's guidance that can be found online at the municipality's website.	
62	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Will the electrical lines on the north side of the Lockwood site be required to remain in-place?	NorthWestern can move the electrical lines if necessary for contractor s design. Bidders should indicate if this is necessary in their Proposal. If proposed, NorthWestern will consider the cost and schedule associated with such in the Proposal evaluation.	
63	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Is there an available geotech report for the Lockwood site?	No; a geotech study is currently not available.	
64	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Does NorthWestern have an option on the Lockwood property?	Yes.	
65	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Will there be an operation center for remote dispatch of the Lockwood site?	Yes. The remote dispatch center will be located in Butte.	
66	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Will a layout of the equipment on the site be provided by NorthWestern?	No. Site-specific layouts are requested of the Bidders. The supplier recommended layouts were included in RFP Addendum 1.	
67	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Are multiple engine halls required?	No. The OEM layouts provided in RFP Addendum 1 are simply OEM recommendations based on their typical scope of supply and Bidders shall propose an arrangement to optimize project cost, operability, and maintainability.	
68	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Is Lockwood its own municipality?	Lockwood is a census designated place (CDP) and a suburb of Billings and is located in Yellowstone County.	
69	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Will a storage bid be a non-conforming EPC bid?	No. NorthWestern will consider alternate technologies as indicated in the RFP document.	
70	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Will a storage project just be used for energy arbitrage?	No. A storage project will be used in a manner to optimize NorthWestern system operations and will provide multiple system services.	
71	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Can bidders price just one of the two OEMs (rather than both)?	Since NorthWestern is still evaluating both OEMs, NorthWestern requests that both options be priced.	
72	Lockwood Site Visit Question	Who will be responsible for obtaining any required construction laydown area near the Lockwood site?	This will be Contractor's responsibility. NorthWestern may assist in identifying potential areas.	

Question No.	RFP / Specification Section Number	Question	Response	Additional Notes
93	RFP Appendix B - TS B2	Has there been any progress on the second Billings site? Bidder would prefer not to spend a lot of engineering time on the Lockwood site if it is no longer a consideration.	Information on the Billings EPC site will be provided in the next RFP addendum.	
94	Appendix 01 – Fuel Analysis of either TS Appendices B1 or B2	Can you please provide the fuel analysis referenced to be located in TS Appendices B1 or B2?	This information was provided to the EPC Bidders' primary point of contact on 2/14/20 as part of TS Appendices B1 and B2 as part of the initial RFP issuance (following submittal of the Notice of Intent to Respond Form).	
95	Appendix G-2 (PPA Term Sheet)	We are aware that ancillary service charges are the subject of settlement discussions currently in progress between NorthWestern and stakeholders, creating uncertainty as to the final approved ancillary service charges. Therefore, under a PPA structure for hybrid and storage projects, should bidders assume that that ancillary service charges are a pass-through and the PPA bid price is net of ancillary service charges?	This is an appropriate assumption. Bidders should assume that PPA pricing is net of ancillary service charges.	
96	Addendum 1 TS Attachment 2.1 and 2.2	In regards to question 91, the optional scope additions that could be provided by OEM's were found in Addendum 1 TS Attachment 2.1_Specs and Technical Info in the scope of supply on pages 162-180 and in Addendum 1 TS Attachment 2.2_Specs and Technical Info pages in the scope of supply on pages 78-143.	See Section 2.2 of TS Attachment 1 (2023 Montana Generation RICE RFP/Specification 10183023-ZP-M0102) for tables that clarify the scope of supply by the OEM (Seller) and the EPC Contractor (Others). Furthermore, items required for a complete installation and to meet guaranteed performance as outlined in the RFP Appendix B Technical Specification (10183023-0ZP-M0102) are the responsibility of the EPC Contractor. To assist the Bidder in developing their Proposal, the following clarifications are provided:	<p>TS Attach 2.1 Specs and Technical Info (OEM A) None of the "Customer" options ("O") options are being furnished by the OEM or the Owner, with further clarification offered below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pages 164 & 174/230: Item 2.7 Heat Recovery System - Does not apply to the Project •Page 166 & 176/230: Item 3.7 Black start Generator - Not required for the Project •Page 170/230: Item 5.6 Urea Tank - Not required for the Project at Dave Gates site </p> <p>TS Attach 2.2 Specs and Technical Info (OEM B) None of the items indicated as "Responsibility of NorthWestern Energy" are being furnished by the OEM or the Owner, with further clarification offered below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pages 77-98/455: This is for the Billings dual fuel option and no longer applies •Page 106/455: Item A7.3 Black Start Unit - Not required for the Project •Page 127/455: Item A5.2 Reducing agent storage tank - Not required for the Project at Dave Gates site •Page 128/455: Item A7.3 Black Start Unit - Not required for the Project </p>
97	Addendum 1 TS Attachment 2.1 and 2.2	What is the estimated area required for laydown of OEM vendor materials? How many connex and bulk materials are estimated to be delivered to the site?	This information has not been provided by the OEM Suppliers outside of some general information (this has already been provided to EPC Bidders, as applicable). EPC Contractor shall review the information provided as part of TS Attachments 2.1 and 2.2 and determine for their purposes. EPC Bidders are encouraged to reach out to the OEM contacts provided in RFP Addendum 3 to discuss laydown requirements, also.	
98	Section 4B- 1121 RICE Part 2.4.3	The Clean and Dirty Lube Oil Storage section references two tanks provided by NorthWestern Energy, one for clean and one for dirty lube oil storage. Please confirm that this statement is correct. Does this apply to only the Dave Gates site or both Dave Gates and Lockwood?	The note referenced is from the RICE RFP and is for the OEM Supplier. Section 15.6.1 of the RFP Appendix B Technical Specification identifies these two tanks as being within the EPC Contractor's scope of supply for both sites.	
99	Addendum 2 Appendix 8- Site Layout and Terminal point Drawing Lockwood	The site layout and terminal point drawing for the Lockwood site released in addendum 2 identified TP 2 and 3 to be located approximately 680 feet north along Klencck Ln. After review with the Lockwood Water and Sewer department, that location appears to be incorrect. As seen in the attached document, it appears TP 2 and 3 should be located along Cerise Rd.	Refer to updated Billings Area site information included in RFP Addendum 3.	
100	RFP Section 9	What is NorthWestern Energy's expected cost (\$/kw-year) to procure capacity resources in the market for the period 2021 through 2023?	NorthWestern's expected near term capacity procurement costs are currently not defined and will depend on a number of factors including ongoing resource procurement activities.	
101	RFP Section 3.8	The RFP states that there is an incremental value to NWE for capacity coming on line during the period of 2021 through 2023. What is that incremental value in \$/kw-year?	Any incremental or detrimental value related to an earlier commercial online date/start of delivery date would be dependent upon and will be determined through system modeling of that specific resource in conjunction with NorthWestern's existing generation portfolio.	
102	Billings Area Site Walk	Has a geotechnical analysis been performed for the Billings Area site? If no, when can EPC Bidders expect to receive a geotechnical analysis?	A geotechnical analysis has not yet been completed but will be in the future. A geotechnical basis of design is included in the Technical Specifications and EPC Bidders should base their Proposals on this basis of design.	

File Attachments for Item:

8. Council Workshop Minutes of December 20, 2022.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:31 p.m. on December 20, 2022.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Mountsier

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney
Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Matt Wheeler, Public Works Superintendent

Public Input:

Kevin and Dolly Moore, owners of Moore Montana Treasurers, presented a check to the City for \$83,589.

General Items

Executive Review

1. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Of Laurel City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Construction And Maintenance Agreement For South 4th Street Public Roadway In The City Of Laurel, Yellowstone County, Montana.

There was no discussion on the item.

2. Resolution - A Resolution Of City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Memorandum Of Agreement By And Between The City Of Laurel And The Montana Department Of Transportation Related To The Installation And Upgrading Of Sidewalk Off South 4th Street, Laurel, Montana.

There was no discussion on the item.

3. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Supporting The 2022 Legislative Resolutions Of The Montana League Of Cities And Towns.

This resolution allows the Montana Leagues of Cities and Towns to advocate on our behalf in Helena. They look at all upcoming legislature and identify areas that need to be addressed.

4. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council 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 is a public hearing scheduled for this item next week. Raw and settled water will be removed for next week's meeting. Those rates are contracted with CHS and not set via the Schedule of Fees.

5. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Of Laurel City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute All Necessary Agreements For The Purchase Of A Vehicle And Equipment From Kois Brothers Equipment Company, Inc.

This vehicle has 15k miles on it. It was not for sale; the company's owner allowed the vehicle to be sold. This truck will cost double next year. However, the City will need to add \$9k toolboxes.

We will be using the Water and Sewer funds to purchase the vehicle.

6. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Of Laurel City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute All Necessary Agreements For Services Performed By 120 Water Audit, Inc. Related To Lead Service Line Compliance.

By 2024 the City must comply with the lead and copper rules set by DEQ and EPA. This company is working with other Montana Cities and has contracted with Montana Rural Water. Currently, the City is behind schedule on this project. This company will help us make our paper documents electronic.

Will this require the City to do replacements? It was clarified this phase is to identify lines that need to be replaced.

Dennis Eaton, 308 West Avenue, stated he is the circuit writer for Rural Water. There are over 4k connections and 15 to 20 data entries per connection. Should the City not comply, it could receive a fine of \$50k per day until we have complied.

It was questioned why we have an annual cost, and it was clarified that the annual cost is to assist with our database stored within the cloud.

7. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Of Laurel City Council Clarifying Legal Scope Of Resolution No. R05-23 Related To Classification Of The City Of Laurel.

This resolution will clear up a 20-year-old resolution related to our class status. There are class 1, 2, and 3 cities, and we are a class 2 city. This will be filed with the County Clerk and Records Officers, and the Secretary of State.

Council Issues

The December Emergency Services Committee has been canceled.

It was questioned if Ward 4 vacancy had received any interest. The vacancy is posted. There was one person interested, and she withdrew her letter of interest.

It was questioned if the City would reassess the wards' populations and boundaries.

It was questioned if the land purchased on Ridge Drive was supposed to be used for the shops. It was clarified that someday it would be a City Shop. The storage on the railroad property has been moved to the Yard Office property.

It was questioned if there is an ordinance on when someone can store their RV's on the street. There was concern that people would live in the campers on the street, especially with the turnaround coming to town. Council would like to see if a fee would be beneficial.

Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All Council Members plan to be in attendance.

Council thanked Civil Attorney Braukmann for attending all Council meetings.

Announcements

The council workshop adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

File Attachments for Item:

9. Council Workshop Minutes of January 3, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, JANUARY 03, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:29 p.m. on January 3, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Brent Peters, Fire Chief
Ryan Welsh, KLJ

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Appointment of Abbigail Nagel to the Laurel Fire Department.

The Fire Chief introduced Ms. Nagel to Council.

2. Appointment of Judy Goldsby to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency for a four-year term ending December 31, 2026.

It was questioned what parameters this appointment is being brought forward. MCA 7-15-425 and LMC 02.03.020 both state that Members of the Urban Renewal Board must live within the Urban District. Because of the residency issue, Ms. Goldsby's term was not renewed almost a year ago. She said she had sold her business and therefore did not meet the qualifications of a business owner.

It was clarified that she is a business owner in Laurel. This issue will be clarified before next week's meeting.

Executive Review

3. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With True North Contracting.

This is for pavement work on a section of the road that was damaged during a repair.

Council Issues

Park Board's next meeting will be Thursday in Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

Other Items

- Task Order for Splash Park

Ryan Welsh, KLJ, briefly went over the scope of the project. He showed Council various examples of past work Play Space Designs had done.

It was questioned where this splash park would be, and it was clarified that it would be within the footprint of the existing pool.

It was questioned how they would keep the concrete from becoming slippery. It was clarified that they would use broom-finished concrete to add texture and keep the surface from becoming slippery.

It was questioned how cold the water would be, and it was clarified that it would be cold but similar to running through a sprinkler.

The timeline is to have the design done by June 1st. The contractor will need 6 to 8 weeks to build this project. The goal is to have this built by the middle of July. There may be delays in getting the pipe to do the project. Play Space Designs will be here on January 17th to present for Council. This project will not be bid; instead will be using source well.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Announcements

Mayor Waggoner stated that the City is still looking to fill the Ward 4 vacancy. Those interested should submit a letter of interest to the Mayor.

4. Years of Service

Mayor Waggoner thanked all the employees for their years of service to the City; see attached. There was a correction, and Brenda Sell has been with the City for 18 years.

The council workshop adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

Employee/Volunteer Recognition 2023 (January to June)

Name	Years of Service	Department
Stan Langve	23	Police
Kurt Markegard	18	Public Works
Kyle Bryant	18	Police
Kelly Strecker	18	City Clerk
Brenda Sell	17	Police
Brian Kline	18	City Shop
William Brew III	17	Police
Christopher Erb	14	Library
Jarred Anglin	8	Police
Cynthia Caswell	8	WWTP
Jodi Kinn	6	Police
Wade Spalinger	4	City Shop
Daniel Nauman	4	WTP
Ryan Sedgwick	4	Police
Wendy Wong	3	Ambulance
Thomas White	3	Ambulance
Haley Swan	3	Police
Michelle Foley	2	City Clerk

Name	Years of Service	Department
Doug Fox	27	Fire
Kent Kulesa	26	Fire
Corey McIlvain	19	Fire
Brent Peters	16	Fire
Tammy Harpster	15	Reserves
Sean McCleary	14	Fire
Travis Nagel	14	Fire
Bruce McGee	13	Reserves
Tom Becker	12	Reserves
Henry Fox	12	Fire
Darcy Sauter	9	Reserves
Dustin Riveland	9	Reserves
Shane Willis	7	Fire
Levi Vandersloot	7	Ambulance
Jennifer Winchell	6	Fire
Jacob Haan	6	Ambulance
John Beck	5	Fire
Jayson Nicholson	5	Fire
Armondo Hernandez	4	Fire
Levi Klamert	4	Fire
Steven Hiller	4	Fire

Employee/Volunteer Recognition 2023 (January to June)

Bridger Fournier	4	Fire
Ryan Robertus	4	Fire
Boady Harper	4	Ambulance
Kently Kuntz	3	Fire
Colton McCleary	3	Fire
Amber Beck	3	Ambulance
Justin Walton	3	Ambulance
Thomas Scott	3	Reserves
Sonja Jones	3	Reserves
Dylan Benton	3	Reserves
Dixie Childers	3	Reserves
Jacob Worden	2	Fire
Tyrel Mraz	2	Ambulance
Kathy Brown	2	Ambulance
Amanda Hemmen	2	Ambulance
Mariel Riley	2	Ambulance
Andrew Zimmermann	2	Ambulance
Joshua Anderson	2	Reserves
Lorenzo Olvera	1	Fire
Jonathan Gotchall	1	Fire
Rebecca Weaver	1	Ambulance
Troy Charbonneau	1	Ambulance
Lynn Galavotti	1	Ambulance

File Attachments for Item:

10. Council Workshop Minutes of January 17, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on January 17, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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 Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director
Matt Wheeler, Public Works Superintendent

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Splash Park Presentation

Play Space Designs presented the attached PowerPoint to Council.

It was questioned how many kids could play in this park at one time. It was clarified that it could hold quite a few. The water from the splash park will not be recycled.

Right now, the goal is to complete Phase 1, and if they get additional donors, add Phase 2 at another time. Those two attractions in Phase 2 are a simple bolt-in-place system.

It was questioned how much more Phase 2 would cost. It was clarified that Phase 1 and 2 combined would cost approximately \$120,000 to \$130,000 in just equipment. There will be another \$30,000 to \$40,000 for those two pieces in Phase 2. The City is doing all the fill of the pool and compacting of the soil and will save money on this project.

It was questioned whether there was an on/off feature or if certain items came on themselves. It was clarified that a start button would run through a sequence and then need to be pushed again. The City will determine the time for each of the cycles. The City will also determine when the splash park opens and closes daily and for the season.

It was questioned if these attractions fill up the entire space or if this could be expanded for future growth. It was clarified that it is budget-driven, and the number of attractions utilizes the space well.

The surface will have a medium broom finish. Regular sidewalks have a light broom finish, so this will be one step up in texture. This will provide a nonslip surface.

The blue from the pool will be painted purple to match the theme of the splash park.

The fencing will remain on the side towards 1st Avenue, and the other fences will be removed. The fencing will keep kids from running into the busy road.

- 2. Appointment of Cheryl Hill to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2025.

There was no discussion on this item.

- 3. Appointment of Shawn Mullaney to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency - Advisory for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2025.

There was no discussion on this item.

- 4. Appointment of Jodi Mackay to the Public Works Committee.

There was no discussion on this item.

- 5. Appointment of Jodi Mackay to the Emergency Services Committee.

There was no discussion on this item.

- 6. Appointment of Kurt Markegard to the Big Sky EDA for the remainder of a five-year term ending December 31, 2023.

The Public Works and Planning Director volunteered to serve on this Board. Would like to try to bring business back to Laurel.

Executive Review

- 7. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Customer Agreement With Northwestern Energy.

This power pole is the only one that serves Riverside Park and will need to be moved to accommodate the WTP Lift Well project. The contingency will cover the cost of the WTP Lift Well project. Making an agreement directly with Northwestern Energy will save the City approximately 10%-15%.

8. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Task Order And All Related Documents For The City Of Laurel Zoning Services By And Between The City Of Laurel And KLJ Engineering, Inc.

The City received a \$50,000 grant to redo its zoning ordinances. The City went out to bid and received one submittal from KLJ, and their task order honors what the City has available for its match. The zoning needs a much-needed update.

The City/County Planning Board, KLJ Planner, and the Public Works and Planning Director will meet and discuss all changes in chapter 17 of the Laurel Municipal Code. All the proposed changes will be discussed with Council.

9. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Extension Of Approval Of Application For Special Review For J. Johnson Properties Pursuant To Resolution No. R22-07.

This resolution is to approve an extension for the previously approved special review. The original special review gave a 12-month timeframe.

John Johnson, the Developer, stated the original contractor pulled out of the project. Had to redesign the plans and rebid the project. Do expect to be able to submit for a building permit within the next 60 days.

It was questioned if this process over again due to the redesign. It was clarified no; the special review is for the alcohol sales at the location.

10. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign A Memorandum Of Understanding For Operation And Cost Sharing For Public Transportation Services With The Adult Resource Alliance Of Yellowstone County.

This resolution is for the continuation of transit services, and it is the same as in previous years.

Council Issues

11. Downtown Parking Discussion

Cami Nelson, 108 E. Main, asked that parking downtown be addressed. The east end of downtown got diagonal parking and would like to see that continued down. It would also be nice to develop parking solutions on the railroad property. There was a study that the City did that addressed the issues with parking; see attached.

The City did recently have a parking study completed. KLJ was working on finalizing it, but some new development is coming to town that will change the parking dynamic. So, for now, the project is paused until those changes in traffic are made.

In the past, the railroad has not been enthusiastic about the idea of a parking lot. However, a well-thought-out idea that addresses keeping people off railroad property may be a beneficial approach.

The City can also look into a parking maintenance district, permitting for residents, etc. Overall there is plenty of parking; it just might not be in front of your business.

The City had looked into the idea of a parking committee, and it did not have much interest.

The State controls Main Street and First Avenue, and the City does not have control over the types of parking on those streets. A bill in Helena is trying to give sidewalk right of way back to local municipalities.

Mary Lou Baltadon asked if the City could put parking meters or a parking garage, especially during big events like the 4th of July.

It was clarified that if the City wants a pay-for-parking concept, it must be passed by ordinance. Right now, LMC does not allow for pay-for-parking options.

Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All Council Members present will be at the next Council meeting.

Announcements

Emergency Services Committee's next meeting will be Monday at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Tree Board's next meeting is Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

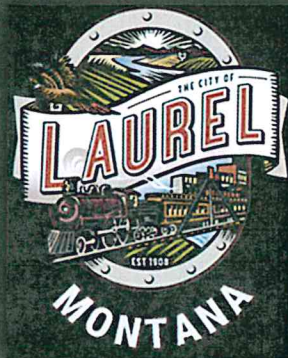
The council workshop adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.



Project Management



Morgan Selph
Landscape Architect
Playground Specialist



Rebecca Selph
Office Manager
Logistics



Jodie Selph
Customer Service
Specialist



Michelle Estrada
Communications
Waterplay



Ali Jones
Playground Designs
Sales Support



Jeff Anderson
Landscape Architect
Arizona, Nevada



Kory Parker
Aquatics Engineer
and Operations
*On Site Project
Installer/ Supervisor



Perry Bratt
Vice President
Stratton & Bratt
General Contractor
General Engineer



Rob Stratton
Executive VP
Stratton & Bratt
General Contractor



REFERENCES



City of Fruitland, Idaho



Enterprise, Utah



Waters Edge, Vineyard, Utah



Comba Park, Boise, Idaho



Independence Park, Bluffdale, Utah



Chubbuck, Idaho



This is the Place Park, SLC, Utah

REFERENCES



Schedule

Initiate Contract and Order Equipment

March 1 – 10 – Drain Pool and Demo, Fill and Compact – **City Staff**

March 20-30 – Set Bases and footings, lateral plumbing

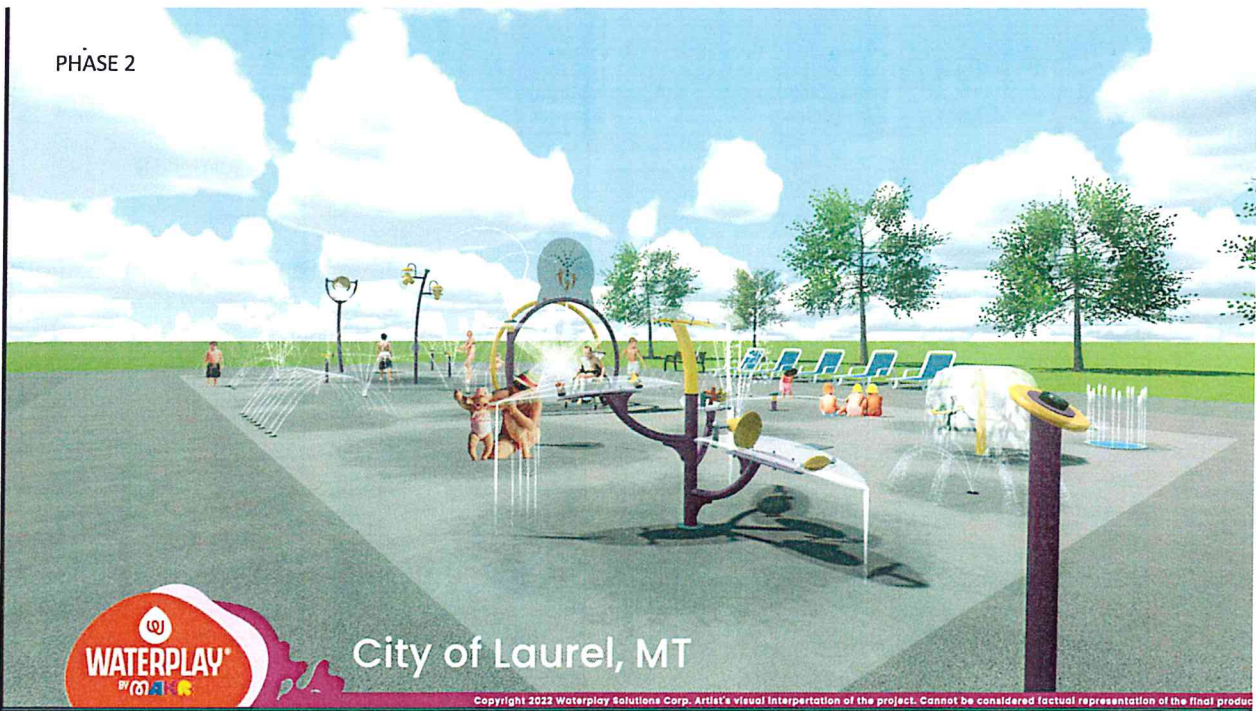
April 10-20 – Fresh water plumbing, manifold installation & pressure test

May 1-10 – Pour concrete pad and Mount Equipment

May 22-30 – Seal Cement, Test and fine tune and operator training

June 1- 3 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

PHASE 2





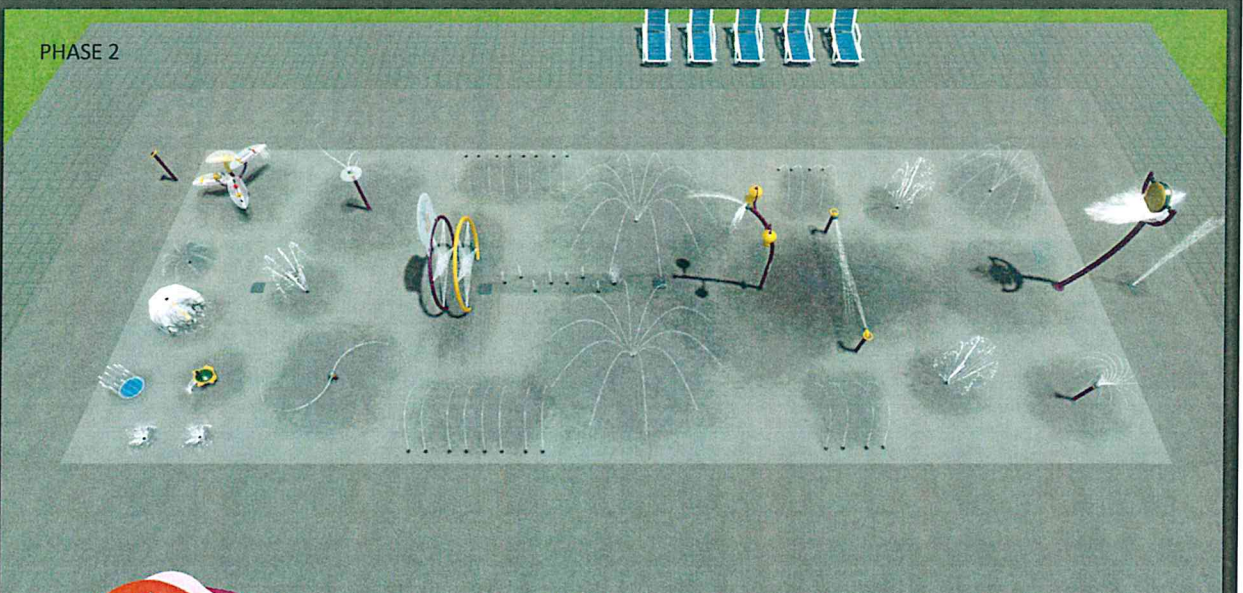
PHASE 2



City of Laurel, MT

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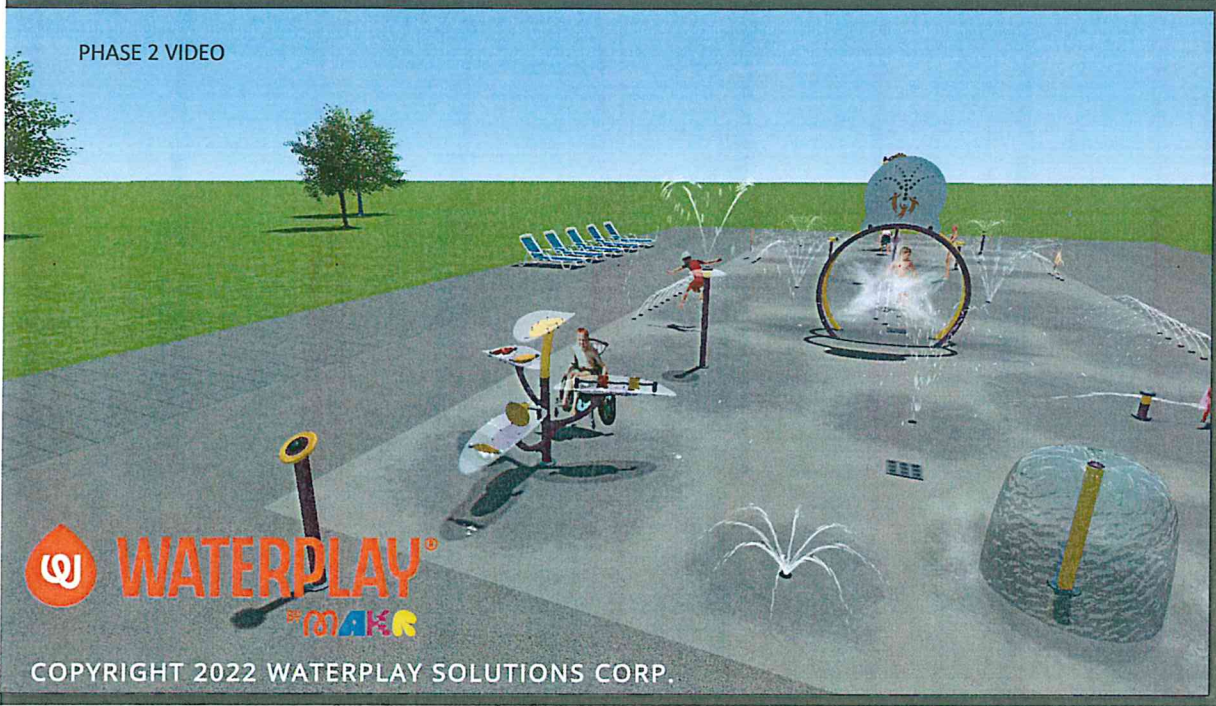
PHASE 2



City of Laurel, MT

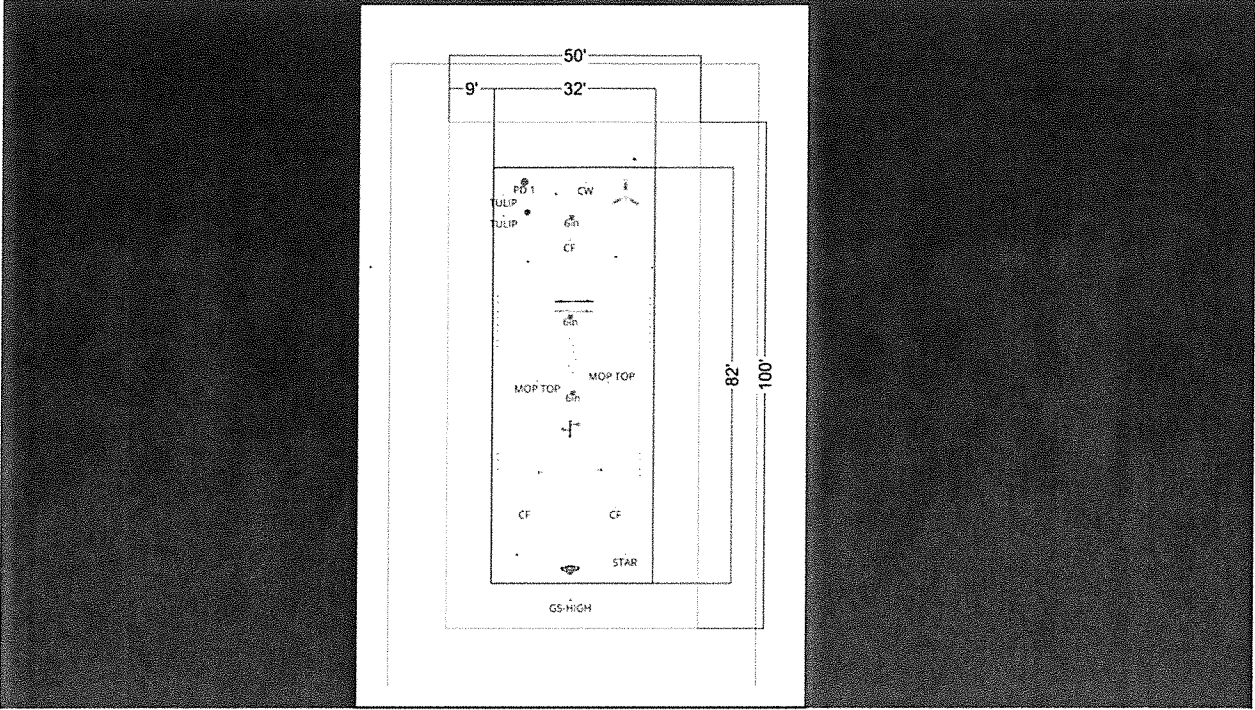
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PHASE 2 VIDEO



PHASE 1 VIDEO





File Attachments for Item:

11. Council Workshop Minutes of February 7, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 07, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on February 7, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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 Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director
Stan Langve, Police Chief
Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer, at 6:54 p.m.

Public Input:

Brennen Corey, 703 W. 5th Street, stated he is working to identify an Eagle Scout service project. He wants to construct a flag retirement pit at the City Cemetery; see the attached example picture. It would take up approximately 10 to 12 square feet. He would also like a flag receptacle where people can place their flags waiting to be retired.

It was questioned what the timeframe would be for this project. It was clarified that he still has merit badges to complete. However, the troupe will help build this project.

It was questioned if they would need anything from the City to complete this project. It was clarified that he would seek donations of materials to build this project.

It was questioned if there would be any ongoing maintenance. It was clarified that this project would be dedicated to the City so that the City would maintain. However, maintenance is expected to be minimal. It was further clarified that anyone could use the pit to retire their flags.

It was requested that Mr. Corey take this proposal to Cemetery Commission, who will bring forward a formal recommendation to Council.

General Items

1. Appointment of Dylan Figg and Collin White to the Laurel Emergency Medical Service.

There was no discussion on this item.

Executive Review

2. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign A Memorandum Of Understanding For Operation And Cost Sharing For Public Transportation Services With The Adult Resource Alliance Of Yellowstone County.

This is the annual resolution to help run the transit program. It provides bus drivers.

It was questioned what this costs the City, and clarified that it costs the City 54% of the bus.

3. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Accept The Service Order From ClearGov, Inc. And Execute All Related Documents.

This software is to help the budgeting process. It simplifies budgeting, allows for easier communication on budget items, collaborates in real-time, gives long-term forecasts for all budgets, and automated workflows.

It was questioned whether this software would replace Black Mountain, and it was clarified that it works with Black Mountain to help make the budgeting process more streamlined.

It was questioned how the budget process currently works. The process starts on May 1st when the memo goes out to Department Heads.

This software has a 60 to 90-day implementation period, so we may not be able to use it until the 24-25 budget cycle. The City will pay for the software as of July 1, which will be in the next fiscal year.

4. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Agreement Between The City Of Laurel And The Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter, For The Provision Of Animal Shelter Services.

This resolution formalizes an agreement between the City and the Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter. There is a \$5,000 yearly fee. The Police Department takes approximately 15 to 20 dogs into YVAS each year. It will cost an additional \$2,000 yearly if the City chooses to add cats. YVAS is a great resource when an animal needs to be euthanized. They are also very helpful in the event of a hoarder case, and those cases can be very expensive.

It was questioned if the City had contacted Laurel Vets to see if they would be willing to partner with us. And could the City list no surgeries over x number of dollars? It was clarified that the YVAS is the best option available to the City.

It was questioned if they could drop off animals after hours, and it was clarified that yes, they could drop off animals outside of regular business hours.

5. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Accept The Proposal From In Control, Inc. For City Of Laurel Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades And Execute All Related Documents.

This resolution is to upgrade the plc's at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plc's are the technology that keeps the sewer plant running. In Control is currently upgrading the Water Treatment Plant and will then begin work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City will save \$63,500 by doing both plants simultaneously. The plc's are obsolete and need to be replaced. This project is budgeted for and will be paid for out of the sewer fund.

6. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With Advanced Pump And Equipment, Inc.

Approximately six weeks ago, the computer and alarm system at the Elm lift station went down, and it needs to be replaced. The lift station is working on the back-up pumps and doing daily manual checks. The control panel will be located outside so the H₂S will no longer damage it.

It was questioned what this small service contract would cover. It was clarified that APE would install the computer wiring. The City may also need Ace Electric to come in and do some wiring. It will be approximately 10 to 12 weeks before this can be installed.

7. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Amendment To Task Order For The Water System Preliminary Engineering Report With KLJ Engineering, LLC.

The draft PER was presented at the Public Works Committee in January. KLJ is working on finalizing the document. They are \$15k over budget, and there was a delay in getting financial data for approximately 7 to 9 months. This resolution is to approve half the cost of the overage, and KLJ will cover the other half of the overage.

The Steel tank is from 1968 and was recoated in 1998. There are paint chips that need to be dealt with, and the City needs to have another reservoir before it can do the needed maintenance on the current tank.

It was questioned what the timeframe would be to build a new reservoir, and it was clarified that we hope to build within the next year or two. It will take approximately a year or two to design. The City also needs to purchase land, which should help remove the need to use booster stations.

It was questioned if this would be a bond issue, and it was clarified that it would be an SRF loan. The City is also looking at the TESP grants, which are due next April. There are also Federal Infrastructure grants that the City can look at applying for.

8. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Consent To Assignment Of Agreement By And Between Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company LLC And Par Pacific Holdings, Inc.

Exxon has sold all of its assets associated with the Billings plant. One of those assets is a pipeline that runs through Riverside Park. This resolution is to give consent to the easement to continue the same agreement with the new company.

Council Issues

CHS has planned very well for the upcoming turnaround, and the traffic impacts this turnaround will have. They are planning on bussing contractors in and using the East Laurel exit. April will be the peak of this turnaround. They will also be staggering the start and end of shifts to keep the traffic flows down as much as possible. There will be a formalized agreement for the OT provided by the Police Department.

It was questioned if there would be a four-way stop at 5th Avenue, and it was clarified that is not in the works. The City has requested it, but there is no update. A speed sign in the area will remind people to go the speed limit.

Other Items

There were none.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Council Member Mackay will be absent.

Announcements

There were none.



The council workshop adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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.



File Attachments for Item:

12. Council Workshop Minutes of February 21, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on February 21, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Jodi Mackay

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney
Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director

Public Input:

Bridger Fournier, 2810 S. 72nd Street W, read the attached statement into the record.

Jake Vannoy, 203 W. 2nd Street, read the attached statement into the record.

Kent Kulesa, 810 W. Maryland Lane stated he is a 26 member of the Volunteer Fire Department. He voiced concerns that with every new administration, there is a new vision for the Fire Department without consultation of the members of the Fire Department. He requested that a joint vision be made for the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department publicly and transparently.

Reno Olivera, 3111 Chief Looking Glass Rd, read the attached statement into the record.

Jonathan Gotschall, 1011 Duval Drive, read the attached statement into the record.

Abbey Nagel, 2807 Brookway Drive, read the attached statement into the record.

Jayson Nicholson, 320 7th Avenue, read the attached statement into the record.

General Items

1. Appointment of Steven Hurd to the Police Commission for the remainder of a three-year appointment ending April 30, 2024.

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Executive Review

2. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Adopting The Transportation Coordination Plan, Laurel Transit, For The City Of Laurel.

There was no discussion on this item.

2. Resolution - A Resolution Awarding The Bid And Authorizing The Mayor To Execute All Contract And Related Documents For Russell Park Landscape Improvements.

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

3. Ordinance - An Ordinance Amending Title Six Of The Laurel Municipal Code (Lmc § 6.16.010) Relating To Prohibited Certain Animals.

See the attached memo comparing the City of Laurel's proposed ordinance changes to other communities around the state.

It was questioned if there would be tags for the chickens, where unclaimed chickens will be housed, if a chicken tests positive for bird flu how will they, be disposed of, what methods of disposal will be allowed, and will there be a fine if deceased chickens are placed in the garbage.

It was clarified that Staff are looking into options for tagging the chickens; there will be a permitting process. The Mayor has spoken to a farmer south of town who will house any loose chickens for the City.

It was questioned whether there would be a fine for those not registered chickens, and it was clarified that this ordinance would be enforced.

Council Issues

4. Expand Camping For CHS Turnaround

Park Board had discussed the option to open up additional camping areas within Riverside Park for those coming in for the turnaround. It would allow workers to be close to CHS, but they don't want all the regular camping to be taken up. It was thought to use the old campground area.

It was clarified there are issues with waste and trash, so this is not a good option this year.

5. Security Cameras At Riverside Park

Due to recent vandalism, Park Board has requested the City look into putting security cameras at Riverside Park.

Other Items

There were none.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Council Member Wilke may be absent from next week's meeting.

Announcements

Emergency Services Committee's next meeting will be Monday at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

This Saturday is Council Member Klose's wife's 80th birthday. He is providing cake and ice cream at the Senior Center. Council is invited to attend.

Council thanked the firemen who showed up and spoke at tonight's meeting.

Laurel Urban Renewal Agency's next meeting is March 6th at 11:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.

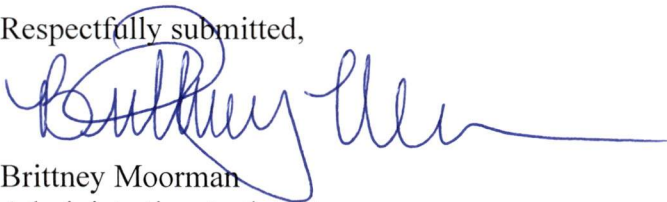
Mayor Waggoner congratulated the Nauman family on the birth of Willow Lynn.

Mayor Waggoner stated the City recently got the license plate designs back from the artists, which are attached to these minutes.

Mayor Waggoner thanked City Staff for filling in the pool and preparing it for the splash park to move forward. The goal is to have the splash park open and ready for use by June 1st.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

Bridger Fournier
215 W 1st St, Laurel, MT 59044

Good evening Mr. Mayor. Good evening City Council. I come before you tonight to address a problem that the City of Laurel has. But before I can tell you about the problem I need to back up a little bit. I am a proud member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department and Laurel Volunteer Ambulance. I am going on my fourth year of being on the fire department. I currently serve as the maintenance captain for the fire department. I was appointed to this position by the fire chief and my fellow firefighters. I joined the fire department on a spur of the moment. My friend and I were driving by the department one day and we decided to walk in and grab an application and apply. At that moment I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Only being 20 years old at the time when I applied. Going on 24 now I have come to realize I have gained so much knowledge in my short period of time being on the fire department. I have gained many friends and already have so many memories that I will carry with me through the rest of my life.

Being a part of the fire department you see things no one should ever see in their life. Things that will haunt you for the rest of your life. Things you will have nightmares about. You will be going about your day just as if nothing is going on and something will catch your eye or something will have a certain smell and it

will bring you back to that very nightmare for you to relive it all over again. As a first responder this is a way of life. One moment you're with your family enjoying a family dinner then the next moment you are rushing into someone's house to provide life saving efforts to an individual that you have never met before. Or rushing out onto a busy interstate, putting my own life at risk, because someone decided to drive drunk. Why do we do this? Because we like to be the calm amongst the chaos in this crazy world we live in.

I remember a vivid memory. It was in this exact room that we are all in right now. It was when I was being voted on by the city council. I remember the fire chief getting up to speak, asking to have the council approve the newest members of the fire department. I remember the chief asking me and a couple guys to stand up and state our names. I also remember my mother and father and my sister sitting in the very back corner supporting me. As a family. Just like right now. As I speak to you now I have a family sitting behind me. A family that no one could ever break. A family that I have been on several calls with and experienced a lot of things that not your typical family may ever experience. As a family we stick up for each other. Right now my fire family is under some pressure and is in hard times. I feel that the leader of this family is being forced out. I have watched the fire chief put up with a lot of grief from the city and we are here for him. In my personal opinion you will not find someone like the current chief we have now. Someone that has countless hours of training and is certified in a number of

different things. He puts his heart and soul into running this department for basically nothing. No one that I know is more deserving of this position. Someone that goes above and beyond his role of fire chief. The City of Laurel would not be the same without him. I ask you Council members to be more involved in my family. I ask that you listen to my family's concerns and to think hard about the decisions ahead of you. Thank you for your time.

Intro (Vannoy)

Name - 215 W 1st St

Good evening Honorable Mayor Waggoner and council members,
I have been a firefighter for almost 2 years. Never have I felt such comradery as I have with Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. Unfortunately, recent events appear to be attacking that ideology.

I am one of the top responders and have seen a lot in the past 2 years. From wildland fires, house fires, rescues on the river, to chaotic cpr calls.

There is something about this department and what we do that I have found my calling, my passion.

This community means more to me than most can appreciate under the smile and happy attitude I bring to the department with any and every call we receive.

I do not volunteer for the accolades, atta-boys, perks, or payment. I volunteer because I want to serve my community and am willing to lay my life down in service of this great city I live in, along with whom I consider my brothers and sisters.

Chief Peters has been pushed to the breaking point trying to advocate for the department, and has turned in his letter of resignation at this point in time.

It is very disheartening to see this be the outcome as a result of the city's actions. These acts are being done behind the scenes of the public and first responders, which ultimately puts the city in danger of not having a functioning fire department. I don't see Brent as just a Chief, I see him as a true leader, a brother, mentor, and friend.

The city does not see what we do on a daily basis of training, calls, or public relations, even being invited to meetings but to not show.

Again, I don't do this for payment, I do it for the love of what I do. These are my brothers and sisters whom I would do anything for.

Respectfully I submit this comment for the record and thank you for your continued joint service to the City of Laurel.

Thank you.
Joint Vision

Name - 215 W 1st St

Good evening Honorable Mayor Waggoner and council members,

I stand before you tonight as a concerned constituent and a proud member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. As such I find myself concerned that with every new administration there seems to be a new vision for the fire department without ever creating a documented vision or consultation with the members of the fire department.

As a fire family we stand united before you today to raise your awareness about our concerns and ask for your support. We kindly request that you work with us to develop a joint vision for the future of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. We pledge to work with you as the leaders of our community to develop this mission by attending council workshops, working with the emergency services committee and attending special meetings as often as we are placed on the agenda and are invited. By working together in a public and transparent manner, we can ensure that there is a working and constructive relationship between the City of Laurel and the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department.

We make this request with the knowledge that we do not have a union to represent us and our interests and that we are volunteers. These realities make us a unique department in the City and as such are making a unique request, seeking unique solutions. Our hope is to work with you to ensure the citizens of Laurel and surrounding Fire Districts continue to receive the services for which they pay and deserve.

People, the world over, love firefighters. This affection is not shown because we have any super powers, but because we show up for people in their worst moments. We wake up in the middle of the night and spend holidays away from our families to protect life and property. We are traumatized by the sights, sounds, and tastes we experience. Traumas that we carry with us for the rest of our lives. And yet, we do it day after day for the sake of our neighbor. We are not asking you to risk your health or safety, we just need your help and cooperation. Please work with us so we can continue to show up for those who need help.

Respectfully I submit this comment for the record and thank you for your continued joint service to the City of Laurel.

Leadership (Reno)

Name - 215 W 1st St

Good evening Honorable Mayor Waggoner and council members,
An article was published on Thanksgiving 2022 in the Laurel Outlook that spoke towards my time in combat as a Marine, the hardships of returning home, and my new found purpose in the last decade being on the frontlines helping our veterans in need. Just after, I received an unexpected phone call from Chief Brent Peters of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department who happens to be an Army veteran as well. He wanted to set up a meeting to talk with me about becoming a firefighter. I accepted.

A majority of military members who receive their last orders back into civilian life will tell you one thing they miss the most and that's camaraderie amongst their peers. They miss the loyalty and cohesiveness in working together as one machine to protect our country and provide safety to the loved ones we left behind. "...Camaraderie doesn't die when you leave the military, it becomes repurposed when you find a group of people with the same passion." Those words came from Brent's heart to me and were exactly what I needed to hear to become a firefighter.

After a detailed interview with the firefighters of Laurel, the life I once knew changed indefinitely. I am now a part of a group of people who share the same passions as I do: helping others, protecting the ones we love, and giving back to our community. I get to see the outcome of us saving people, our people...Americans... on our Homefront and not in Afghanistan or Iraq. Their smiles and gratitude aren't what being a firefighter is about but definitely helps. The outcome of what our community sees after a tragedy or an accident is the result of a full functioning fire station. Chief Peters, as a leader and mentor, has developed a well structured fire department over the years. Training is a rigorous yearlong endeavor to prepare Laurel's firefighters for the many hardships we encounter as a municipal fire department. Chief handles public safety and public relations while also maintaining order internally within the department. He keeps the department's equipment and gear in tiptop shape. Our department takes pride in the professionalism and traditions that Brent has upheld within the department for over a decade.

As he is the glue that keeps the department together, his goal isn't him trying to maintain job security as a full time Fire Chief. His passion far outweighs a paycheck. His passion is to pass the torch to the future of Laurel's Fire Department. The full time Fire Chief position would allow him time to lock in operating procedures that help the department years after his retirement. He would continue to share his knowledge and expertise within his team, us, so that we can carry the torch after his stead. See he is preparing us for success. As a true leader should.

I come in front of you with an ask that I feel is important. I ask that we put aside old biases and start fresh with our relationship between the fire department and the city. Let's find a galvanizing point, such as the love and safety for those in our community, and build a foundation together that sets a precedent for the future. However that looks, let us come to a common arrangement between the council and the fire department on expectations. Let us sit down and find clarity amongst each other to help the citizens of our community, not hinder them.

Thank you for your time.

FD Perception - Gotschall
Name - 215 W 1st St

Good evening Honorable Mayor Waggoner and council members,

I stand before you tonight as a concerned constituent and a proud member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. My experience on the Fire Department has lead me to a place of concern due to a perceived culture of animosity towards to the Fire Department.

Our perception is that there are members of the City Council, The Mayor, and the City Attorney view the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department as group that needs to be controlled and muzzled. This understanding is partially derived from an email sent to all city employees and volunteers from the City Attorney dated September 17th, 2022 that made threats of termination if we publicly expressed our concern about how the city is managed, despite our rights as citizens and tax payers. During the budgeting process there was clear animosity experienced by our members that was directed towards the Fire Department by members of the council that was not shown towards other departments. And various ongoing experiences. We feel that we are constantly receiving what seems to be conflicting information about the status of our Chief and the status of members. We are considered volunteers when it is convenient for the City to save money and employees when the City and the City Lawyer want to exert control over us.

Our hope is that by brining our concerns to lights is that you as council members might understand our struggles. We do not desire any animosity, and only hope that we can be treated with the same respect as the other departments in our city.

When we invite you to come to our open houses, please show up. When we host special demonstrations for our city council to see our new equipment and how it works, show up! We are not a high maintenance bunch, we don't even ask to be compensated for all of our time training which totals over 12,000 hours over the last five years, doing maintenance on vehicles at a significant savings to the City of Laurel, and all of our community service activities. On those occasions where we do receive your support, it is greatly appreciated and noted. A simple thank you for your service card goes a long way. Thank you Council Member Sparks for your cards.

If you are unable to support us for personal reasons we simply ask for your respect. We know that volunteers can be unwieldily because if we are fired our lives go on without significant financial consequences. If we are fired the things that change for us is that we would get more sleep, be at home with our families more, not constantly be risking injury, but also not experiencing the fulfillment that comes with serving our community. We may not be perfect, but we give our all to our community. Please do not treat us as the red headed step children of city departments as we have continually experienced with each new administration. Our desire to serve the City of Laurel, just like you. Let's work together to make Laurel a great place to live and work.

Respectfully I submit this comment for the record and thank you for your continued joint service to the City of Laurel.

Tradition of service - Abby
Name - 215 W 1st St

Good evening Honorable Mayor Waggoner and council members,

I stand before you tonight as a concerned constituent and a proud member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. You may have seen in multiple media outlets that I the newest member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department, and that I carry on my families tradition of service. It is from that family tradition of service that I express my concern about our ability to continue serving the City of Laurel and surrounding fire districts.

You may be aware that the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department is responsible for fireworks on the 4th of July, decorating the park and welcoming Santa to town for Christmas to Remember, supporting our schools during special events like state championships, and other community events throughout the year. During the current administration we have received criticism regarding our ongoing community support and involvement. We are not trying to create any problems, and are only trying to carry on the tradition of service to Laurel set forth by our predecessors.

When we interview potential members of the Fire Department we ask questions about firefighting, and we ask questions about community involvement. We take pride in serving our community when emergencies arise, and when there are times to celebrate. This commitment to service builds out trust with the community. When we do show up in emergencies its rarely our first interaction and we have already built a relationship of trust. Our involvement with the schools has lead to us responding to zero cases of youth set fires, by youth who attend our schools. Regularly engaging with our community keeps us all safer.

We fear that with extreme oversight of our department that we will no longer be able to serve our community like we have done for over 100 years. Will our ability to put on the 4th of July Firework show be taken away? Will we be prevented from celebrating our students when they win a state championship? Will you still support us to carry on the traditions that mean so much to our community or tighten your grip so much that we only show up when people are in crisis?

Please don't strip us of our legacy of service that I have dreamed of joining for years. Being a firefighter means so much more than just fighting fires, it is a commitment to serve our community in the good times and the bad, a commitment to make Laurel a better place each day through a legacy of service. Help us continue to love and serve Laurel.

Respectfully I submit this comment for the record and thank you for your continued joint service to the City of Laurel.

Life Together - Preacher
Name - 215 W 1st St

Good evening Honorable Mayor Waggoner and council members,

I stand before you today as a concerned constituent and proud member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. As you may have noticed we stand here united behind our Chief and asking for your support. We have no desire to be viewed with animosity, but simply stand here to express our concerns and ask for your cooperation.

Laurel is our home and only want the best for our community, and yet stand here wondering if there is a place for us to continue serving as firefighters. We are stand before you and ask that we be included in establishing a sustainable vision for the future of Laurel Volunteer Fire Department and that the conversations happen in a public and

accountable manner. We do not want any more closed door meetings where decisions are made by decree. We want to hold all parties, ourselves included, to the highest possible standard of accountability, as it should be. Please put us on the agenda for the next council workshop in two weeks so we can have a conversation and work towards solutions.

Our experience from this administration has been a posture of bullying and animosity towards the fire department and its members. We might ask for a lot of equipment, but please remember that our lives depend on our equipment working every single time. There is very little margin of error for us when we respond to a call, for our lives and the lives of others are at risk. We also raise the vast majority of our budget from our fire districts and not from City of Laurel. This may not be clear because of the opaque system of accounting currently used by the City of Laurel, that only serves to keep secrets and allow mismanagement of funds. Let's be more transparent to our tax payers about what exactly they are paying for and where their tax money goes. We know that when we show up for a call our citizens need our best, and they need your best too.

Our hope in coming here today that we would not allow our past to dictate our future and that we can work together to create. Lets create a future that ensures our citizens continue to receive the level of service from our fire department that they deserve. We want to have a seat at the table and a voice in the discussion when it comes to setting the vision for the future of the department that has been developed through our sweat equity.

We are stronger when we work together. The City of Laurel is a better place to live when we work together. Therefore I will continue to keep you in my prayers as the leaders of this community that we all love dearly. I pray that God gives you the wisdom to make decision that are for the best of our community, and that egos may be set aside. I pray that Christ gives you the heart to love without concern for self. And I pray that the Holy Spirit gives you the strength and courage to do what is right even when its hard.

Respectfully I submit this comment for the record and thank you for your continued joint service to the City of Laurel.

CITY HALL
115 W. 1st. St.
PUB WORKS: 628-4796
PWD FAX: 628-2241
WATER OFFICE: 628-7431
WTR FAX: 628-2289
MAYOR: 628-8456

City of Laurel

P.O. Box 10
Laurel, Montana 59044



Mayor's Office

DEPARTMENT

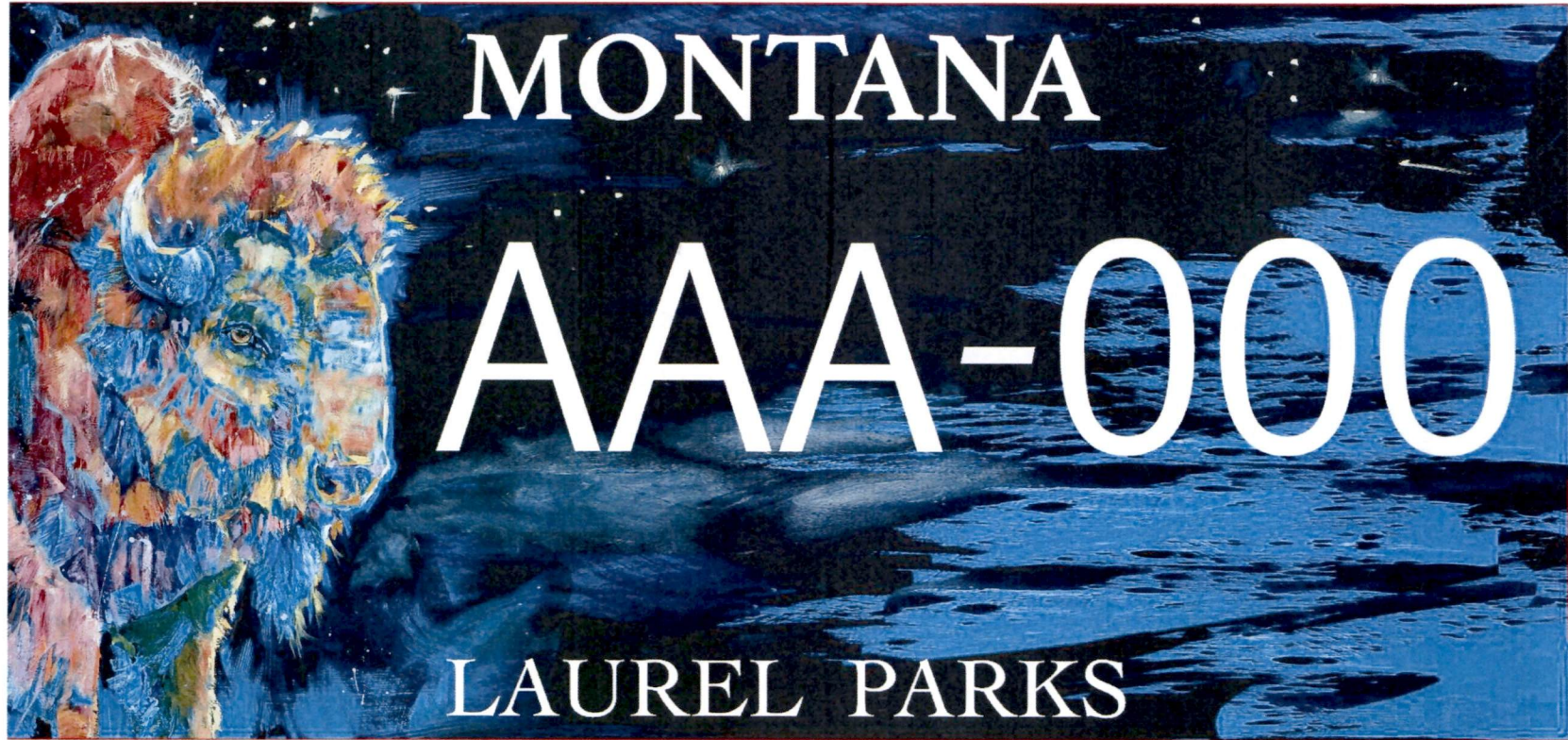
MEMORANDUM RE PROPOSED ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending Title Six of the Laurel Municipal Code (LMC § 6.16.010) Relating to Prohibited Certain Animals.

Comparable Municipal Information

- I. Billings:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 6 chicken hens. Only single-family parcels can maintain chicken hens.
- II. Bozeman:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 15 chicken hens. Only single-family parcels can maintain chicken hens.
- III. Missoula:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 6 chicken hens. Both single family and multi-family dwellings can maintain chicken hens, assuming that all families in the multi-family dwelling consent in writing. Missoula also allows geese and ducks.
- IV. Belgrade:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 6 chicken hens. Only single-family parcels can maintain chicken hens.
- V. Dillon:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. For the first 2,875 square feet of any residential parcel, up to 4 chicken hens are allowed and for each additional 1,000 square feet of any residential parcel, one additional chicken hen up to a total of 10.
- VI. Roundup:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 4 chicken hens.
- VII. Polson:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 6 chicken hens.

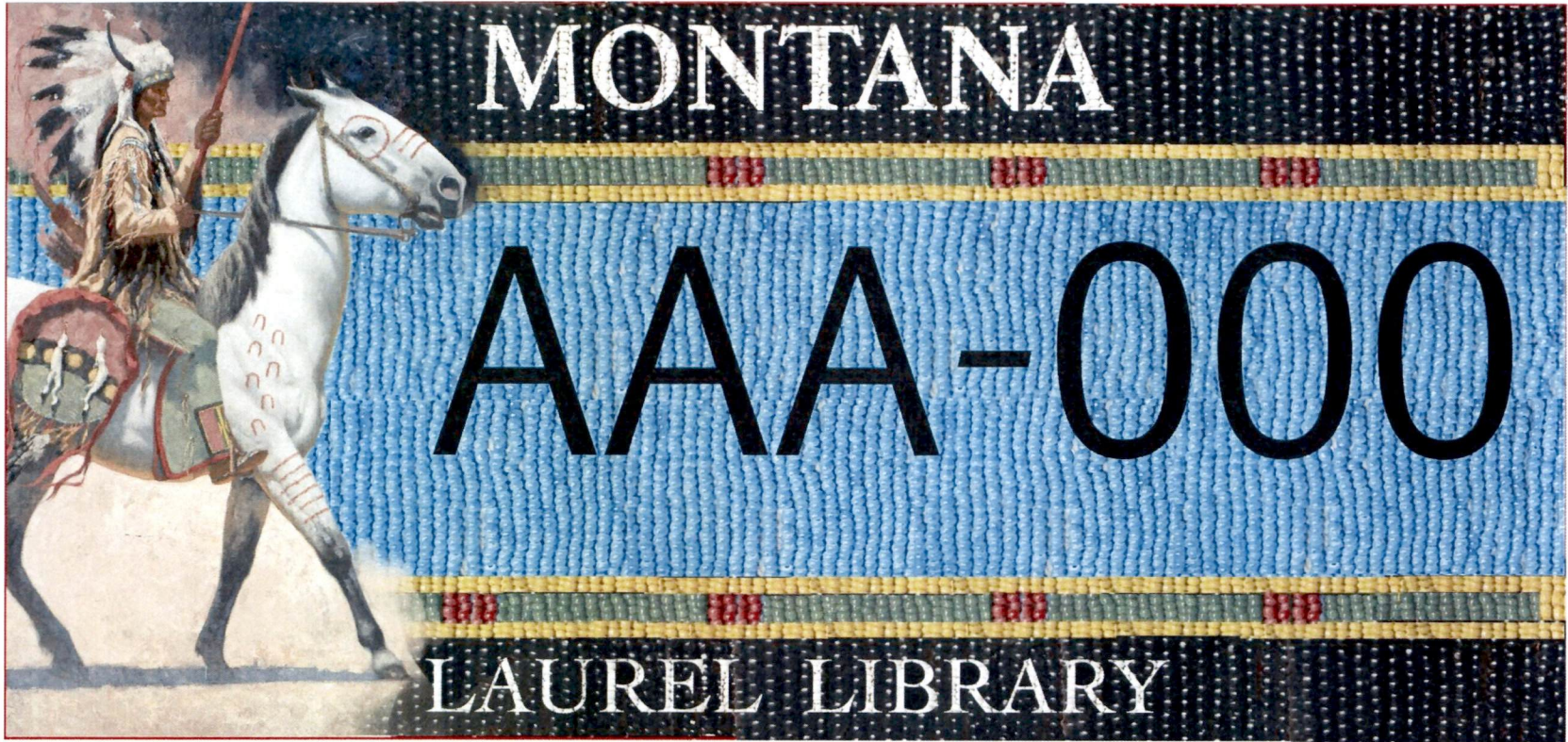
- VIII. Helena:** The City has never prohibited the keeping of chickens in City limits, and they have no applicable prohibitive Ordinance.
- IX. Kalispell:** The City allows chicken hens, and there is no maximum limit.
- X. Miles City:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 6 chicken hens. Only single-family parcels can maintain chicken hens.
- XI. Butte:** The City has no maximum limitation on the number of chicken hens, except that any property owner keeping chicken hens must have a lot at least 20,000 square feet.
- XII. Whitefish:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 5 chicken hens.
- XIII. Glendive:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City allows up to 6 chicken hens.
- XIV. Livingston:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City has no maximum limitation on the number of chicken hens.
- XV. Manhattan:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City has no maximum limitation on the number of chicken hens.
- XVI. Red Lodge:** The City has an Ordinance comparable to the proposed Ordinance in front of the Laurel City Council. The City has no maximum limitation on the number of chicken hens.



MONTANA

AAA-000

LAUREL PARKS



File Attachments for Item:

13. Special Council Workshop of February 28, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023**

A Special Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 7:35 p.m. on February 28, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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 Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director
Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer
Matt Wheeler, Public Works Superintendent
Stan Langve, Police Chief

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Role of City Attorney

Civil Attorney Braukmann read the attached document into the record.

Police Chief Langve read the attached document into the record.

Jayson Nicholson, 320 7th Avenue, stated that he meant no disrespect to the current Clerk/Treasurer and had meant to reference the previous Clerk/Treasurer. When asked through formal channels where and how a fish tank was purchased, they received no response. Coming to speak at Council was at the recommendation of the Civil City Attorney. They were limited to only speaking for three minutes and tried their best to follow that. Things might have been taken out of context because they could not explain them. That is why they asked to work with Council; they apologize if it came across as adversarial. There may have been people who posted about the Civil City Attorney personally, but it was not members of the Fire Department. They would like to apologize and work together to move forward.

Brent Peters, 1995 Saddleback Drive, started by apologizing to the Clerk/Treasurer and the Finance Department from the Fire Department. He stood up for Kelly to be chosen as the new Clerk/Treasurer because of the years of dedication she has given to this City. She was exactly

what the City needed. As previously stated, there is only a three-minute limit, and they wanted to address a lot of information within that three minutes. He stated he had had many candid conversations with the Civil City Attorney. They may not always agree on the Fire Department's direction, but he respects her and that she is the right fit for the City of Laurel. There is a perception of what is going on, and a lot of that is stemmed from a lack of communication. He has not had the best communication with the Mayor since he has taken office. The Fire Department has chosen him to continue to be the Fire Chief. If he is chosen to continue to be the Chief, he will work to fix those gaps in communication. He has requested to withdraw his letter of resignation, but that is up to all of you to make that decision. He looks forward to working with Mayor Waggoner, Civil City Attorney Braukmann, and Clerk/Treasurer Strecker in the future. He would love to apologize for the Facebook posts. However, he cannot. The ones who posted them he has no control over. The men and women who have shown up were not the ones posting on Facebook. Facebook is no place to air out your laundry. Cannot say what the family members, friends, or others post. He knows what it is like to be raked over the coals via Facebook, but taking on the responsibility of being a Department Head is a choice. He believes the right people are in place and would like to continue to work with them.

Clerk/Treasurer Strecker stated she fully supports Civil City Attorney Braukmann. She is contracted for 20 hours per week but often works many more hours each week on things for the City.

Council Member Mize stated she was the only Council Member who voted no to contract Civil City Attorney Braukmann. She has earned her trust and respect.

Various Council Members stated that Civil City Attorney Braukmann is the greatest asset for the City of Laurel.

Ken Olson, 1702 Groshelle Boulevard, spoke positively of Clerk/Treasurer Strecker.

Mayor Waggoner read the attached statements from Ambulance Director Gurchiek, Library Director Schmidt, and Utility Billing Clerk Patrick into the record.

Public Works and Planning Director Markegard stated he had been here for 19 years. Mayor Waggoner is the 4th Mayor he has worked under. These are the kinds of people you want in leadership.

Executive Review

Council Issues

Other Items

There were water issues in Elena and Cherry Hills today, and many calls regarding the water. The City lost a pump, and it will take 2 to 3 weeks to get the parts to repair it. Currently running on pump 2; however, pump 2 is either on or off.

If there is a fire in those neighborhoods in the meantime, the Fire Department will respond with a tender.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Announcements

There is Hunters Education next week. Registration is still open if anyone would like to attend.

Park Board's next meeting is Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in Council Conference Room.

The council workshop adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

City Attorney Role: Conversation with CC

I am honored to stand here in front of you, esteemed City Council Members, Honorable Mayor Waggoner, our City Staff and public that is present here this evening, as well as all members of the Laurel community that are watching this Special Council Workshop online. By way of introduction and for the record, I am Michele Braukmann, and I am the Civil City Attorney for the City of Laurel. The City of Laurel is my client through my private law firm, wherein I also serve multiple other clients throughout this community and the State of Montana.

By way of a little background, for those that are newer to CC and for the general public – I am a University of Montana and a University of Notre Dame graduate. I hold Bachelors’ Degrees from the University of Montana, highest honors, and Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School, Summa Cum Laude. I have practiced in municipal liability work in the State of Montana for 2 ½ decades. This is one of my specialty practice areas. I have represented large Cities throughout Montana (including Billings, Bozeman, Missoula, and others), as well as many small Cities and Towns. I have handled many matters for many Departments, including Fire Departments, Police Departments, Public Works and Planning Departments, etc.

I was asked to take over the Civil City Attorney work in Laurel in late 2021, upon the prior City Attorney’s resignation. I had previously handled several City of Laurel cases, including with EMS, the LPD, and public works. It was an honor to me to be asked, and I felt confident that I could help serve Laurel, moving forward. I have worked to do so, since coming on board. I am contracted at 20 hours per week in Laurel, through my private law firm, but I have worked exceptionally hard to be as available as much as possible for our City.

In the course of the past week or so, I have been witness to and become aware of multiple comments being circulated in our community implying that our City governance is corrupt, that the Mayor and City Staff are holding “closed door meetings,” that multiple of us are not acting in the best interests of City residents, that I, in particular, am not “staying in my lane,” and that there is information hidden from the public by the Mayor, myself, our Finance Department, and other City Staff.

I respectfully disagree with these comments, and I believe they lack context and a full understanding of the daily workings of City operations.

I want to first speak to what my experience is like working with Mayor Waggoner. Mayor Waggoner puts in exceptionally long hours and it is my experience that he cares deeply about our community. He is available to myself and other City Staff at all times of the day – including weekends and evenings. He is in constant communication with City Staff, he listens to and evaluates all perspectives, and I believe he is genuinely leading this community in a direction that looks forward, versus backwards. My experience working with Kelly Strecker, our Clerk/Treasurer, and the other members of the Finance Department is equally positive. Kelly has put in countless hours the past year to improving every aspect of the Finance Department. Contrary to statements made last week that the City has an opaque system of accounting, I find Kelly incredibly transparent, working exceptionally hard to get Department Heads what they need in order to appropriately manage their individual Department Finances. Like the Mayor, Kelly has been available to me for questions and analysis on many evenings and weekends.

I simply cannot agree that the Mayor or our Finance Department – and, for that matter, our other City Staff, are not working in our public’s best interests.

I want to next address comments about my alleged failure, as a City Attorney, to “stay in my lane,” in the work that I perform. With all due respect, there is, frankly, no single “lane” for a City Attorney. The job of a City Attorney could be more aptly described as a 12 lane freeway, with numerous on and off ramps, construction zones, and toll ways. Traffic sometimes goes 75 miles per hour, with cars weaving in and out of various lanes. At other times, traffic is at an entire standstill, because of something that has arisen. The job for me, as a driver in these many lanes, is to try to keep as much predictability and stability in place for the many moving parts on this roadway.

I am not a decision-maker for the City of Laurel, nor is any City Attorney. However, it can often seem, to those looking from the outside in, that decisions are being made by a City Attorney, because the City Attorney is often the person charged with communicating messaging, giving advice in public forums, and handling personnel and other City Department management issues.

I will always provide my candid and thorough recommendations to the Mayor and CC. And, often, as a result of these recommendations, I then, in turn, have to communicate with City Staff about various pending matters. I understand that people may not always agree with my recommendations. People may also not always agree with the decisions made by the Mayor or CC. However, I assure you that this work is not taken lightly, either by myself, the Mayor, City Staff, or City Council Members.

City Attorneys serve in an advisory role, an educational role, an advocacy role, a defense role, a human resources role, a general administrative support role, and numerous other roles – if they are doing their job properly. All of this work is done in active consultation with relevant City Staff, the Mayor, and to the extent appropriate, City Council. This role does not operate in a vacuum.

Finally, I want to speak to my experience working with our City Council Members. I believe our community is incredibly fortunate to have the CC that we do. They routinely ask questions of myself and City Staff between meetings, on additional follow-up information they need to make informed decisions, and they work exceptionally hard on multiple Committees, Boards, and Commissions. It is not easy being an elected official, whereby members of the public sometimes “play arm-chair quarterback” regarding the decisions made. I am grateful for these hard-working members of our community.

I have asked that, if any Department Heads or Staff want to speak to any of these issues, in order to dispel some of the misconceptions that appear to exist, they are welcome to.

Finally, I want to address a procedural matter that I am aware of conversations about. This relates specifically to the handling of matters at the CC Workshop last week and tonight, during the public meeting. Members of the public might not be aware that, legally, there are specific rules of procedure and order that govern City Council Meetings. At meetings, a non-agenda item cannot be debated or involve extensive discussions by City Council and the Mayor. The public time to speak is available for anyone to show up and speak to any matter of substantial public interest. Discussion, debate, and decisions made, however – have to follow specific rules of procedure – which means that the item has to be an Agenda item. That is why, for example, as in last week, public comments are not addressed in a formal manner by City Council. That does not mean that City Council, the Mayor, myself, or City Staff is not listening to the comments and

evaluating what needs to occur thereafter. But, silence should not be construed as a lack of attention or a disregard for a particular persons/group of people's concerns. It is simply following parliamentary procedure.

I want to close by expressing my sincere gratitude to everyone involved in the City governance in Laurel for their hard work. My experiences working with the Mayor, City Council, our Department Heads, and many City Staff have been nothing but positive. I am honored to be witness to all of your hard work, and stand next to each of you and serve this community. I wholeheartedly do not endorse any theory by which there is corruption in our City government, closed door meetings, or efforts made not to work in our residents' best interests. It has been my full and complete experience, during my tenure, that City Staff, myself, and the Mayor are working exceptionally hard to grow this community in a positive direction, keep residents and their taxpayer dollars protected, and meet the needs of all of our City Departments.

I am happy to answer any questions that the Council may have, and if not, I'll turn the floor over to anyone else that wishes to speak.



Laurel Police Department

215 W. 1st Street Laurel, Mt. 59044 • Phone 406-628-8737 • Fax 406-628-4641

Chief of Police Stanley J Langve

February 28th, 2023

This is an open letter to all,

In my experience Mayor Dave Waggoner is a caring, studious, and engaged Mayor. I have found him to be a humble public servant, to the point I believe he would far more likely prefer to be called “Dave” rather than “Mayor”. In my experience, Mayor Waggoner has been very open, engaging, and readily available to the Cities departments and to the citizens of Laurel. I appreciated the Mayors willingness to listen and critically examine issues with an open mind. I fully believe that Mayor Waggoner consistently bases his decisions and actions on what is in the best interest of the City of Laurel as a whole.

I have had the pleasure of working with our Clerk / Treasurer Kelly Strecker for many years. I have always admired Kelly for her hard work, diligence, and knowledge. Kelly has always been someone I have trusted to have open and honest conversations with. If she did not know the answer to a particular question she would research and provide me with reliable information. I do not know if many people can truly appreciate the courage and dedication to the city it took to step up and take over her current position. She showed incredible commitment to the city stepping up into that maelstrom. She has and continues to be an incredible asset to this community.

In my humble opinion, our Civil Attorney Michele Braukmann has been one of the greatest gifts the City of Laurel has ever had. I can not overstate the level of respect I have for her. Michele is incredibly experienced, knowledgeable, professional, ethical, and has a level of accessibility that is extraordinary. Perhaps the highest accolades that I can articulate to you is the esteem that Captain Travis Pitts has for Michele and her work. Michele Braukmann’s efforts and candor have been an incredible guiding force for our department and the City of Laurel. She has constantly given of herself personally and professionally far more than could ever reasonable ever be expected. Michele has my full faith, support, and respect!

I stand before you in support of Mayor Dave Waggoner, Clerk/ Treasurer Kelly Strecker, and Civil Attorney Michele Braukmann.

Stanley J Langve
Chief of Police

Travis L. Pitts
Captain

February 23, 2023

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I apologize that I am not able to be here tonight to speak in person. I just wanted to take a moment to voice my thoughts in regards to Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney for Laurel and Mayor Waggoner.

I will be honest and say that I am not aware of all the issues/events that have occurred with the LVFD that have caused the recent discussions. I will also say that I feel that I, as well as my department, have a good working relationship with the Fire Department. We share a few volunteers, several of them drive for us when we don't have a full crew and we rely heavily on them to help with calls that involve extrication, extra hands when needed etc. I appreciate all that they do for us and our patients.

During the discussions between the LVFD and City Council, as I understand it, there were concerns that were brought forward regarding Ms. Braukmann and Mayor Waggoner. I feel that it is important to share my experiences working with them as the Ambulance Director.

I will start with the Mayor. I am very appreciative of Mayor Waggoner. He has taken the time to learn about our service and the care that we provide. He truly seems to understand the issues that we face as a city in being able to respond to calls for service. He has been available, approachable and open to hearing about issues and concerns that our department faces. It has been obvious to me that he appropriately researches and asks good questions to make informed decisions to help us progress. When he says no to a request, even if I don't like it or disagree, I know that it comes with a valid well thought out reason. Most importantly I feel that he supports us. He relies on me to do my job and I feel his trust in me to do so. He is gracious to me and my crew and I feel that he genuinely cares about them. He often expresses thanks and his concern for our safety. I truly do feel his appreciation to our department, and I believe that he wants to find a way for us to grow and provide the best care possible to the citizens of Laurel.

Ms. Braukmann has truly been an asset to our service. Quite frankly, I am in awe that we were so lucky to have her join our City Department. She has an incredible resume and, speaking from an ambulance industry, knows so much about the inner workings of public and private ambulance services, and from many conversations with her, she understands all aspects of emergency services. From daily operational questions to updating many aspects of our service such as moving our department from all volunteer to part paid/part volunteer, from EMT to EMT/Paramedic providers, updating policies and training etc, I so appreciate the fact that I can continually run ideas and drafts past her to make sure that we are keeping the city's liability low and doing the best that we can. She responds to questions and concerns literally day and night. She offers guidance in areas that I didn't even realize she could help with. She truly goes above and beyond to support us in so many ways. I absolutely feel her care, support and appreciation

towards myself and my crews and know that she will help to move our department forward in the future to ensure that the citizens of Laurel are receiving the best possible care that we can provide. I also would like to very clearly state that if the ambulance department ever ends up in litigation for any reason, I really hope we do not, but if we do, I would 100 % want Ms. Braukmann representing myself, my crews and the city. I am confident that she would be the best representation we could ask for.

I would also like to take a brief moment to say that since I joined this department, I have been extremely impressed and grateful for the support of all departments I have worked with. I appreciate the Emergency Services Committee and City Council's work. You all have been great with wanting to learn about our departments goals and progress and have been very supportive. I understand that we aren't always going to get everything that we want but so appreciate the willingness to learn and listen and let us continue to move forward with progress.

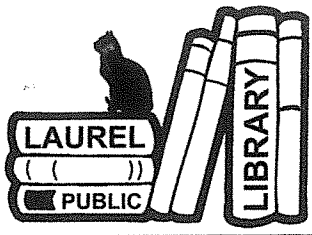
I am amazed at the work City Clerk Strecker and her staff have been able to accomplish this past year. They obviously faced huge challenges. Mrs. Strecker is always responsive to questions and willing to help. I would not be able to do my job without the help that she provides.

I appreciate you letting me share my experiences and am happy to answer any questions. Again, I am sorry I was not able to be present in person.

Respectfully,

Lyndy Gurchiek, NRP, Director
Laurel EMS
215 W 1st Street
Laurel, MT 59044
lgurchiek@laurel.mt.gov
406-860-8233





Laurel Public Library

720 W 3rd St. • Laurel, MT 59044

(406) 628-4961 • library@laurelpubliclibrary.org • www.laurelpubliclibrary.org

February 27, 2023

Council Members:

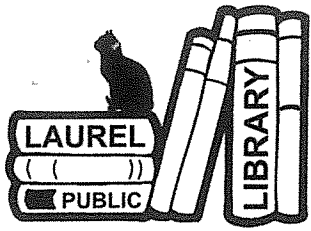
I would like to express my support for our City Attorney Michele Braukmann. I haven't spent a lot of time working with Ms. Braukmann over the last year, but my few meetings with her have been very productive. We haven't always understood what the other person has been trying to convey during our conversations which could have resulted in misunderstandings between us. We've kept our tone amicable, respectful and professional and persevered in finding a common goal for both the city and the library. At no time have I ever felt that the library was the 'least' of her concerns. Nor has she ever given the impression that any one department within the City is more important to her than any other department. Ms. Braukmann understands that I answer to other entities beside our City Administration when it comes to making decisions for the library (i.e., State Library, Board members, Library Federation) which can be frustrating at times. It is refreshing to have someone that is willing to listen to my reasons for what I do and how my goals should be accomplished to everyone's benefit.

After dealing with a previous administration that had taken steps to "get rid of the director" it is wonderful to have someone that is willing to put personal feelings aside and work for the good of our patrons and our city residents. I have been amazed at the number of times I've sent an email to Ms. Braukmann and received an answer back within a day or two. I had gotten to the point with our previous attorney that I didn't expect answers back to any questions regardless of how important the question was. Many times I would find another way to get the information that I needed to continue my work. Michele Braukmann has been great with the legal help she has given to the library and its board members when we asked for guidance. She has also been careful to not try to give us information that we haven't asked for because she suspects we may already have a good understanding of what the library needs to work but we only want clarification from a legal standpoint.

I also have to state how wonderful it has been to work with Kelly Strecker as the new Clerk/Treasurer. She has worked tirelessly over the last (almost) year to get all of our finances in order. She has been a powerhouse when it comes to getting her work completed and updated correctly.

I also want to say that Mayor Waggoner has gone out of his way to help the library succeed this year. We have been on a very, very limited budget for the 4 years of the previous administration which has resulted in cuts to the services we offer our patrons and the number of new items that we are able to purchase for patron use. Mayor Waggoner has set about helping us find ways in which the library can increase its budget through donations. One such idea is the new license plate design that will benefit the library (and the parks). We all have to work with the funds coming from the same pie, it's the slicing of the pie that makes the differences.

I just want to say, again, that I have found that working with Michele Braukmann, Kelly Strecker, and Mayor



Laurel Public Library

720 W 3rd St. • Laurel, MT 59044

(406) 628-4961 • library@laurelpubliclibrary.org • www.laurelpubliclibrary.org

Waggoner has been a definite improvement over the last few years. It goes without saying that all of the other departments in the city have been very helpful to the library over the years. They have all gone out of their way to make us feel that ALL of us are part of this beautiful place we call our home or at least spend many hours working in – LAUREL. There are many places that have growing pains but we've overcome many of them. We will see this trying time through to the end and make Laurel even stronger for what we have experienced. If there is one thing that I could add to this letter it is that we should all be careful what we say and who we listen to everyday. What we may consider a simple statement could very well be taken as a 'gospel truth' by someone else.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and opinions tonight.

With kind regards,

Nancy L Schmidt
Director
Laurel Public Library

Michelle Patrick
512 Idaho Avenue
Laurel, Montana 59044

Dear Mayor Waggoner and Council,

I am unable to be present tonight due to other obligations. I would like to speak as to my support of our Civil Attorney Michele Braukmann.

Michele works very hard and long hours to do the work she does for our city. The dedication and drive behind Michele's work speaks to her work ethic and how much she cares about the job she performs.

I am disheartened by some of the recent comments directed towards or about Michele that were very negative and undeserved. I would ask anyone that would like to know more about the work that Michele does, and where she stands, to make an appointment to speak with her in person.

Do not make your judgements based on information that may be incomplete or second hand from comments of others.

Sincerely,
Michelle Patrick

Michelle Patrick
2/28/2023

File Attachments for Item:

14. Council Workshop Minutes of March 7, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, MARCH 07, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on March 7, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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:

Brittney Moorman, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Public Works, and Planning Director, at 6:44
p.m.
Stan Langve, Police Chief
Jared Anglin, Sergeant

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Appointment Thomas Scott to the Laurel Police Department

Chief Langve introduced Mr. Scott to Council; see attached letter.

2. Appointment of Kurt Markegard as Planning Director.

Kurt will be moving just to planning.

3. Appointment of Matt Wheeler as Public Works Director.

Matt will take over all Public Works duties, including the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants.

It was questioned who would replace Matt. It was clarified that there will be no superintendents moving forward.

It was questioned if any certifications or training were needed to be a Planning Director. It was clarified that Kurt had received his Commercial Building Inspector license and learned the job over the years. The City did try numerous times to get someone with a college degree, but we received very little interest. KLJ will be kept on to assist Kurt as needed.

Executive Review

4. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Approving Accrued Vacation Payout For City Clerk-Treasurer.

Kelly is over the threshold for vacation hours and will not have an opportunity to use those hours. This payout is to bring her down to the threshold. She will be present next week to answer any questions.

5. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With True North Contracting.

This small service contract is for replacing the concrete sidewalk on the library's north side, and it is a stumbling hazard and needs to be replaced before spring.

6. Ordinance No. O23-01: An Ordinance Amending Title Six Of The Laurel Municipal Code (LMC § 6.16.010) Relating To Prohibited Certain Animals.

There will be a public hearing at next week's meeting.

Council Issues

Council Member Wilke stated he may be absent from next week's meeting.

Riverside Park will be closed for approximately two weeks to move a power pole.

Council thanked Public Works for fixing the potholes on the southside.

It was questioned when the S. 4th Street Project would begin. It was clarified there is a meeting on March 20th to discuss this, but Council will be notified when it begins.

It was questioned if Council could receive an update on the W. Railroad project. It was clarified that the DOT is moving forward with the project. They are working on identifying the criteria needed to build the road, and there is no target start date yet.

The Art Walk is Thursday, March 16, 2023. The Mayor paid the \$30 fee for City Hall to be a stop on the walk. The artists will be set up in Council Chambers. There will be two artists featured at City Hall. One will be Sue Carter; the other has not yet been identified. There will be 17 stops throughout downtown. It starts at the Laurel Outlook and ends over here.

Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All Council Members present plan on attending next week's meeting.

Announcements

The council workshop adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brittney Moorman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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.



Laurel Police Department

215 W. 1st Street Laurel, Mt. 59044 • Phone 406-628-8737 • Fax 406-628-4641

Chief of Police Stanley J Langve

March 3rd, 2023

Dear Mayor Waggoner and members of City Council,

The Laurel Police Department currently has one unfilled Patrol Officer position. The position was posted for internal City bid. No applications were received. The position was advertised to the public through several social media, online employment sites, and in print form through the Billings Gazette. Applications closed on December 14, 2022.

Eligible non-POST certified applicants were required to pass the Montana Physical Abilities Test, and the National Police Officer Selection Test. Successful candidates were invited to oral interviews before the Laurel Police Commission and Laurel Police Department Senior staff. Three candidates were moved forward to background investigations.

Based upon the totality of the hiring process and the findings of the background investigation, I present Thomas Ryan Scott for appointment as a City of Laurel Police Officer.

Thomas Scott's previous employment consisted of a position of trust as an armed security officer in the transportation and accountability of large sums of money. He is currently employed with Saint Vincent's Hospital as a valued member of their security force.

Thomas has served honorably with the City of Laurel as a Reserve Police Officer since May of 2020. He has recently taken on the duty of serving as President of the police reserves.

Thomas has been a valued member of our reserve force and is looking forward to continuing his service to the Laurel Community. I request and endorse his appointment to the Laurel Police Department

Respectfully,

Stanley J Langve
Chief of Police

File Attachments for Item:

15. Council Workshop Minutes of March 21, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on March 21, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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 Moorman, Administrative Assistant
JW Hopper, Interim Fire Chief

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Appoint JW Hopper as Interim Fire Chief.

JW Hopper, Interim Fire Chief, introduced himself to Council. He has been with the Fire Department for 16 years, the last four of which he was a Deputy Chief. He is a Safety Superintendent at the mine.

It was questioned how long there would be an Interim Chief, and it was clarified the job would be posted internally soon. Anyone in the Department may apply and be interviewed, and the Mayor will bring forward his appointment as Fire Chief.

It was questioned if this position would still be considered volunteer, and it was clarified that it would be considered a volunteer.

2. Appointment of Bridger Harkins and Seth King to the Laurel Fire Department.

Interim Chief Hopper introduced Mr. Harkins and Mr. King to Council. This will bring the Department to 35 firemen.

Executive Review

3. Resolution - A Resolution Adopting Amended And Revised Personnel Policy Manual For The City Of Laurel.

Council noticed that the City does not have an HR person and is referred to the City Attorney numerous times in the Personnel Policy Manual. It was questioned if that is common for Cities our size. It was clarified that, generally, Cities our size do not have a dedicated HR role. It is an expensive position to fill, and a City Attorney can act in that role and is a common mechanism utilized. It was further questioned if the duties of HR would keep the City Attorney from being able to work on other key aspects of their job.

Council received two versions of the Personnel Policy Manual in their packets. One is the redlined version. However, some redline edits are just formatting changes, and the second version is clean.

It was questioned if City equipment could be used with Mayor's approval, such as the fire trucks for ticket sales, parade, Christmas to Remember, etc. It was clarified that this was correct. The City will ensure it has a hold harmless agreement in place if any non-employee people are riding in the vehicles as they are not covered by workers comp. The City can secure Special Events coverage with MMIA.

It was questioned if emergency services can use social media to inform the public of an incident. It was clarified that this is an appropriate mechanism as long as their Department Head approves it.

It was questioned if Department Heads were active in reviewing this document. It was clarified that this document has been in the works for the last nine months. The personnel Policy must cover all employees and volunteers in order for the City to secure work comp coverage.

Significant changes were made to the following sections: FMLA, reporting discrimination, and probationary period.

Henry Fox, a 12-year member of the Fire Department, stated he noticed how the personnel policy manual states numerous times that volunteers are the same as employees. What he did not understand was striking the work volunteer out of the name "Laurel Volunteer Fire Department." The volunteer status is a point of pride for many in the Department.

Civil City Attorney Braukmann stated that she had used Laurel Fire Department as a level of respect in communicating with those in the Fire Department. Last spring, she spoke with former Fire Chief Peters about the perception that volunteer firemen do not have the same training and expertise as a non-volunteer. Unfortunately, that gave the perception that it minimized the tradition of the volunteer fire department.

That has minimized the tradition of the volunteer department. Have no problem fixing it moving forward.

4. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Small Services Contract With Play Space Designs.

This resolution is the contract with Play Space Designs to construct the Splash Park. Once approved, they will be heading up from Utah to begin construction. The cost of Phase One is \$258k.

Council Issues

5. Resolution - A Resolution Calling For An Election On Supplemental Funding For Public Safety Services And Capital Needs For The City Of Laurel, Montana.

The City is moving forward with a mill levy for emergency services. Staff are looking at what each Department needs in order to see what will be included in this levy. The City has not had good luck with levies in the past. Our departments need employees, new equipment, and safety measures. The Ambulance needs the most assistance and is running on a shoestring budget. An incredible amount of work will need to go into educating the public about the need for this mill levy. The ask will be only what is absolutely needed.

It was questioned if the Budget/Finance Committee and Emergency Services Committee would have input in this process. It was clarified that, yes, they will have input.

Council noted that the school is also going out for a bond that will increase taxes. It was clarified that the school district is going for a bond in May. The superintendent will be here in the next few cycles to discuss their proposal. This mill levy will be before the voters in November.

The City is also exploring the idea of ambulance districts, which would be in conjunction with a mill levy. The City also has the choice between perpetual vs. sunsetting. The City will want a perpetual mill levy. Creating an ambulance district is a lengthy process, and the mill levy would be the stopgap. The City is also looking into making it an enterprise fund. Right now, the Ambulance Department is not self-supporting.

Council noted that the school bond affects anyone within the school district, while the mill levy will only affect those who live within the City limits.

This resolution is to start the discussion. All three services have staffing needs.

It was questioned why Fire was not included in the grant writing portion of the resolution; wouldn't it create more utility to include all three departments for a grant writer?

Mr. Fox cautioned using a sunseting mill structure. Fire Districts are desirable to county residents because of the ISO rating that lowers their insurance rates, and there is no rating associated with Ambulance that makes a district desirable.

It was questioned if the Fire Department and Ambulance Department were combined, would there still be an ISO rating, and would that assist in the discussion. It was clarified that the ISO rating has nothing to do with the medical response to your home.

Other Items

Care 2 is close to its last legs. Last week the opportunity to purchase an ambulance from a service shutting its doors. See attached handout with the specs on this new Ambulance.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All Council Members present will be in attendance next week.

Announcements

Emergency Services Committee's next meeting is Monday at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.



2004 Ford F450
123,011 Miles
~~**\$55,000**~~ **\$52,000**

History/Maintenance

This 2004 Ford Ambulance was purchased new by a small service in Wyoming. Most recently a local inter-facility transport company used this truck for local and long-distance transports. All service/maintenance records from both owners have been provided.

Laurel Ford did some diagnostic testing on the truck last week and found the Engine, Transmission and Cooling system to be in *Great condition*.

We also had members of the Laurel Fire Department that maintain their trucks do a “head to toe” look at this truck.

They found between \$3,000 (low end) to \$5,000 (high end) worth of maintenance that would need to be done on the truck. Laurel Ford agreed with this estimate of costs.

- Ball Joints
- Shocks
- Tire Rotation/Alignment
- Serpentine Belt

Equipment

This truck is being sold with all the equipment currently in it.

- Power Lift Cot and Power Load (Valued at approximately \$40,000)
 - This is the same system we have in Care 3 and Care 2
 - Full-time and volunteer staff are familiar with this system and will not have to learn new gurney equipment.
- Radios
- Backboards
- Misc. Equipment

Purchasing a New or Used Truck

EMS Director Gurchiek spoke with a local ambulance dealer last week.

- New Ambulance wait time is 2.5 years from order date.
- Used 4x4 ambulances are selling for \$100,000 sight unseen.
- Used 4x2 ambulances are selling for \$60,000 sight unseen.

Getting this truck into service

EMS Director Gurchiek spoke with the State of MT and they would offer a provisional license immediately with a follow up inspection in the next few months.

Will also need:

- Maintenance repairs completed
- Radios programs to LEMS frequencies
- Brief Training on the truck
- Striping to mimic Care 3

What happens to Care 2

- Will be parked behind the ambulance office/quarters
- Backup truck when a truck needs to go in for maintenance or service
- Extra truck for events or ARMAGEDDON

File Attachments for Item:

17. Council Workshop Minutes of April 4, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, APRIL 04, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:29 p.m. on April 4, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize (@6:31 p.m.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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 Moorman, Administrative Assistant

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

Executive Review

1. Resolution - Resolution Adopting Amendments To The Personnel Policy Manual For The City Of Laurel

Through the insurance renewal process, additional changes needed to be made. The MMIA identifies changes that need to be made while reviewing various City's personnel policy manuals. There will be ongoing amendments to the manuals as various issues crop up. It is a living, breathing document.

It was questioned if open carry was allowed. It was clarified that the courtroom is the only space open carry is not allowed, and the open carry laws dictate where civilians are allowed to open carry.

2. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing Participation In The Montana Board Of Investments Of Short-Term Investment Pool And Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of Documents Related Thereto.

It was questioned what STIP was and why the City needed it.

Mayor Waggoner stated he sent the Clerk/Treasurer home due to the weather.

Motion by Council Member Wilke to move this resolution to the next Workshop agenda, seconded by Council Member Herr. 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.

3. Resolution - 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

It was questioned if this is how the mill would be worded on the ballot, and it was clarified that this was correct.

The mill would allow for 2 to 3 additional employees and an increase in wages for the existing employees to be consistent with the market average. It would also allow a boost to the volunteer pay and Medical Director. This ask will be the most conservative but reasonable ask in moving forward.

It was questioned if there was a fee associated with transporting to Billings. It was clarified that transports are billed; however, insurance does not cover all the costs.

It was questioned if this is a permanent mill levy or if it will sunset. Staff went back and forth on this issue. Ultimately, sunseting could cause a future workforce reduction if an additional mill levy does not pass. The City is exploring the option of structuring as a district process.

Staff is working on providing significant education on what this mill will cover. That education will include real numbers of what this mill will provide. Staff are looking at different avenues to inform the public.

It was questioned why the City struggles to grow or get new business. It was clarified that the goal is to grow, but the school will also need to grow if we do.

It was clarified that the school gets approximately 75% of its taxes from MRL, CHS, and NWE, and the City does not receive taxes from those entities as they are in the County and pay County taxes.

4. Ordinance - An Ordinance Amending Section 2.72.020 (Composition) Of The Laurel Municipal Code Related To Membership In The Laurel City-County Planning Board.

This ordinance is to clean up the composition of the City/County Planning Board to match the interlocal agreement between the City and the County.

Council Issues

Park Board's next meeting is Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Other Items

The southside should have water by 7:00 p.m. tonight. The Contractor ran into problems. They are currently working on the east end of S. 4th Street and have Russel Park dug up.

They pulled a core for the Splash Park, and the compaction wasn't correct. Staff are going to be rolling it again to get the correct compaction.

Yellowstone Bank and Western Security Bank have donated significantly to the Splash Park.

Mayor Waggoner signed for Phase 2 to receive a discount when ordering Phase 1 and 2 together. Both phases will be done this year.

At Rotary, a group of people are working to build trails and would like to build a trail that connects with Billings. They will be working with Park Board.

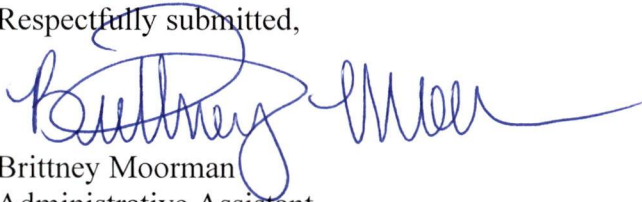
Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

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

Announcements

The council workshop adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

File Attachments for Item:

18. Council Workshop Minutes of April 18, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on April 18, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Jodi Mackay

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney
Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant
Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer
JW Hopper, Fire Chief
Brent Peters, Deputy Chief

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. School Bond Presentation.

Matt Torix (School Superintendent), Wayne Fjare (Facilities Director), and Chris Lorash (School Board Member) presented the attached information and answered any questions from Council.

It was questioned if the schools would be a single story, and it was clarified that the buildings would be two stories.

It was questioned what happens if the businesses protest their taxes. It was clarified that if taxes are protested, they spread out amongst the taxpayers.

It was questioned whether the School District would sell off the current Administration building. It was clarified that the School Board had discussed the possibility of selling that building. They could put that money into a rainy day fund or use it to pay down the bond, and that is not included in this bond proposal.

It was questioned if construction costs increase what areas would be cut from this proposal. It was clarified that they would not be cutting classrooms or educational facilities. It was clarified that the elementary and high school bonds are separate, and those funds will be kept separate. It was further clarified that contingency money is built into the bond proposals. If those funds are

not needed, they will go back into paying for the bond. The School Board is committed to the educational outcomes of the students.

It was questioned if moving the High School Library would give it more space. It was clarified that it would have more space as there is room for a 2nd-floor open balcony concept, allowing the old Library space to become three classrooms.

It was questioned what K-5 grade leveling meant on the handout. It was clarified that when the 5th grade moves to the new school, it will leave more capacity at the Middle School and give room for growth.

It was questioned what the classroom sizes are. It was stated that grades K-2 can have 20 students per class, and grades 3-5 can have up to 28 students.

It was questioned if this bond includes any wages for additional staffing, and it was clarified that the bonds are only for building maintenance. There are absolutely no wages included in these bond proposals. The more kids enrolled in our school district, the more money they will receive from the State.

It was clarified that if these bonds don't pass, the roofs will still need to be replaced, structural issues addressed, etc. These things will be costly to replace. These kids are walking outside in -20F to go to the bathroom. Some kids have to wear coats in classrooms because the temperatures cannot be controlled in the classrooms.

It was questioned why the school district purchased the field on W. 12th Street. It was clarified that it was not cost-effective to build in that location at this time. The school is keeping the land and using it at a later date or selling it later on down the road. The elementary bond is maxed out. Building on that land would cost between two and five million before even being able to put a brick on it; it was not an efficient use of the funds at this time.

2. Motion to allow Council Member Klose to be absent from the City of Laurel for possibly more than ten days. (LMC 2.12.060)

There was no discussion on this item.

3. Appointment of Fire Chief.

Mayor Waggoner stated his appointment is for JW Hopper. The Council will be voting on that appointment at next week's meeting. There was no discussion on this item.

4. Appointment of Steven Hurt to the Cemetery Commission for the remainder of a term ending June 30, 2024.

A typo in Mr. Hurd's name will be corrected for next week's meeting. There was no further discussion on the item.

Executive Review

5. Resolution - Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute Lease Agreements With Laurel Little League And American Legion Baseball Post #123 For Baseball Facilities And Pool Building As Described In The Lease Agreements.

These leases allow for the use of the old pool house; it will be used as a clubhouse and will be charged \$50 annually for the use of the old pool house. The indemnification has also been updated.

They plan on painting the building and doing some minor changes inside the building. They will take care of most of the maintenance as well. This building is useless for other uses. This lease automatically renews each year. The City will still have access to all the pump equipment for the Splash Park.

If the rent were to go up, they have first rights to the space moving forward.

6. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With Play Space Designs For Phase Two Of The Laurel Splash Park.

A prominent donor came forward to ensure Phase 2 could move forward. Council needs to authorize the Phase 2 small service contract.

7. Resolution- A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Approve A Work Change Directive For The Project Known As The WTP Lift Well Replacement.

There was no discussion on the item.

8. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing Participation In The Montana Board Of Investments Of Short-Term Investment Pool And Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of Documents Related Thereto.

The Clerk/Treasurer circulated an email explaining what STIP was earlier this week. She was available for any questions, and there were none.

9. 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.

This is the second reading of this ordinance. The ordinance will clean up the Laurel Municipal Code to match our interlocal agreement with the County.

Council Issues

Emergency Services Committee's next meeting is Monday at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

A Council Member heard from a local business owner that the turnaround workers do not get long lunches, so they have not seen an influx in customers.

Other Items

- Resolution – S. 4th Street Change Order

There is a water main located in the middle of Russel Park, which needs to be moved into the public right of way on S. 5th Street. The Change Order for this water main relocation will be \$82k, and it will connect between Maple and Cedar; see attached.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

Announcements

The council workshop adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Motion by Council Member Mize to reopen the Council Workshop, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment or Council discussion. All six Council Members present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

Brent Peters, Deputy Chief, read the attached statement.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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.

WHAT ARE THE BOND GOALS?

Bond Goals:

- 1 MODERNIZE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS:** In the past, Laurel committed to its students by building educational facilities. It's time to recommit to our Laurel students, and address the critical need for replacement and renovation.
- 2 CREATE ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY AMENITIES:** Create additional athletic fields, community parking, improved gymnasiums, and auditoriums for public use.
- 3 REDUCE COSTLY MAINTENANCE ISSUES:** New additions and school buildings are needed to save the school district money in the long run by reducing costly maintenance work.
- 4 IMPROVE CAREER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:** A new career training facility is proposed to give Laurel students the skills needed to be successful straight out of high school.
- 5 ENHANCE SECURITY AND SAFETY:** Renovations and updates to existing schools will improve safety and security for students, staff, and the public when utilizing the facilities.
- 6 ADDRESS OVERCROWDING AT SCHOOLS:** Additional classrooms and school buildings will increase capacity, alleviate current overcrowding, and allow for future growth.

Proposed Plans:

Elementary School District Plans



Springfield at Graff Elementary Site

- ⓐ Updated High School Track Events
- ⓑ Community Soccer Fields
- ⓒ Additional Parking
- ⓓ Softball Field



Additions and Renovations at West Elementary

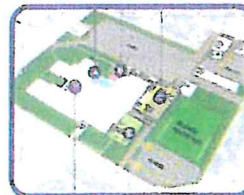
- ⓐ 2-Story Classroom Wing Addition
- ⓑ Renovation of West Elementary
- ⓒ New Auxiliary Gymnasium
- ⓓ New Parking Lot & Parent Drop-Off



New 3-5 Elementary School at Megan Fields

- ⓐ Dedicated Parent Drop-Off
- ⓑ New 3-5 Elementary School
- ⓒ Redeveloped Soccer Fields

High School District Plans



Athletic & CTE Additions, and Interior Renovations at the High School

- ⓐ Special Education Renovation
- ⓑ Admin Office Renovation
- ⓒ Athletic Expansion
- ⓓ Library Renovation
- ⓔ CTE Expansion



Relocating the Administration Building

- ⓐ Renovated South Elementary
- ⓑ Modular classrooms become facility storage
- ⓒ Existing sportsfield to remain

To learn more about the planning process and proposed plans, visit www.lps2023bond.com



Types of Spaces the New Bond Will Create



VOTE FOR



Laurel Schools Bond

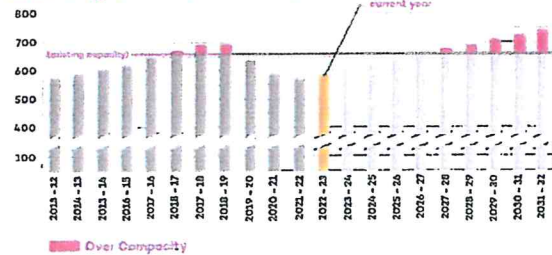
Planning for the Future of Laurel Public Schools

WHY IS THIS BOND IMPORTANT?

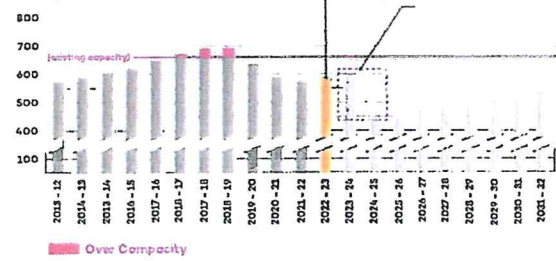
FACILITIES ARE AT CAPACITY

Middle School Capacity

Existing (Without Bond)

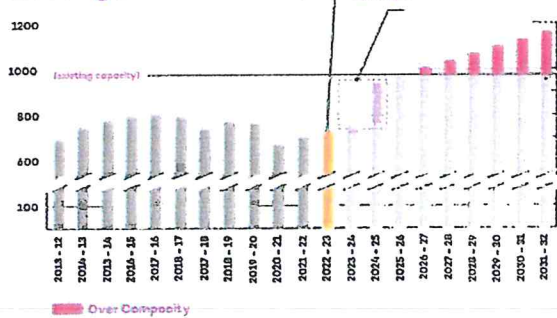


Proposed (With Bond)

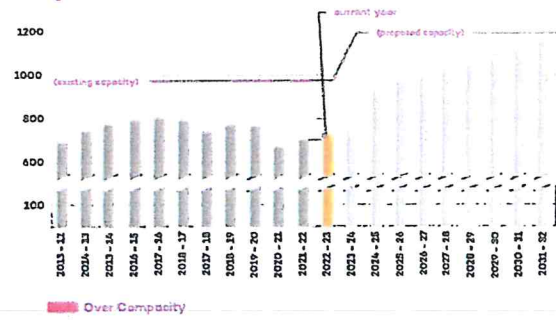


Elementary School Capacity

Existing (Without Bond)



Proposed (With Bond)



GRAFF ELEMENTARY

Graff Elementary does not have enough classrooms and so exterior modular trailers were placed on site as a temporary solution for overcrowding in the main building. The exterior modulars ultimately pose a security issue, when students must travel between the modulars and the main building throughout the day.



SOUTH ELEMENTARY

South Elementary is operating above capacity and so students must travel outside between their modular classroom and the main building to use the bathroom, have lunch, go to the library through the day, even in poor weather conditions.

BUILDINGS ARE AT THE ENDS OF THEIR LIFE.



GRAFF ELEMENTARY

Built in 1951, Graff Elementary is one of the oldest buildings in the district and has reached the end of its life, while costs to maintain the building increase each year.



WEST ELEMENTARY

Built in 1955, West Elementary requires significant upgrades to its mechanical systems. Shown here is an example of old, corroded pipes and equipment that require constant repair and replacement, which over time, is a tremendous expense.



SOUTH ELEMENTARY

Christmas Eve 2022, the pipes in the radiator will in the principal office at South Elementary burst, flooding water throughout the halls and into classrooms, requiring that the floors be either replaced or refinished. Maintenance issues like these are costly and increase in frequency with the age of the buildings.



WEST ELEMENTARY

West, South, and Graff elementary schools have old mechanical systems that are costly to maintain and require significant upgrades. Because mechanical systems are unreliable, students often have to have their coats on during cold days, or strip down layers on warm days, making it difficult for them to concentrate on learning.

MODERNIZE ACADEMIC & PHYSICAL EDUCATION ENVIRONMENTS.



INDUSTRIAL ARTS/AG-ED BUILDING

Built in 1965, the Industrial Arts/Ag-Ed building at the Laurel High school has been an instrumental facility in providing students with career training opportunities. However, the building is outdated and no longer provides an adequate or modern learning environment.



WEST ELEMENTARY

West Elementary lacks a dedicated gymnasium, which means the student Gymnasium is often used as the physical activity area.



HIGH SCHOOL

Special Education spaces within the High School are lacking in space and amenities. Upgrades to SFEOD spaces are needed to meet the needs of students.



WRESTLING TRAINING

The high school wrestling team has no dedicated wrestling training room and as a result, must use the high school cafeteria & study hall space, wrestling mats for each practice session. Safety concerns at the perimeter of the practice room raise safety concerns, as well as health safety concerns with having physical education classes in the cafeteria.

VOTE FOR

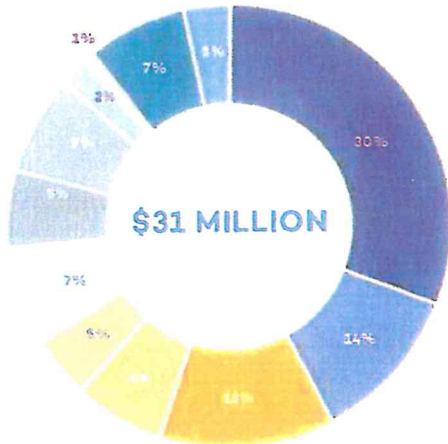


Laurel Schools Bond

Planning for the Future of Laurel Public Schools

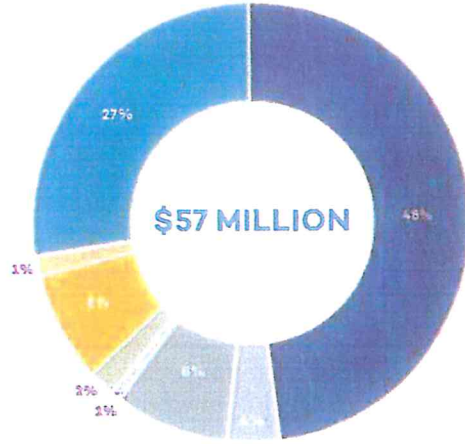
WHAT ARE THE PROJECT COSTS?

High School District Cost Breakdown:



- 30** **PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXPANSION \$9,205,000**
Includes an auxiliary gymnasium, locker rooms, health classrooms, and aerobics room
- 14** **LIBRARY, SPED, MUSIC, PERFORMING ARTS FCS RENOVATION \$3,445,000**
Includes addition to the library, additional Special Education classrooms, and FCS
- 7** **CAREER TECHNOLOGY ADDITION \$3,850,000**
Includes career training and technology classrooms
- 7** **CONTINGENCY \$2,154,800**
Includes construction and off-site infrastructure contingency
- 7** **PROFESSIONAL FEES \$2,205,280**
Includes architectural engineering, and consultant professional fees
- 5** **DEFERRED MAINTENANCE BUDGET \$2,056,079**
Includes funds intended to cover the needs of deferred maintenance
- 3** **SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$1,398,000**
Includes parking and adjacent drainage issues
- 2** **BUS BARN IMPROVEMENTS \$1,700,000**
Includes development of new bus barn and pull-through parking
- 1** **BOND COSTS, LEGAL, INSURANCE \$1,006,546**
Includes all bond costs, legal fees, OCR, utility costs, and insurance
- 2** **FF&E + TECHNOLOGY \$677,185**
Includes furniture, fixtures, equipment and technology additions
- 1** **PERMIT, FEES, & TESTING \$203,121**
Includes architecture, furniture, equipment, and technology additions

Elementary District Cost Breakdown:



- 48** **NEW ELEMENTARY (3RD - 5th) \$27,360,000**
Includes a new 72,000 sf building
- 27** **WEST ELEMENTARY \$15,538,513**
Includes a renovation to the existing and an addition
- 8** **PROFESSIONAL FEES \$4,826,465**
Includes architectural engineering, and consultant professional
- 11** **CONTINGENCY \$4,637,695**
Includes construction and off-site infrastructure contingency
- 6** **BOND COSTS, LEGAL, INSURANCE \$4,876,461**
Includes all bond costs, legal fees, OCR, utility costs, and insurance
- 2** **FF&E + TECHNOLOGY \$1,166,873**
Includes furniture, fixtures, equipment and technology for all elementary buildings
- 1** **DEMO GRAFF ELEMENTARY \$826,950**
Demolition of the existing Graff Elementary school to make way for new fields
- 1** **PERMIT, FEES, & TESTING \$454,985**
Includes construction testing, special drainage issues, construction administration, plan review, and permit fees

The Good News

A record low bond market and record high construction costs are contributing factors that helped move bonds to an extremely attractive investment. This 2023 Bond will go off this fall, in 2023. The proposed new 20-year bonds will be first subject to the tax rate in 2023 as the new bonds are coming off the tax roll. The net addition in taxes per annum in 2023 and thereafter for the 20-year term will be the combined rate of the 2023 bond and the new 20-year bond series.

High School Bond: \$31,000,000
Elementary School Bond: \$57,000,000
TOTAL BOND AMOUNT: \$88,000,000

WHAT DOES IT COST ME?
 Estimated tax increase on a \$100,000 home (taxable market value)
 based on 20-year term.

\$12.90 / Month **\$154.81 / Year**

20-YEAR TERM - GENERAL OBLIGATION

ESTIMATED MILL LEVY COMPUTATION

Estimated mill levy computation based on a \$100,000 home (taxable market value) for a 20-year term. The mill levy is the amount of tax per \$1,000 of taxable value. The mill levy is based on the estimated cost of the bond and the estimated construction costs.

ESTIMATED MILL LEVY COMPUTATION	ESTIMATED MILL LEVY COMPUTATION	ESTIMATED MILL LEVY COMPUTATION	ESTIMATED MILL LEVY COMPUTATION
Elementary	High School	Combined	Combined
2023	2023	2023	2023
2024	2024	2024	2024
2025	2025	2025	2025
2026	2026	2026	2026
2027	2027	2027	2027
2028	2028	2028	2028
2029	2029	2029	2029
2030	2030	2030	2030
2031	2031	2031	2031
2032	2032	2032	2032
2033	2033	2033	2033
2034	2034	2034	2034
2035	2035	2035	2035
2036	2036	2036	2036
2037	2037	2037	2037
2038	2038	2038	2038
2039	2039	2039	2039
2040	2040	2040	2040

ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYER

Estimated tax increase for individual residential taxpayer based on a \$100,000 home (taxable market value) for a 20-year term. The tax increase is based on the estimated cost of the bond and the estimated construction costs.

ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYER	ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYER	ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYER	ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYER
Elementary	High School	Combined	Combined
2023	2023	2023	2023
2024	2024	2024	2024
2025	2025	2025	2025
2026	2026	2026	2026
2027	2027	2027	2027
2028	2028	2028	2028
2029	2029	2029	2029
2030	2030	2030	2030
2031	2031	2031	2031
2032	2032	2032	2032
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2034	2034	2034	2034
2035	2035	2035	2035
2036	2036	2036	2036
2037	2037	2037	2037
2038	2038	2038	2038
2039	2039	2039	2039
2040	2040	2040	2040

NOTE: The mill levy and tax increase are based on a \$100,000 home (taxable market value) for a 20-year term. The mill levy is the amount of tax per \$1,000 of taxable value. The tax increase is based on the estimated cost of the bond and the estimated construction costs.

To learn more about the planning process and proposed plans, visit www.lps2023bond.com



RESOLUTION NO. R23-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPROVE A CHANGE ORDER FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS THE SOUTH 4TH STREET RECONSTRUCTION.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana,

Section 1: Approval. The Change Order for the Project known as the South 4th Street Reconstruction Project, a copy attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2: Execution. The Mayor is hereby given authority to execute the Change Order for the Project known as the South 4th Street Reconstruction Project on behalf of the City.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of April, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the _____ day of April, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the _____ day of April, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

Change Order

No. 1

Date of Issuance: 4/14/2023

Effective Date: 4/14/2023

Project: South 4 th Street Reconstruction	Owner: City of Laurel	Owner's Contract No.:
Contract:	Date of Contract: June 8, 2022	
Contractor: COP Construction	Engineer's Project No.: 2104-00862	

The Contract Documents are modified as follows upon execution of this Change Order:

Description:
Contractor is instructed to abandon an existing waterline within Russell Park and replace with an 8" waterline and appurtenances in In South 5th Street between Maple Ave. and Cedar Ave. See the Attached exhibit sheet U-16

Attachments (list documents supporting change): See previously submitted WCD No. 1 and Contractors Copy of Laurel new tie-in Waterline plan & profile between Maple Ave. and Cedar Ave. on South 5th Street – U16

Engineer's Breakout of Change Order Cost

CHANGE IN CONTRACT PRICE:

CHANGE IN CONTRACT TIMES:

Original Contract Price:
\$4,298,070.00

Original Contract Times: Working days Calendar days
Substantial completion (days): 140 Days starting on March. 27, 2023
Ready for final payment (days): 170 Days starting on March 27, 2023

Increase from previously approved Change Orders No. 0 to No. 0:
\$0.00

Increase from previously approved Change Orders No. 0 to No. 0:
Substantial completion (days): 140 Days starting on March. 27, 2023
Ready for final payment (days): 170 Days after starting on March 27, 2023

Contract Price prior to this Change Order:
\$4,298,070.00

Contract Times prior to this Change Order:
Substantial completion (days): 140 Days starting on March. 27, 2023
Ready for final payment (days): 170 Days starting on March 27, 2023

Increase/Decrease of this Change Order:
\$82,251.00

[Increase] [Decrease] of this Change Order:
Substantial completion (days): 5 Calendar Days
Ready for final payment (days): 5 Calendar Days

Contract Price incorporating this Change Order:
\$4,380,321.00

Contract Times with all approved Change Orders:
Substantial completion (days): 145 Days Starting on March 27,, 2023
Ready for final payment (days): 175 Days starting on March 27, 2023

RECOMMENDED:
By: 
Engineer (Authorized Signature)

ACCEPTED:
By: _____
Owner (Authorized Signature)

ACCEPTED:
By: _____
Contractor (Authorized Signature)

Date: April 14, 2023

Date: _____

Date: _____

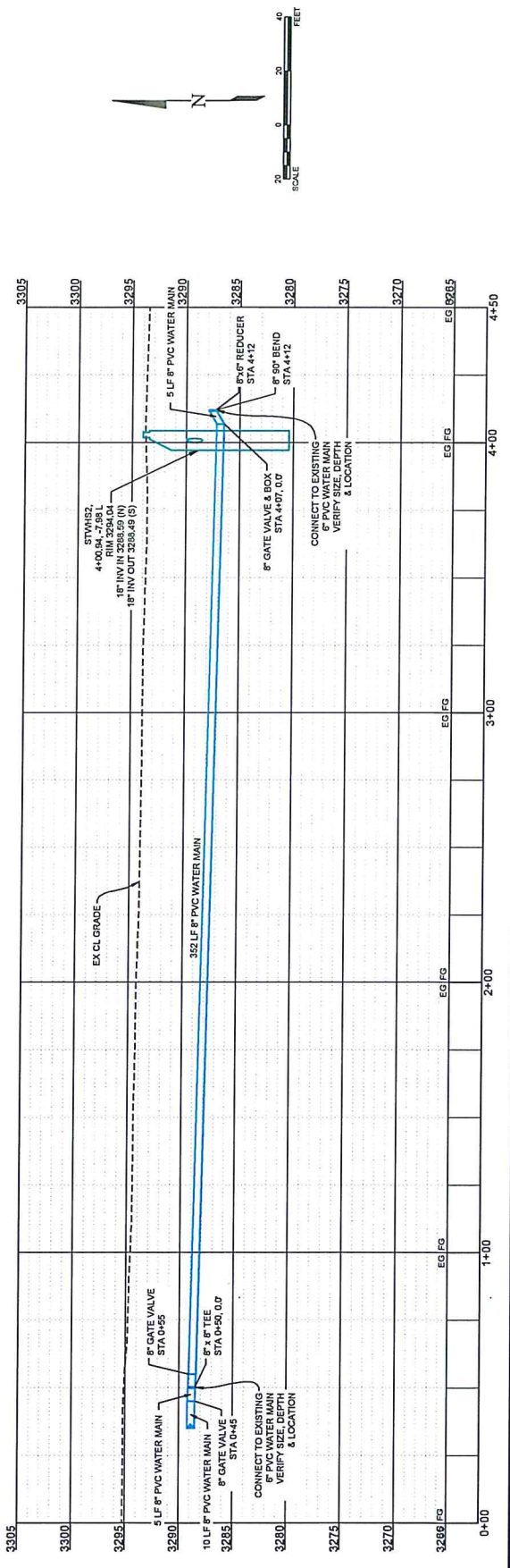
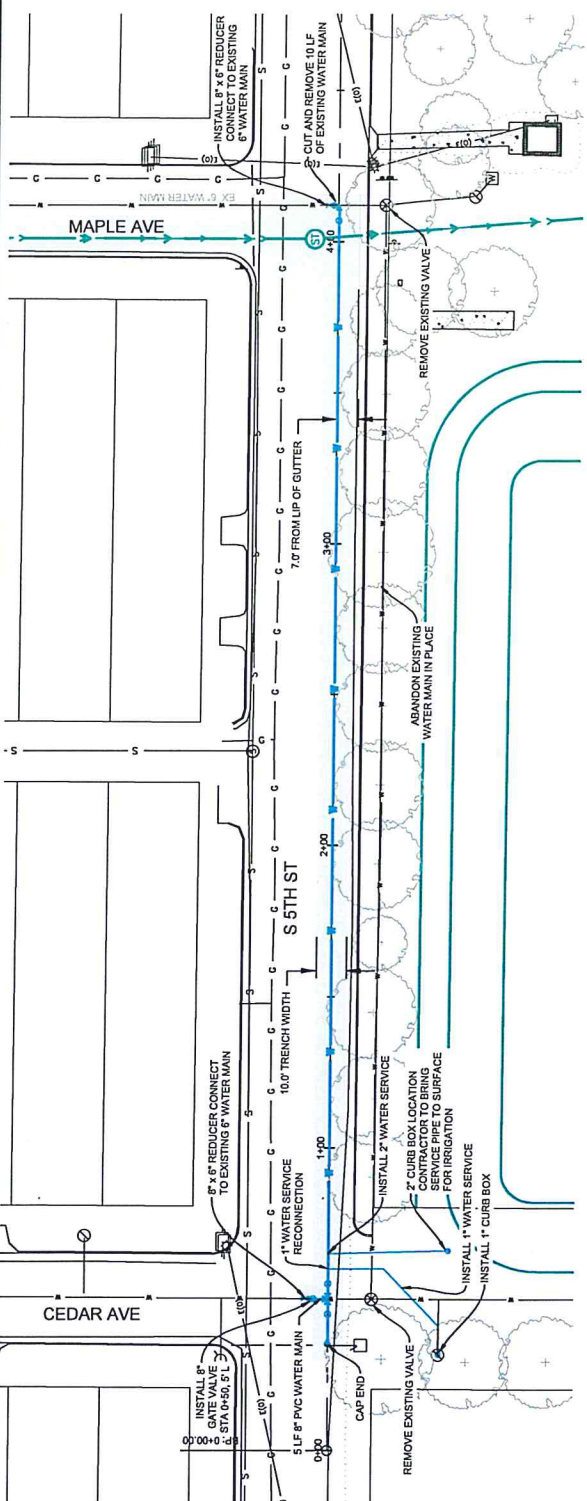


NO.	DATE	REVISION

DRAWN BY: MK
 CHECKED BY: RW
 PROJECT NUMBER: 2104-0062
 DATE: 04/14/2023

SOUTH 4TH STREET RECONSTRUCTION
 CITY OF LAUREL
 LAUREL, MT
S. 5TH ST. UTILITIES PLAN & PROFILE STA 0+00 TO 4+50

SHEET
U16
 © KLJ 2023



Apr 14, 2023 - 5:13pm - K:\Projects\City of Laurel\2104_0062_2023_PermanentMaintenance\CADD\ASUBU - Plan-Profile.dwg (U16)

Mayor Waggoner, Council Members and City Staff,

I would first like to congratulate Chief Hopper as the next Fire Chief for the City of Laurel. I do believe the selection was the good one to build a working relationship between the Fire Department and the City of Laurel. I have full faith in JW and that he will transition the fire department well in to the future. I have watched JW grow for many years and become one of the most dedicated and reliable leaders of the fire department. I hope I was able to be a mentor to him during that his growth with the LVFD.

I'm sure we all have heard Michelle speak several times about showing up every day. That is what we all need to do. Show up and give our best, hold all of ourselves to the highest standard and be accountable for our actions. If we all do that then Laurel will flourish. On that note, I would like to thank Council Members Mize and Wilkie for doing just that: showing up. The firefighters are delighted with your interest in learning what we do, how we train and learn.

Both have participated in the fire departments training and meetings for a month and half now. Thank you both very much.

Over the last couple of months, I have spent a lot of time thinking of what is the path going forward? I-remind myself of what I preach: "What we do is bigger than any one of us". I have certainly used this many times at the fire department, but this is true for everyone who serves the citizens of laurel. With this quiet and less stressful environment I-find myself in now, I have identified that my direct personality and my need to fix a problem the moment it becomes a problem (Thank you to the Military) is not always the most fitting approach for others involved. Perhaps, learning to be more transparent outside of the chaos and madness that is often our norm in the fire department.

Every day I remind myself WHY I joined the fire department almost 25 -years ago. That reason was to continue serving but on a smaller scale than the military by serving my community. That is what I will continue doing, every day.

I want to thank the Council Members, City staff and all those I have had the pleasure working with over the years. We have accomplished so many projects and improvements together and have overcome many obstacles and adversity. Thank you for the opportunities I have been given to learn and lead such an exceptional fire department.

Thank you, and again

Congratulations to Chief Hopper

Brent Peters

Laurel Fire Department

406-670-8954

File Attachments for Item:

19. Council Workshop Minutes of May 2, 2023.

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, MAY 02, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on May 2, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<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 Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, Planning Director
Ryan Welsh, KLJ

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Poppy Day Proclamation

There was no discussion on the agenda item.

Executive Review

2. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Approving Amendments To Appropriations And Revenues For The City Of Laurel's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget.

It was questioned if these were revenues that were unexpected in General Fund.

It was clarified that one is a revenue adjustment, and one is an expenditure adjustment. They are for this fiscal year.

3. Resolution - A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The City Of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board To Work With City Staff To Prepare Comprehensive Updates To The City Of Laurel's Growth Management Plan.

The County Commissioners tasked the City/County Planning Board with updating the Growth Management Plan, and it needs to be for the Laurel Planning jurisdiction, not the City of Laurel.

This resolution is to task the City/County Planning Board with the task so that City Council and the County Commissioners can adopt it simultaneously.

Council Issues

4. Council Workshop Scheduled July 4th.

Council asked that the July 4th meeting be moved to July 11th at 6:30 p.m., with City Council Meeting to follow directly.

5. Savage Cat Rescue Presentation

Laurie Savage Howard, with Savage Cat Rescue, presented the attached PowerPoint.

It was questioned if cats are chipped during the TNVR process, and it was clarified that friendly cats are chipped.

Council noted that many vaccinations only last for one to three years. It was questioned are these cats retrapped to be vaccinated again. It was clarified that the average lifespan of an outdoor cat is three to five years. Right now, the focus is on getting the initial vaccinations. Once a cat is trapped, they don't like to be retrapped.

It was questioned if the rescue took pictures of the cats to identify them. It was clarified they do take pictures upon intake. They use a database called rescuregroups.org to keep track of the cats they trap.

Mindy Bausch, 1845 Paynes Place, stated she moved onto their property in 2012. They had burned a brush pile, and unbeknownst to them, there was a litter of kittens in the pile, which were all killed. At that time, she took it upon herself to catch all the feral cats in the area and take them in to get spayed or neutered and get current on their vaccinations. She cared for 17 cats; of those 17, only one remains.

Chloe Finn moved into an apartment in 2021. She didn't think the cat problem was her problem. However, that first year two kittens were killed because of cars. She is a college student and can't take care of all the cats. She started working with Savage Cat Rescue, and they went from 20 cats down to no cats by doing the TNVR process.

Mayor Waggoner read the attached letter of support for Savage Cat Rescue.

Council noted the ask was for \$3,500. It was clarified that this was correct. It is 1/3 the overall expense to take care of the cats within Laurel.

Other Items

- Resolution – Small Service Contract with True North

The State requires the use of flowable fill, and it was not included in the original estimate. This small service contract is to cover the additional costs associated with the flowable fill.

- Resolution – Preliminary Engineering Report

Ryan Welsh, KLJ, presented the attached PowerPoint to Council.

It was questioned what the life expectancy is for the booster stations, and it was clarified they are engineered for a 20-year life. However, the current booster stations have lasted 25 to 30 years. There will, however, be annual maintenance.

It was questioned if all the options provided for the growth of the City. It was clarified that the new reservoir was engineered to accommodate growth for the next 50 years.

The recommendations presented tonight mirror the recommendations presented to the Public Works Committee in January of this year.

It was questioned if the airport could receive water from this new reservoir. It was clarified that the airport would be located above this water reservoir, and it is not cost-effective to build water out to the airport at this time.

This reservoir will resolve the pressure issues in Murray Heights and Elena subdivisions. It will also allow for growth. This design allows for two established pressure zones. It was further clarified that having a 2nd reservoir will allow for redundancy to allow for maintenance to be done on the first reservoir.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting


All Council Members present will attend next week's City Council meeting.

Announcements

Park Board's next meeting will be Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in Council Conference Room.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittney Moorman
Council 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.

Brittney Moorman



City Mayor
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 4:48 PM
Brittney Moorman
FW: Support for Savage Cat rescue (on the city council agenda tonight 5/2)

Dave Waggoner

Mayor
City of Laurel, Montana
(406) 628-8456 extension 5501

From: Karen Madsen <kkmadsen44@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 4:31 PM
To: City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>
Subject: Support for Savage Cat rescue (on the city council agenda tonight 5/2)

May 2, 2023

Dear Mr. Mayor:

I was planning to attend your work session this evening; however, I may not be able to attend after all. I am sending you this letter as my replacement. Please read it at the appropriate time during the meeting, if possible. If that isn't an option, please acknowledge receipt of my letter. Thank you.

I met Lorie Howard in September 2021. I noticed numerous cats in my neighborhood, and suddenly, I started seeing little ones. I contacted Savage Cat Rescue for possible help, and she did not hesitate. She put me on her **LIST** and would come as soon as possible. She had so many people needing help, that she had a **LIST!**

I write this letter to indicate my total support of Savage Cat Rescue and Lorie's request for support from the city of Laurel. From my perspective, Lorie has done more to help the feral cat population in Laurel than anyone else. She has been at my residence over a dozen times trapping cats. Once in awhile she leaves a trap and goes to check on another trap somewhere else, but usually she stays for hours waiting patiently for one of the ferals to eat her sumptuous food so she can take "it" for a ride to her vet. She is very dedicated (and good) at what she does to help cats and kittens. I know numerous rescue directors, and Lorie is equal to all of them.

I am not a cat owner; however, I have become a "caretaker". I spend \$20.00 or more weekly feeding feral cats. They need to eat just as we all do. I'm sure Lorie has spend many, many more of her own dollars helping cats and kitties.

Most rescues are overwhelmed with a variety of animals; however, kitty season is here and only a small number of rescues are able to help with the problem. Lorie has

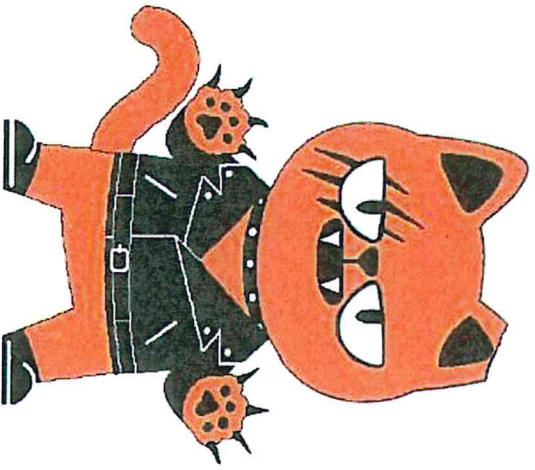
been and still is committed to helping Laurel with its feral cat population. If anyone doubts that we have a problem, just look at the numbers Lorie has recorded.

As a citizen and taxpayer of Laurel, Mt. I urge and encourage you to assist Savage Cat Rescue as Lorie has requested. Thank you for your time, Mayor and Council.

Sincerely,

Karen Madsen
1303 East 6th Street #9
Laurel, Mt 59044

Savage Cat Rescue Inc.



Why partner with Savage Cat Rescue?

- ▶ Local insured nonprofit 501c3
- ▶ Board members: Jennifer Davis-Lowery DVM & Jessica Kersh
- ▶ Weekly low cost spay/neuters
- ▶ Certified in Trap Neuter Vaccinate Return (TNVR) best practices
- ▶ Have the necessary equipment, recovery space, and time
- ▶ Fourteen years experience in cat rescue
- ▶ Already familiar with cat colony locations and hot spots in Laurel
- ▶ Have built trust and rapport with Laurel residents

Mission Statement

- ▶ Rescue feral, stray, and abandoned cats and kittens found outside the Billings, MT city limits and surrounding areas. Provide food, shelter, spay/neuter and complete vet care until adopted into suitable caring homes. Trap Neuter Vaccinate Return (TNVR) feral cats whenever safe to return to their outdoor home with a caregiver.

Value to Laurel

- ▶ What is the benefit to the City of Laurel?
 - ▶ Humanely reduce feral cat populations
 - ▶ Provide adoptable working and family cats to Laurel residents
 - ▶ Uses the Cats already in Laurel
 - ▶ Adopt don't shop
- ▶ Educate Laurel Residents on feral/stray/lost cat procedure
 - ▶ Trap Neuter Vaccinate Return (TNVR)
 - ▶ Reuniting lost cats with their family

Common Methods of Feral Cat Colony Control

- ▶ Adoption - reproduce faster than can be homed
- ▶ Relocation - dump cats in a new location
- ▶ Cat Sanctuary - population limits
- ▶ Take to Animal Shelter - There is no shelter in Laurel
- ▶ Catch and Kill - Creates Vacuum effect
- ▶ Trap Neuter Vaccinate Return (TNVR) - **BEST OPTION**

Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, and Return (TNVR)

1. **Trap:** Humanely trap all the cats in a colony. A colony is a group of cats living outdoors together.
2. **Neuter (or spay):** Take the cats in their traps to a veterinarian or clinic to be neutered.
3. **Vaccinate:** Cats receive FVRCP, rabies shot, and ear tipped (universal symbol of a fixed and vaccinated cat).
4. **Return:** After the cats recover, return them to their outdoor home where they were trapped.

TNVR Benefits to the Cats

Trap-Neuter-Return
relieves cats of the
constant stresses of
mating and
pregnancy

Mating behaviors,
like fighting, cease

Cats' physical
health improves

Cats are vaccinated
against rabies and
distemper

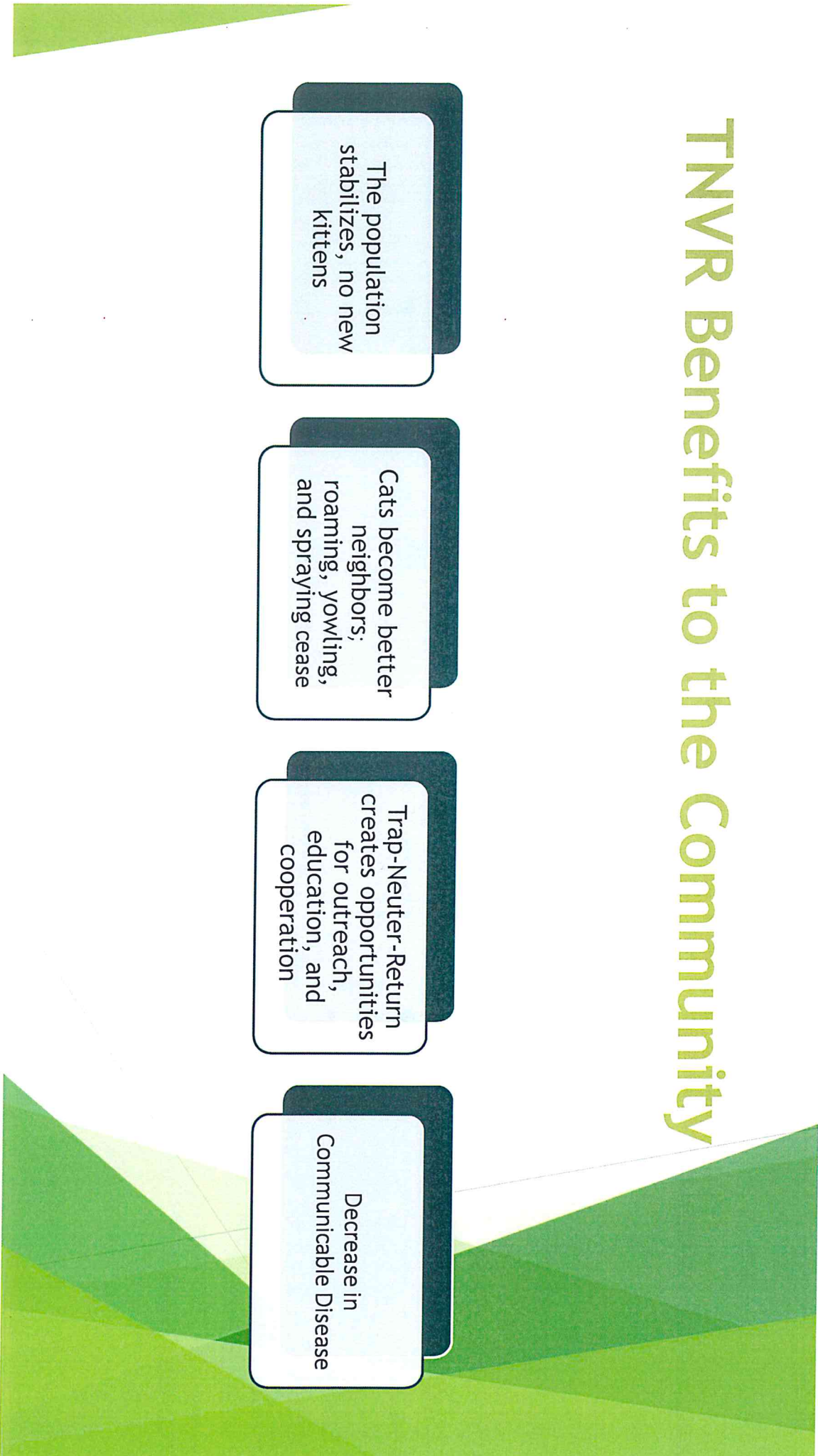
TNVR Benefits to the Community

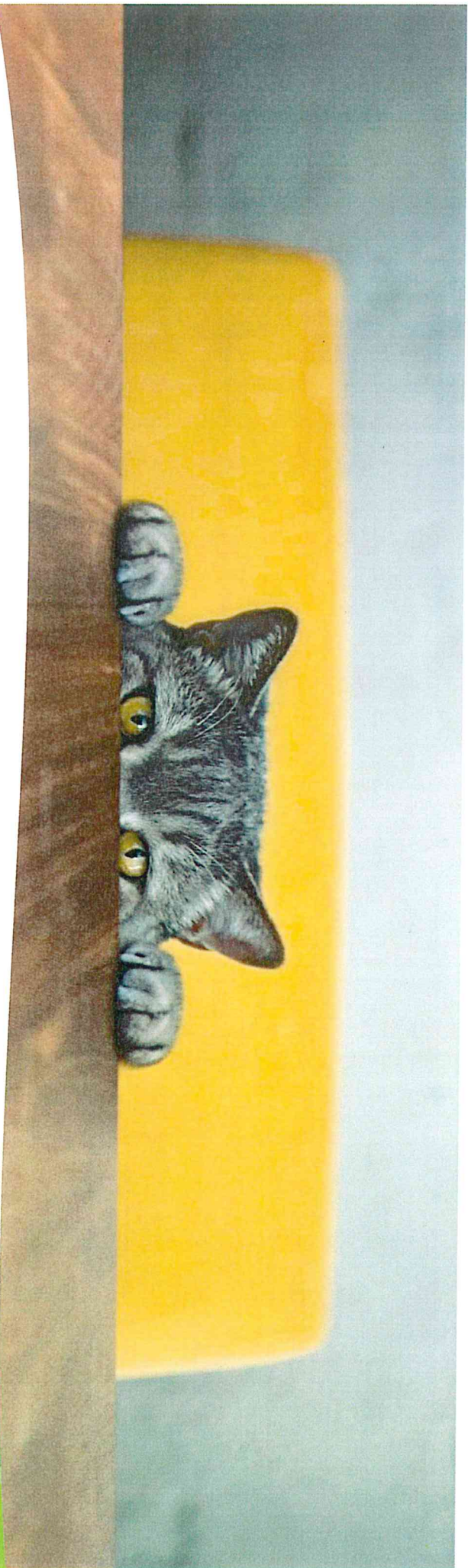
The population stabilizes, no new kittens

Cats become better neighbors; roaming, yowling, and spraying cease

Trap-Neuter-Return creates opportunities for outreach, education, and cooperation

Decrease in Communicable Disease



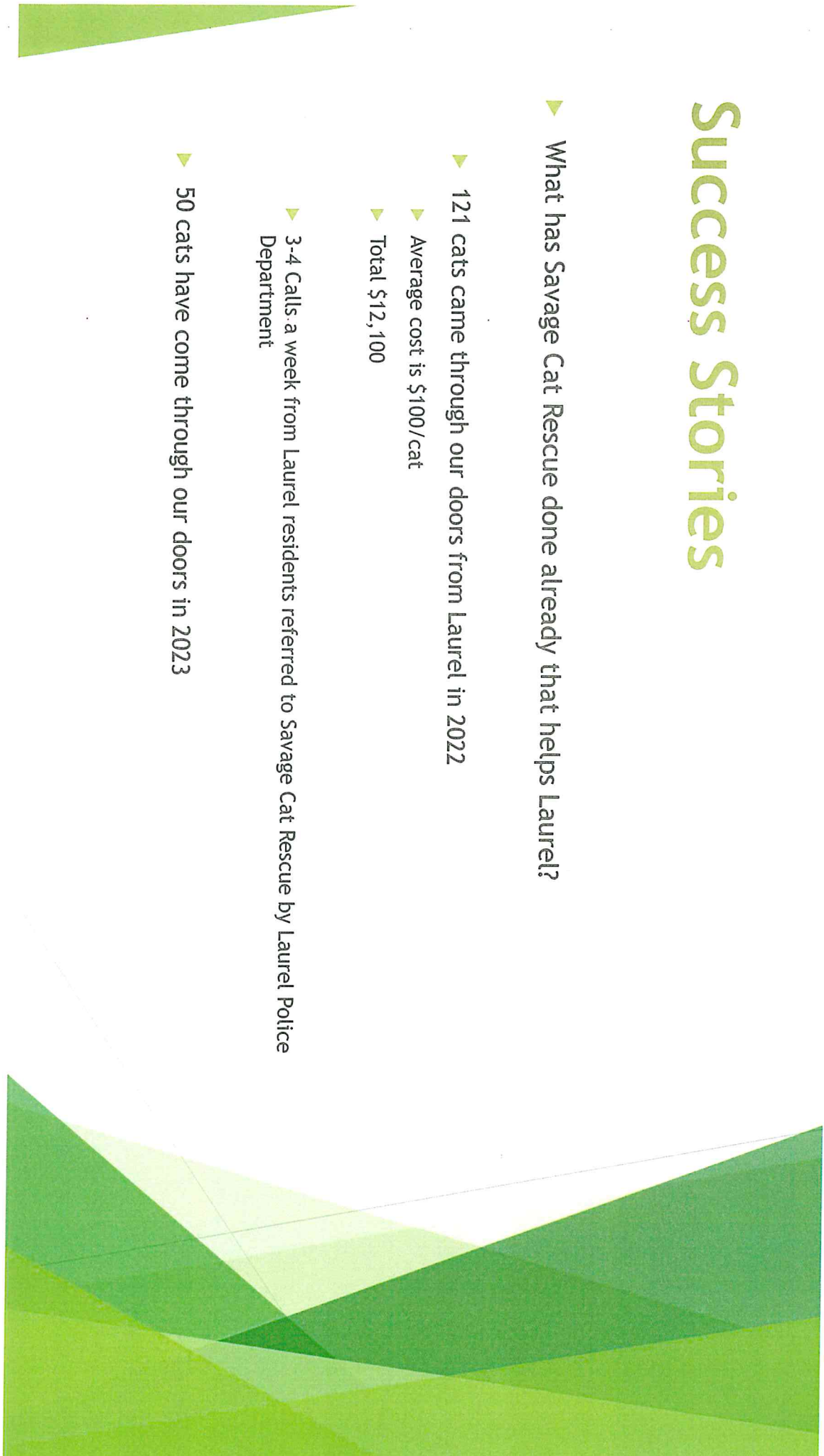


Communicate with and educate those around you

- ▶ Creating open lines for communication and education are vital parts of conducting TNR
- ▶ People may have concerns because they are not aware that community cats live and thrive outdoors or that spaying/neutering improves their lives
- ▶ They also may have problems with the cats that can easily be addressed
- ▶ Even if they have issues with the cats, they likely don't want to see them harmed

Success Stories

- ▶ What has Savage Cat Rescue done already that helps Laurel?
 - ▶ 121 cats came through our doors from Laurel in 2022
 - ▶ Average cost is \$100/cat
 - ▶ Total \$12,100
 - ▶ 3-4 Calls a week from Laurel residents referred to Savage Cat Rescue by Laurel Police Department
- ▶ 50 cats have come through our doors in 2023



What we need to move forward

- ▶ \$3,500 annual subsidy to help offset expenses of servicing the Laurel cat population in 2023
- ▶ This is approx. \$30 per cat and would go toward
 - ▶ Care and Feeding
 - ▶ Food
 - ▶ Litter
 - ▶ Laundry
 - ▶ Medical
 - ▶ Spay/Neuter
 - ▶ Vaccines
 - ▶ Ear Tip
 - ▶ Injury/Disease Treatment

What other towns are doing ... How does Laurel compare?

- ▶ Livingston MT (Pop 8,400) Has Stafford Animal Shelter that accepts stray cats
- ▶ Laurel MT (Pop 7,500) Has no animal shelter, A/C does not deal with cats dead or alive. Nothing in place to assist with stray community cats
- ▶ Dillon MT (Pop 4,000) Has Humane Society of Beaverhead County that accepts stray cats
- ▶ Hardin MT (3,800) Has A/C that handles stray cats, and even does trapping. Cats are taken to Animal Care Center for a 5 day stray hold. If not claimed they are fully vetted and adopted out. The city is billed for these services
- ▶ Shelby MT (Pop 3,100) Has Prairie Oasis Animal Shelter that accepts stray cats
- ▶ Columbus MT (Pop 2,000) Has Columbus Animal Shelter that accepts stray cats

Conclusion

- ▶ With Trap Neuter Vaccinate Return, you can stabilize the population humanely, improve the cats' lives, save taxpayer dollars, address neighbors' concerns, and help the entire community reach a solution that benefits everyone.

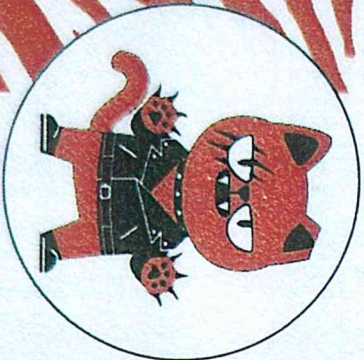
"...trap and euthanasia programs simply DO NOT work, and they set communities up to keep repeating a process that is ineffective, inefficient, and that often deprive citizens of their legally owned cats!" -Dave Pauli, Humane Society of the United States

Recent News

- ▶ The public is aware of the overpopulation and is looking for help
- ▶ <https://www.ktvq.com/homepage-showcase/billings-woman-rehabilitating-feral-cats-since-2009>

Contact Information

SAVAGE CAT RESCUE



Lorie Savage Howard

Director - Cat Wrangler

406.690.0755

SavageCatRescue@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook

More Information

- ▶ <https://www.alleycat.org/resources/how-to-help-community-cats-a-step-by-step-guide-to-trap-neuter-return/>
- ▶ <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080779518703>

**PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT
CITY OF LAUREL, MONTANA, WATER SYSTEM**

January 2023

CITY OF LAUREL WATER SYSTEM PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT UPDATE

- Last System Report was completed in 2014
- Update and Amendment Items
 - Inventory of Existing Systems
 - Needs Assessment
 - Alternative Considerations
 - Selection of Recommendations
 - Proposed Projects
 - Cost Estimate
 - Potential Funding Options

INVENTORY

- **Water Supply**
 - 3 intake Structures
 - 1955 – Abandoned
 - 2003 – Unreliable due to river migration and serves as backup
 - 2016 – Primary water supply for Laurel

INVENTORY

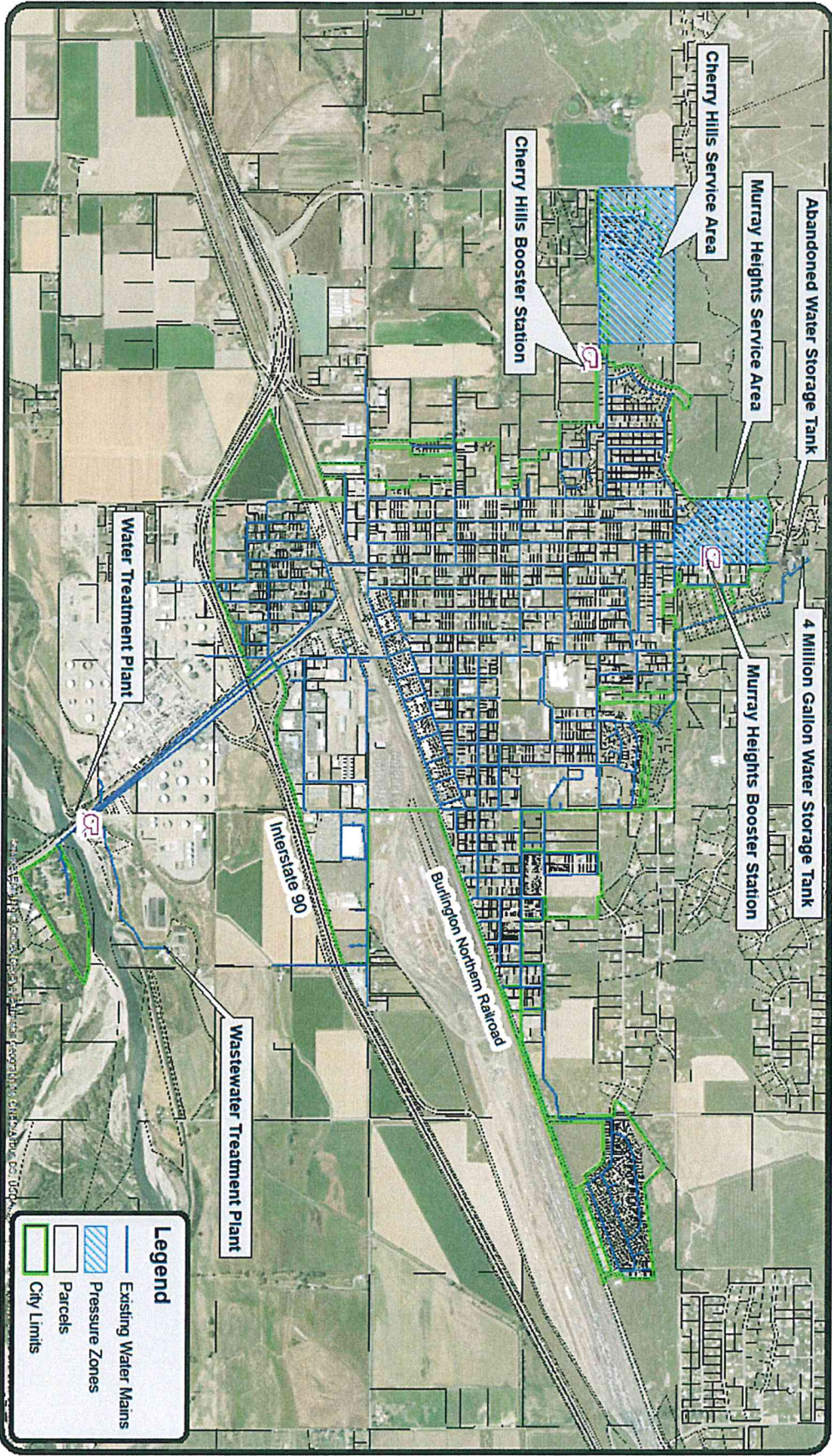
- Treatment Plant
 - Constructed in 1955
 - Sedimentation and filtration
 - 1997 update
 - Disinfection, Clear Well, Pipe Gallery, Automation
 - 2009 Update
 - Replaced Filter Media and Filter Underdrains
 - 2020 Update
 - Replacement of the Flocculation & Settlement System
 - Addition and Automation of sludge removal
 - New treatment building & Pumping System
 - Replacement of 250,000-gallon backwash storage tank

INVENTORY

- Distribution
 - 1908 Construction of Cast Iron and wood
 - Many Replacements and Expansions over the years
 - CI, AC, DI, & PVC
 - Replacements are prioritized by frequency of leaks & road replacement
- Storage
 - 1.5 MG Concrete tank constructed in 1936 (decommissioned 1997)
 - Decommissioned 1997 caused by foundation stability
 - 4 MG Steel tank constructed in 1968
 - Still serves as the sole storage within the City
 - 2018 inspection recommends interior coating
- Pump Stations
 - 2 booster stations to serve higher elevation locations
 - Murray Heights in early 1980's
 - Cherry Hills in 2007



Figure 3.1: Existing Water System Layout



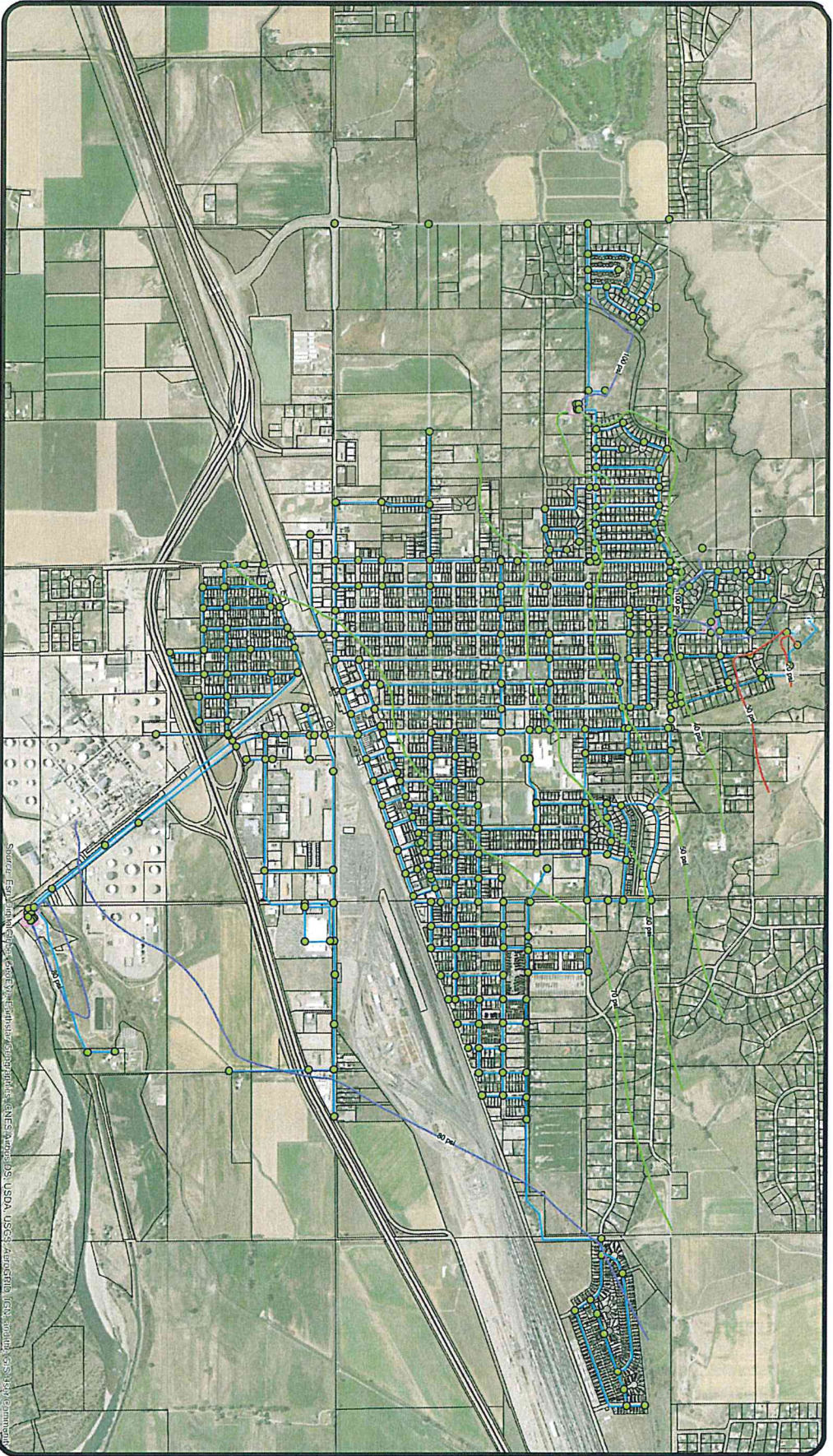
Needs Assessment

KPI

- Lack of Redundancy in Water Storage Tank
- Improper Pressure Zone Configuration
- No Water Storage In the Upper Pressure Zones
- Substandard Fire Protection
- Lack of Redundancy in Distribution Piping



Figure 3.4: Static Pressure (Existing System)



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar OpenEye, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Tank Alternatives

KEY

- Three general site areas considered
- Exact locations can be adjusted to accommodate land/easement negotiations
- Locations considered based on closest sites to distribution system within optimum elevation range for on-grade or partially buried tank
- Sites requiring elevated storage not considered due to multiple times the construction cost of on-grade storage
- Site considered but disregarded from further analysis:
 - City property north of existing tank – too low for upper pressure zone
 - DNRC land adjacent to airport – too high without pressure reduction; added pumping cost; and excessive cost in transmission main improvements due to distance from distribution system.

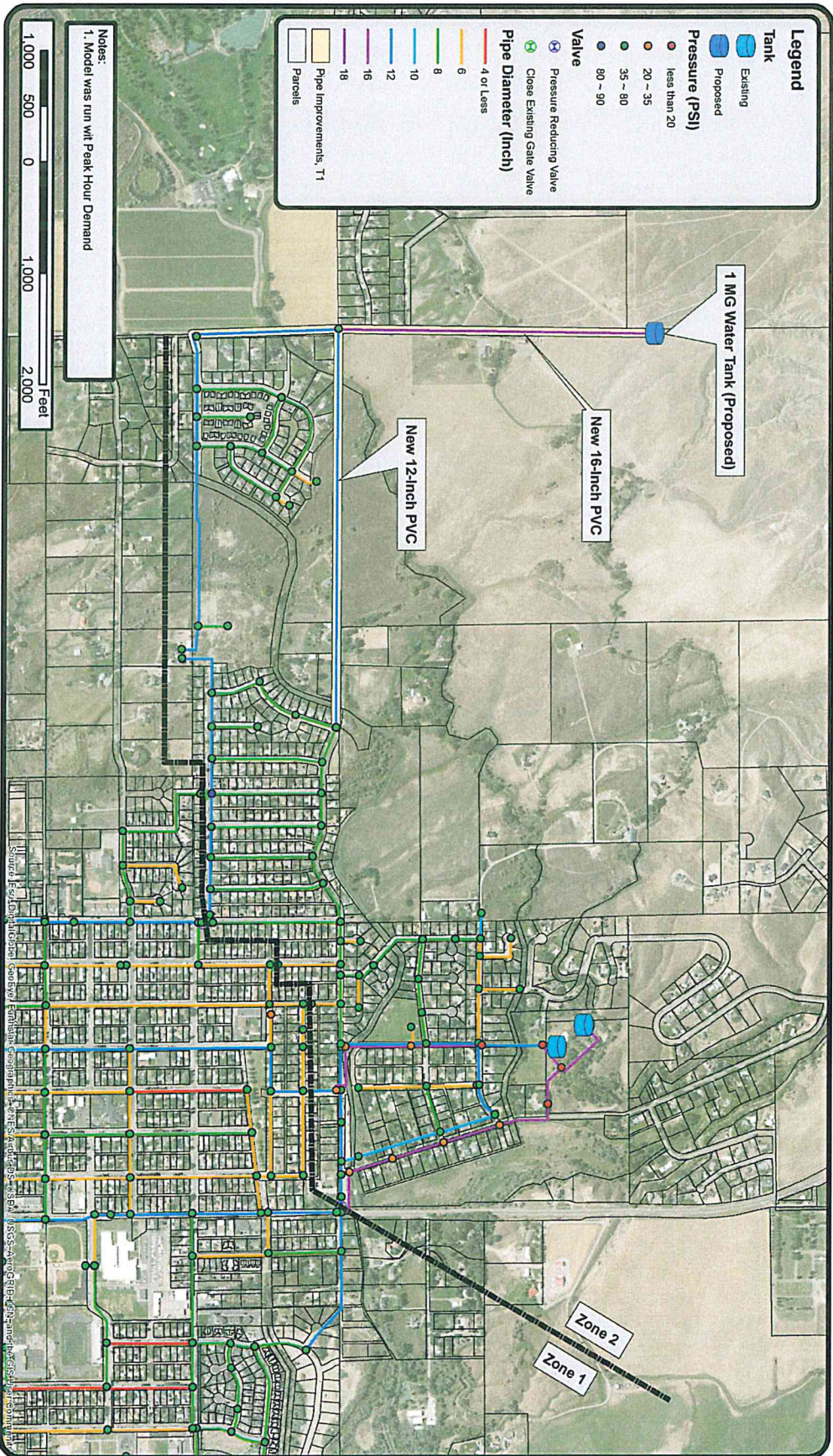


Figure 5.3: Tank Alternative T1



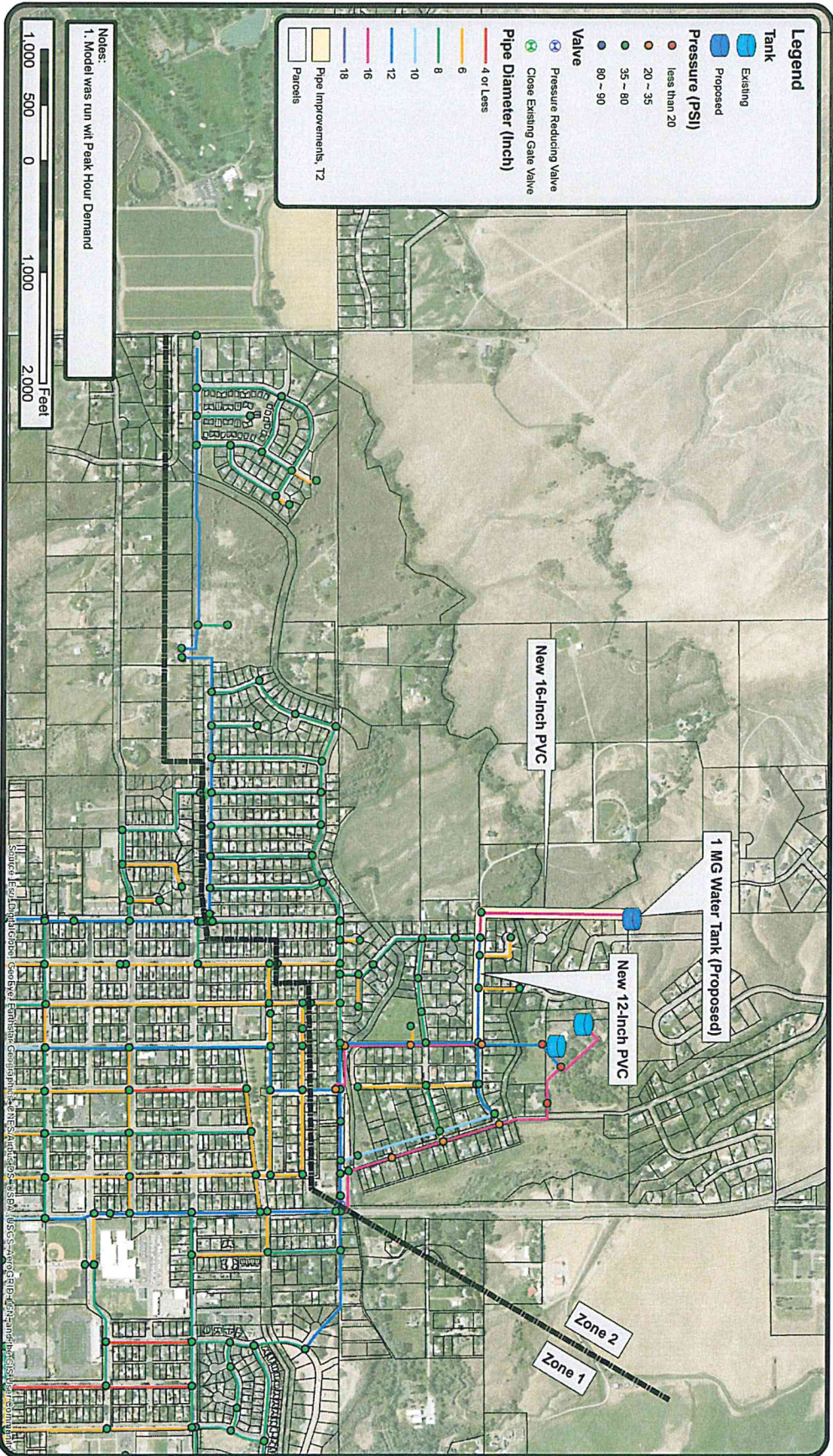
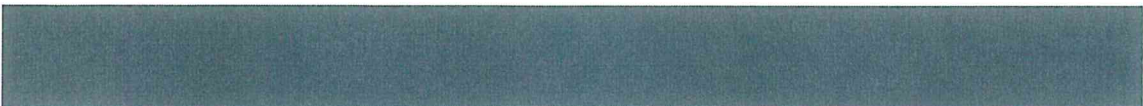


Figure 5.4: Tank Alternative T2



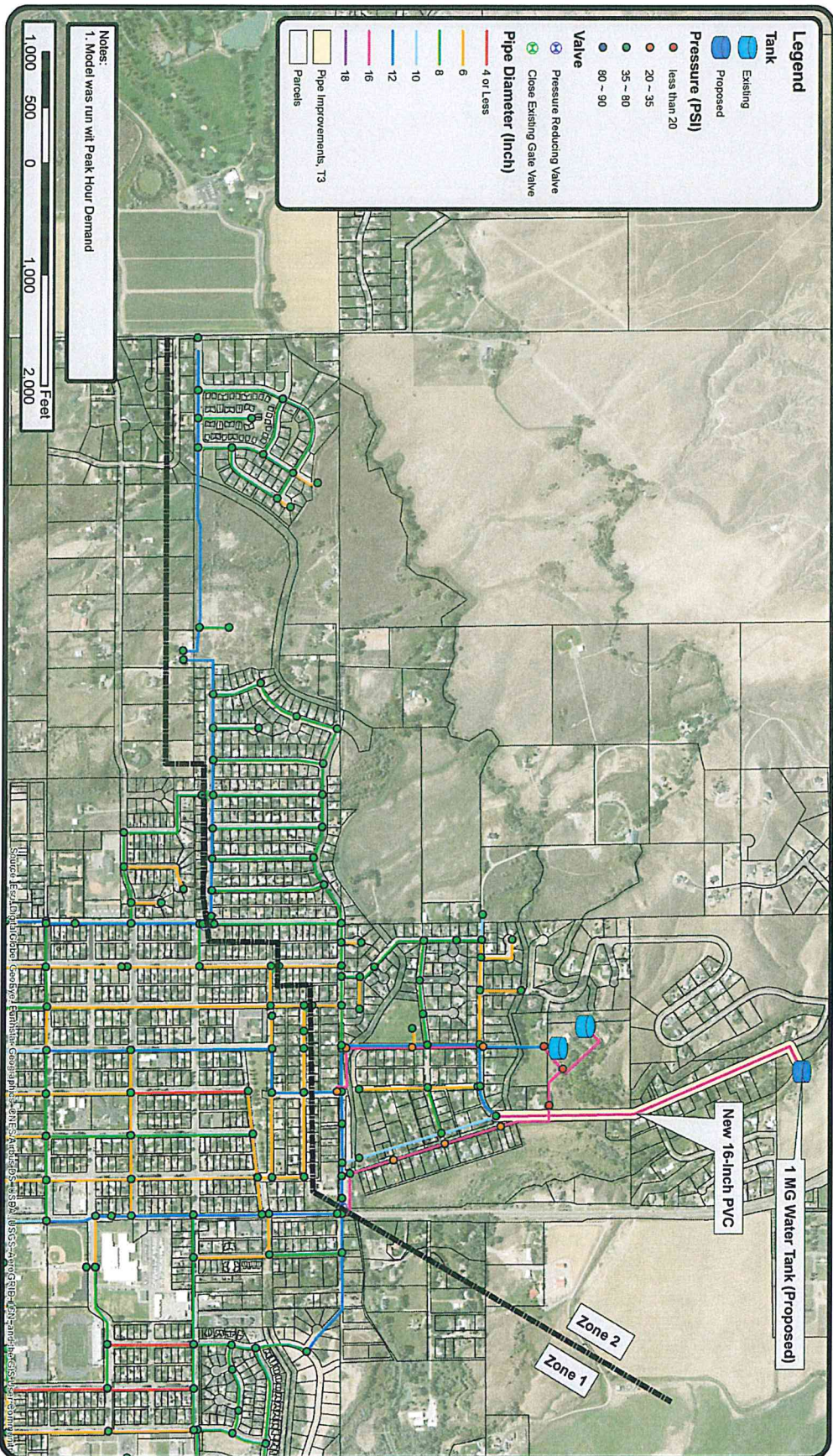


Figure 5.5: Tank Alternative T3



Tank Alternatives Opinion of Probable Cost

- Alternative T1: \$17.2-million
- Alternative T2: \$13.9-million
- Alternative T3: \$15.1-million
- Estimate for each alternative includes cost of Pressure Zone Improvements
- Estimates includes assumed amount for land and easement acquisition.

Alternative T2 recommended, but may consider others if land and easement negotiations prove to be ineffective.

Pump Alternatives

- Each alternative considered replaces both existing pump stations as necessary for new pressure zone configuration.
- Existing booster stations lack capacity to fully serve new upper pressure zone.
- Pump will fill new tank in upper pressure zone through distribution system by pumping from lower zone into upper zone. Peak demands and fire in upper zone will be provided by gravity flow from new tank.
- Site consideration focused on locations where vacant land exists in areas of good hydraulic continuity between two pressure zones

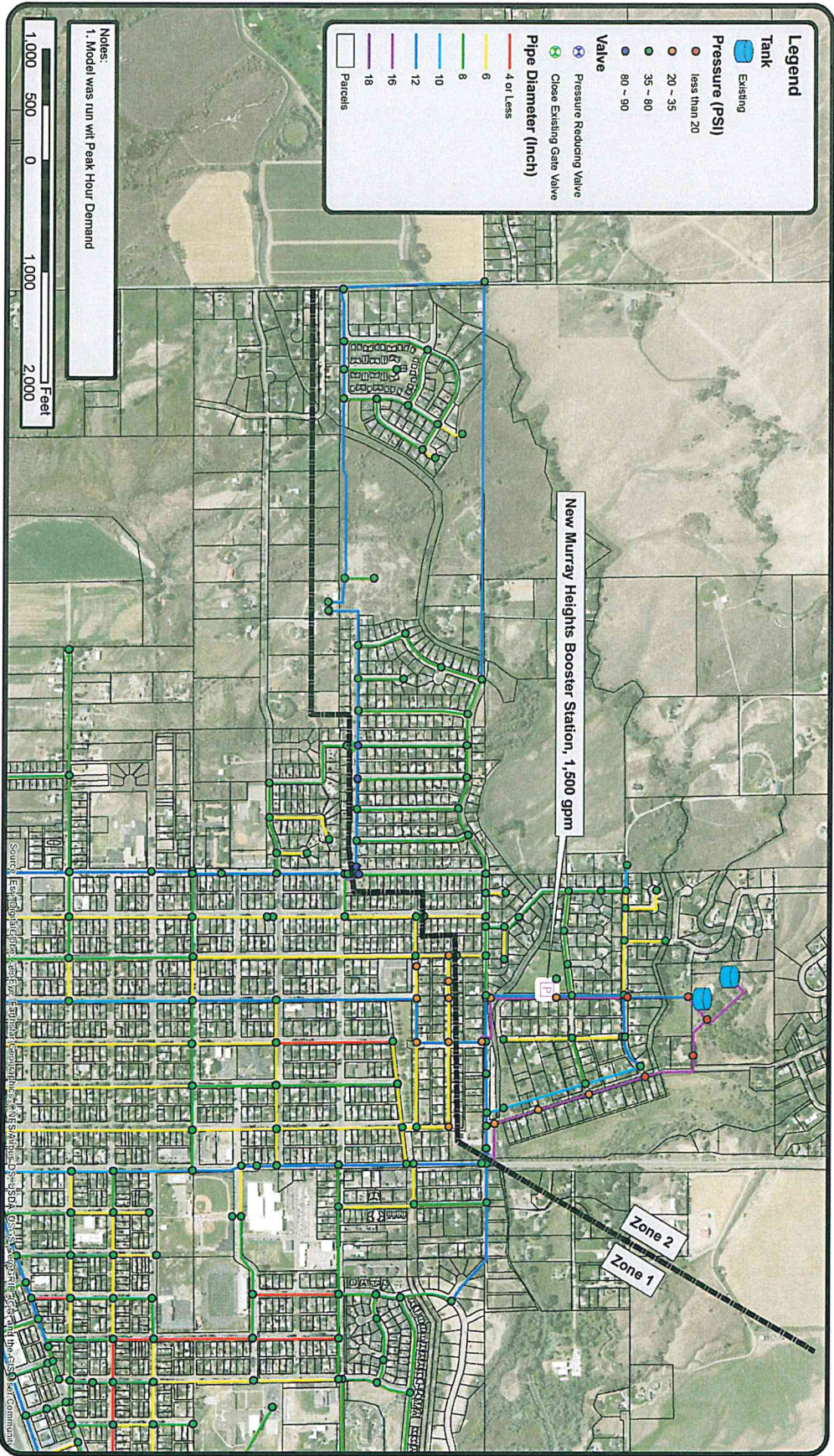


Figure 5.6: Pump Alternative P1

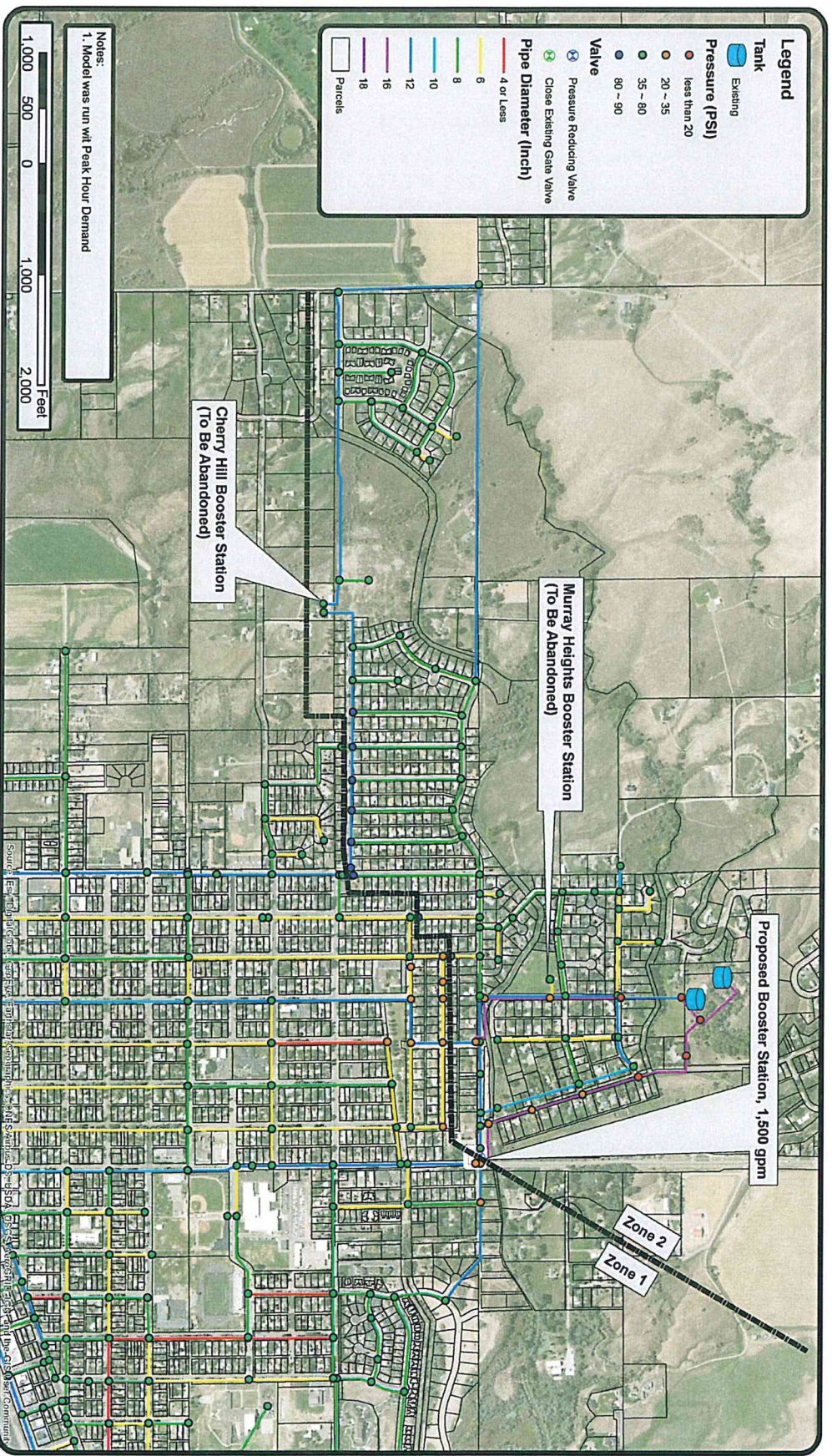


Figure 5.7: Pump Alternative P2



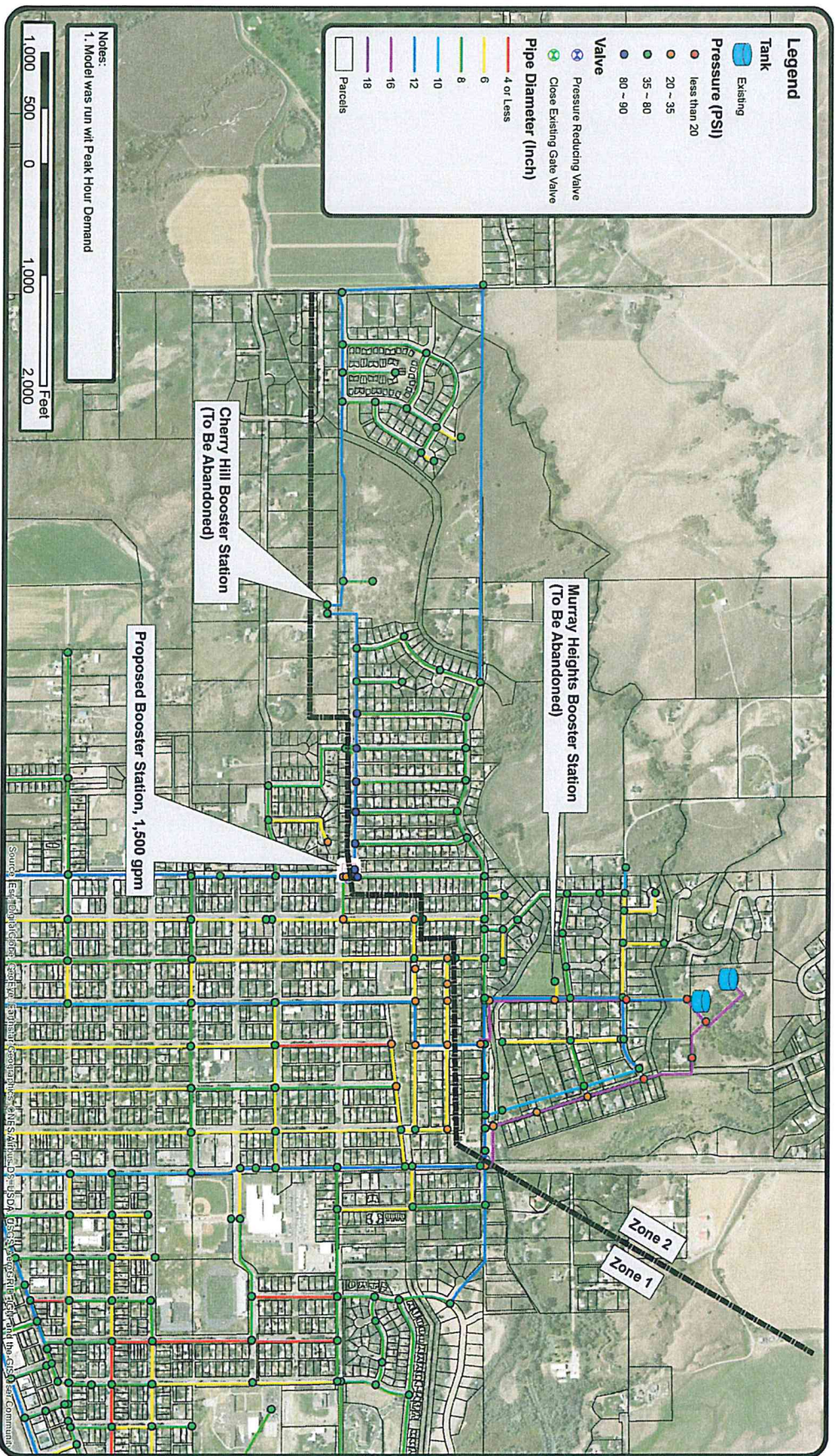


Figure 5.8: Pump Alternative P3



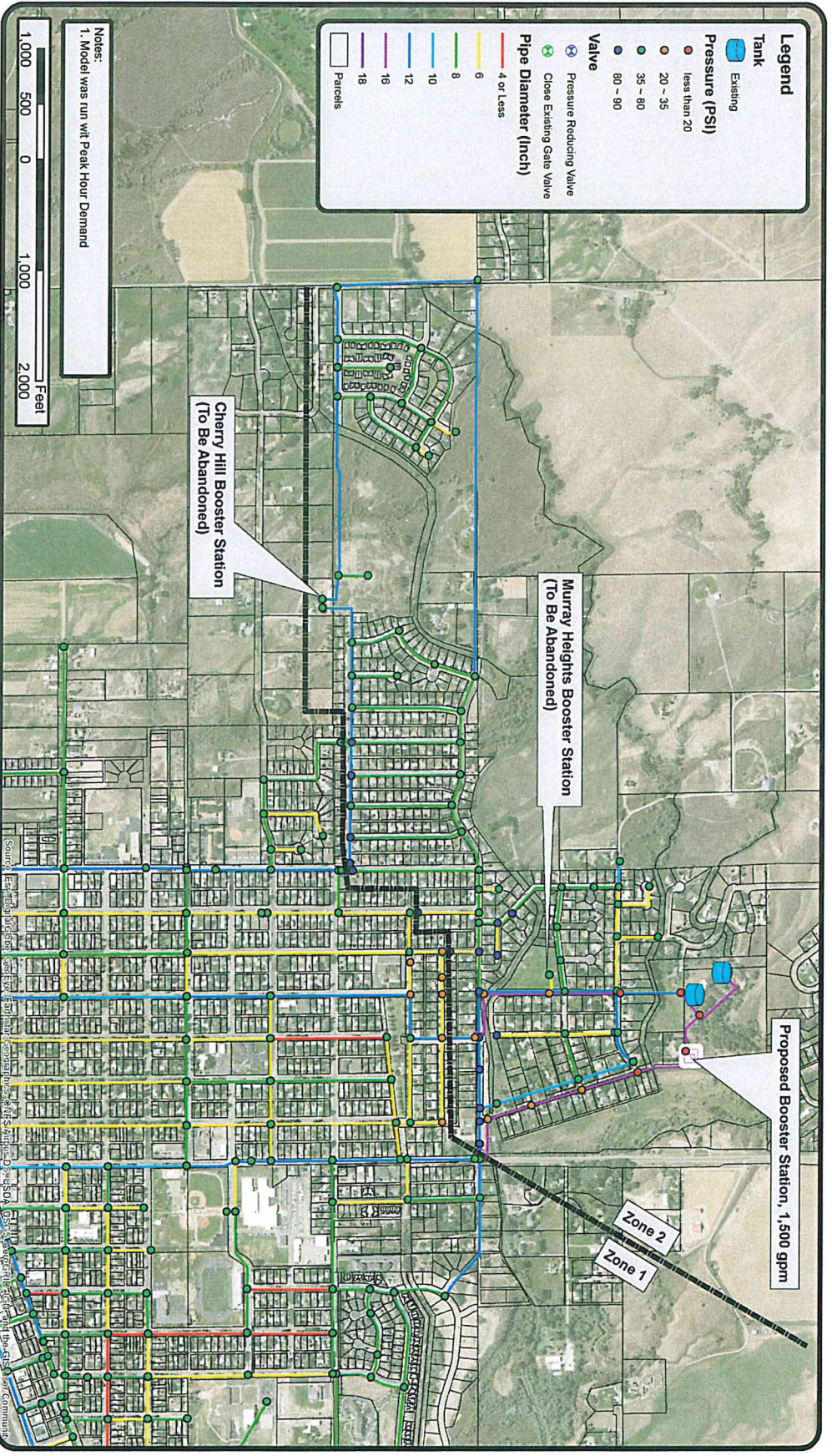


Figure 5.9: Pump Alternative P4



Pump Alternatives Opinion of Probable Cost

- Alternative P1: \$2.0-million
- Alternative P2: \$2.2-million
- Alternative P3: \$2.2-million
- Alternative P4: \$2.4-million
- Estimates includes assumed amount for land and easement acquisition

Alternative P1 recommended. Site is lowest cost, does not require land acquisition and may use portions of existing Murray Heights Booster Station.

Other Distribution Alternatives

- Alternatives considered to provide redundancy, create looping for added water quality and correct fire flow deficiencies

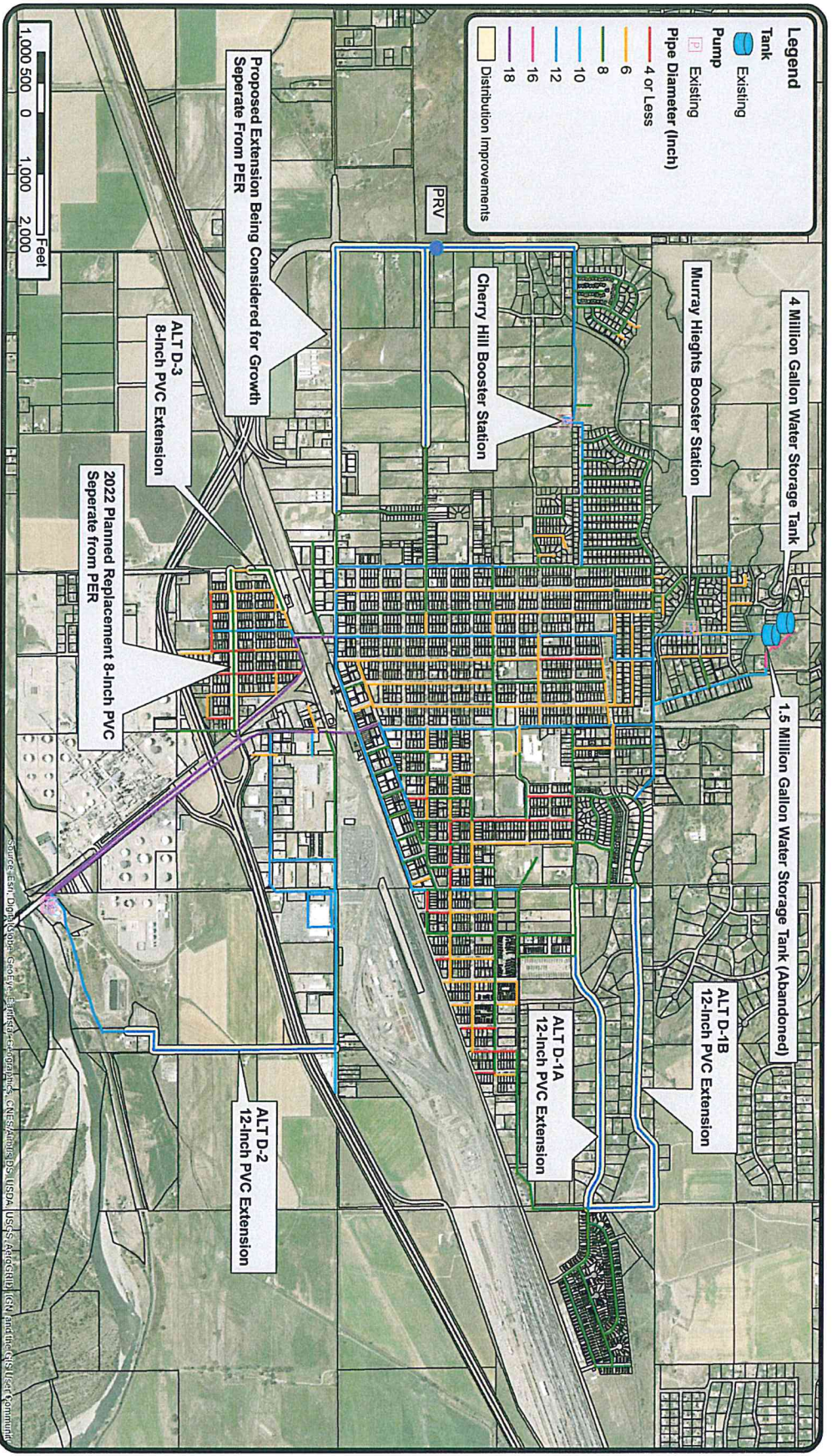


Figure 5.1 : Water Distribution System Alternatives



Distribution Alternatives Opinion of Probable Cost

- Alternative D1-A: \$2.9-million
- Alternative D1-B: \$3.7-million
- Alternative D2: \$1.4-million
- Alternative D3: \$0.6-million
- Estimates includes assumed amount for land and easement acquisition

Alternative D1-A, D2 and D3 are recommended. D1-A and D1-B are different options to address the same area. D1-A is lower cost. D2 and D3 address different areas.

Summary of Recommendations

Alternative	Opinion of Probable Capital Cost	Estimated Change in Annual Operating Cost
Storage Alternative T-2 in combination with pressure zone configuration improvements	\$13.9-million	0
Pump Alternative P-1	\$2.0-million	\$9,000
Distribution Alternatives D-1A, D-2 and D-3	\$4.9-million	0

Proposed Funding

- Total Capital Cost:
- City Reserves Available:
- Proposed Funding Source:

\$20.8-million (2026 Value)
\$0
DWSRF
(Good loan terms, potential for grant or loan forgiveness depending on future federal allocations)

- Consider MCEP and Coal Board Grant Applications, but don't depend on them.
- Estimated Monthly Dept Service: **\$82,000/ month**
- Anticipated Surplus with Current Rates: **\$42,000/ month**
- Rate Increase Recommended: **7% in 2023, 2024, 2025 & 2026 (assuming 5% inflation, adjust each year accordingly)**

Proposed Schedule

- Register on DWSRF Intended Use Plan **May 2023**
- Easement and Land Acquisition **January 2024 – December 2024**
- Apply for an MCEP Construction Grant **Spring 2024**
- Apply for a Coal Board Grant **Summer/Fall 2025**
- Preliminary Design **May 2025 – August 2025**
- Final Design **September 2025 – December 2025**
- Bidding **February 2026**
- Construction **April 2026 – November 2026**

RESOLUTION NO. R23-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SERVICE CONTRACT WITH TRUE NORTH CONTRACTING.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana,

Section 1: Approval. The Independent Contractor Service Contract by and between the City of Laurel (hereinafter “the City”) and True North Contracting, a copy attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2: Execution. The Mayor is hereby given authority to execute the Independent Contractor Service Contract with True North Contracting on behalf of the City.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of May, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the _____ day of May, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the _____ day of May, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SERVICE CONTRACT

This Contract is made and entered into this 9th day of May 2023, between the City of Laurel, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Montana whose address is P.O. Box 10, Laurel, Montana 59044, hereinafter referred to as “City” and True North Contracting, a contractor licensed to conduct business in the State of Montana, whose address is 9431 Anglers Way Billings, MT 59101, hereinafter referred to as “Contractor”.

SECTION ONE DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

A. Purpose. City shall hire Contractor as an independent contractor to perform for City the services described in the Bid dated April 25, 2023, attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and by this reference made part of this contract.

B. Effective Date. This contract is effective upon the date of its execution by both Parties. Contractor shall complete the services within 60 days of commencing work. The parties may extend the term of this contract in writing prior to its termination for good cause.

C. Scope of Work. Contractor shall perform his/her work and provide services in accordance with the specifications and requirements of this contract, any applicable Montana Public Work Standard(s) and Exhibit “A”.

SECTION TWO CONTRACT PRICE

Payment. City shall pay Contractor six thousand seven hundred and seventy-five dollars and no cents (\$6,775.00) for the work described in Exhibit A. Any alteration or deviation from the described work that involves extra costs must be executed only upon written request by the City to Contractor and will become an extra charge over and above the contract amount. The parties must agree to extra payments or charges in writing. Prior to final payment, Contractor shall provide City with an invoice for all charges.

SECTION THREE CITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon completion of the contract and acceptance of the work, City shall pay Contractor the contract price, plus or minus any additions or deductions agreed upon between the parties in accordance with Sections one and two, if any.

SECTION FOUR CONTRACTOR’S WARRANTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Independent Contractor Status. The parties agree that Contractor is an independent contractor for purposes of this contract and is not to be considered an employee of the City for any purpose hereunder. Contractor is not subject to the terms and provisions of the City’s personnel policies or handbook and shall not be considered a City employee for workers’ compensation or any other purpose. Contractor is not authorized to represent the City or otherwise bind the City in any dealings, agreements or sub-

contracts in any dealings between Contractor and any third parties. The City is interested solely in the results of this contract. Contractor is solely responsible for all work and work product under this contract, including techniques, sequences, procedures, and means. Contractor shall supervise and direct the work to the best of his/her ability.

B. Wages and Employment. Contractor shall abide by all applicable State of Montana Rules, Regulations and/or Statutes in regards to prevailing wages and employment requirements. Contractor shall comply with the applicable requirements of the Workers' Compensation Act. Contractor shall maintain workers' compensation coverage for all members and employees of his/her business, except for those members who are exempted as independent contractors under the provisions of §39-71-401, MCA. Contractor understands that all contractors or subcontractors working on publicly funded projects are required to have withheld from earnings a license fee of one percent (1%) of the gross contract price if the gross contract price is Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) or more. This license fee is paid to the Montana Department of Revenue pursuant to Montana law.

C. Unless otherwise specified by the terms of this Agreement, all materials and equipment used by Contractor on the Construction Project shall be new and where not otherwise specified, of the most suitable grade for their intended uses.

D. All workmanship and materials shall be of a kind and nature acceptable to the City.

E. All equipment, materials, and labor provided to, on, or for the Contract must be free of defects and nonconformities in design, materials, and workmanship for a minimum period beginning with the commencement of the work and ending one (1) year from completion and final acceptance by the City. Upon receipt of City's written notice of a defective or nonconforming condition during the warranty period, Contractor shall take all actions, including redesign and replacement, to correct the defective or nonconforming condition within a time frame acceptable to the City and at no additional cost to the City. Contractor shall also, at its sole cost, perform any tests required by City to verify that such defective or nonconforming condition has been corrected. Contractor warrants the corrective action taken against defective and nonconforming conditions for a period of an additional one (1) year from the date of City's acceptance of the corrective action.

F. Contractor and its sureties are liable for the satisfaction and full performance of all warranties.

G. Contractor has examined the facilities and/or has made field examinations. Contractor has knowledge of the services or project sought under this Contract and he/she further understands the site conditions to be encountered during the performance of this Contract. Contractor has knowledge of the types and character of equipment necessary for the work, the types of materials needed and the sources of such materials, and the condition of the local labor market.

H. Contractor is responsible for the safety of the work and shall maintain all lights, guards, signs, temporary passages, or other protections necessary for that purpose at all times.

I. All work is performed at Contractor's risk, and Contractor shall promptly repair or replace all damage and loss at its sole cost and expense regardless of the reason or cause of the damage or loss; provided, however, should the damage or loss be caused by an intentional or negligent act of the City, the risk of such loss shall be placed on the City.

J. Contractor is responsible for any loss or damage to materials, tools, work product or other articles used or held for use in the completion or performance of the Contract.

K. Title to all work, work product, materials and equipment covered by any payment of Contractor's compensation by City, whether directly incorporated into the Contract or not, passes to City at the time of payment, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances.

**SECTION FIVE
INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE**

Contractor shall indemnify, defend and save City, its officers, agents and employees harmless from any and all losses, damage and liability occasioned by, growing out of, or in any way arising or resulting from any intentional or negligent act on the part of Contractor or its agents or employees.

**SECTION SIX
COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations. Contractor shall either possess a City business license or shall purchase one, if a City Code requires a business license.

**SECTION SEVEN
NONDISCRIMINATION**

Contractor agrees that any hiring of persons as a result of this contract must be on the basis of merit and qualification and further that Contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability or national origin.

**SECTION EIGHT
DEFAULT**

If either party fails to comply with any term or condition of this Contract at the time or in the manner provided for, the other party may, at its option, terminate this Contract and be released from all obligations if the default is not cured within ten (10) days after written notice is provided to the defaulting party. Said notice shall set forth the items to be cured. Additionally, the non-defaulting party may bring suit for damages, specific performance, and any other remedy provided by law except for punitive damages. The Parties hereby waive their respective claims for punitive damages. These remedies are cumulative and not exclusive. Use of one remedy does not preclude use of the others. Notices shall be provided in writing and hand-delivered or mailed to the parties at the addresses set forth in the first paragraph of this Contract.

**SECTION NINE
TERMINATION**

Either party may terminate the contract for their convenience upon thirty days written notice sent postage prepaid, to the addresses provided herein.

**SECTION TEN
GOVERNING LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

The Parties agree that the laws of the State of Montana govern this Contract. The Parties agree that venue is proper within the Courts of Yellowstone County, Montana. If a dispute arises, the Parties, through a representative(s) with full authority to settle a dispute, shall meet and attempt to negotiate a resolution of the dispute in good faith no later than ten business days after the dispute arises. If negotiations fail, the Parties may utilize a third party mediator and equally share the costs of the mediator or file suit.

**SECTION ELEVEN
ATTORNEY FEES**

If any action is filed in relation to this agreement, the unsuccessful party in the action shall pay to the successful party, in addition to all sums that either is ordered to pay, a reasonable sum for the successful party's attorney's fees and all costs charges and expenses related to the action.

**SECTION TWELVE
ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This contract and its referenced attachment and Exhibit A contain the entire agreement and understanding of the parties and supersede any and all prior negotiations or understandings relating to this project. This contract shall not be modified, amended, or changed in any respect except through a written document signed by each party's authorized respective agents.

**SECTION THIRTEENTH
ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS**

The rights of each party under this Contract are personal to that party and may not be assigned or transferred to any other person, firm, corporation, or other entity without the prior, express, and written consent of the other party.

**SECTION FOURTEEN
SEVERABILITY**

Each provision, section, or subsection of this Contract shall stand separate and independent of every other. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction shall find any provision, section, or subsection of this contract to be invalid, the remaining provisions, sections, and subsections of this contract shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION FIFTEEN
PARAGRAPH HEADINGS**

The titles to the paragraphs of this contract are solely for the convenience of the parties and shall not be used to explain, simplify, or aid in the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement.

SIGNED AND AGREED BY BOTH PARTIES ON THE 9th DAY OF MAY 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

CONTRACTOR

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

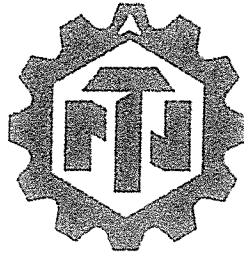
True North Contracting

ATTEST:

Employer Identification Number

Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer

9431 Anglers Way
Billings, MT 59101



INVOICE

Date 4/25/2023

Invoice # 2647

TRUE NORTH CONTRACTING

Bill To

City Of Laurel
P.O. Box 10
Laurel, MT
59044

P.O. No.	Terms
	Due on receipt

Description	Amount
Sub Excavated base and flow filled hole up to asphalt depth	6,775.00
Removed 550 sq ft of 6" thick asphalt and gravel and patch back with 6" thick new asphalt	5,122.00
Total	\$11,897.00



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

RESOLUTION NO. R23-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE
UPDATED WATER SYSTEM PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT
PREPARED BY KLJ ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE CITY OF LAUREL.**

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel (hereinafter “the City”) was in need of an updated Water System Preliminary Engineering Report (hereinafter “Water System PER”);

WHEREAS, the City retained KLJ Engineering, Inc. (hereinafter “KLJ”) to complete the updated Water System PER; and

WHEREAS, KLJ has completed the updated Water System PER and presented the findings in a public manner, open to public comment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, as follows:

1. Approval. The updated Water System PER, attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein, is hereby accepted and approved by the City Council.
2. Execution. The Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Laurel are hereby given authority to accept and execute the attached Water System PER on behalf of the City of Laurel.
3. Effective Date. The effective date for the approval is upon adoption of this Resolution.
4. Basis. The Water System PER shall hereinafter serve as the basis for the City’s water system improvements planning.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of May, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the _____ day of May, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the _____ day of May, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

File Attachments for Item:

20. Poppy Day Proclamation

Poppy Proclamation

WHEREAS, America is the land of freedom, preserved and protected willingly and freely by citizen soldiers;

WHEREAS, Millions who have answered the call to arms have died on the field of battle;

WHEREAS, A nation at peace must be reminded of the price of war and the debt owed to those who have died in war;

WHEREAS, The red poppy has been designated as a symbol of sacrifice of lives in all wars; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Auxiliary has pledged to remind America annually of this debt through the distribution of the memorial flower;

THEREFORE, I, Dave Waggoner of the City of Laurel, County of Yellowstone, Montana, do hereby proclaim this 26th day of May 2023, as POPPY DAY and ask that all citizens pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom by wearing the Memorial Poppy on this day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of City of Laurel, Montana this 9th day of May 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

Attest:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer

File Attachments for Item:

21. Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of April 25, 2023.

**Minutes of City of Laurel
Budget/Finance Committee
Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

Members Present: Richard Klose, Emelie Eaton, Heidi Sparks, Michelle Mize

Others Present: Kelly Strecker, Mayor Dave Waggoner

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair at 5:30 pm.

Public Input: There was no public comment.

General Items –

1. Review and approve April 11, 2023, Budget and Finance Committee meeting minutes. Heidi Sparks moved to approve the minutes of April 11, 2023. Emelie Eaton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.
2. Review and approve purchase requisitions. There were none.
3. Review and recommend approval to Council; claims entered through April 21, 2023. Emelie Eaton moved to approve the claims and check the register for claims entered through April 21, 2023. Heidi Sparks seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.
4. Review and approve Payroll Register for the pay period ending April 16, 2023, totaling \$217,006.93. Heidi Sparks moved to approve the payroll register for the pay period ending April 16, 2023, with corrected total from \$217,006.93 to \$217,006.92. Michelle Mize seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.

New Business – The committee asked if there was a resolution stating that the city would pay for a meal during the Fire Department monthly meeting. Kelly stated that she would look to see if a resolution was passed.

Old Business –

Other Items –

1. Review Comp/OT reports for the pay period ending April 16, 2023.
2. Mayor Update – Mayor stated that the construction projects are moving along, with a couple of bumps in the road with the S 4th St project. He said that the city has received a few more donations, so we are able to move on to the second phase of the Splash Park. The mayor stated that the splash park is ready for the compaction test and is hoping it will pass with flying colors. If it does not, then they may have to add more dirt. Mayor said that the next project will be figuring out how to build a BMX track that will meet insurance requirements.
3. Clerk/Treasurer Financial Update-Kelly stated that there will be an insurance committee meeting to discuss Health Insurance rates and is hoping for little to no increase. Kelly said that the auditors are here this week, so it will be busy.

Announcements –

4. The next Budget and Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 9, 2023, at 5:30 pm.
5. Heidi Sparks is scheduled to review claims for the next meeting.

Meeting 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Strecker
Clerk Treasurer

NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.

File Attachments for Item:

22. Resolution No. R23-28: A Resolution Of The City Council Approving Amendments To Appropriations And Revenues For The City Of Laurel's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget.

RESOLUTION NO. R23-28

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUES FOR THE CITY OF LAUREL'S FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET.

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel (hereinafter "the City") adopted all funds revenues and appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 on September 6, 2022;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend certain budgets as required by Mont. Code Ann. § 7-6-4006(3) and (4); and

WHEREAS, the increase in appropriations and revenues are due to unbudgeted amounts that will be offset by a decrease in reserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, that the City Council hereby directs the Clerk-Treasurer to amend the budget as reflected on the attached Exhibit "A" in order to comply with Mont. Code Ann. § 7-6-4006(3) and (4); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above amendments are retroactive to June 30, 2022.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 9th day of May, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the 9th day of May, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the 9th day of May, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

Budget Amendment Federal Equitable Sharing Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Fund 2952 – Federal Equitable Sharing

Original Revenues	\$	0.00
Amended Revenues	\$	<u>213,366.14</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$	213,366.14
Original Appropriation	\$	0.00
Amended Appropriation	\$	<u>213,366.14</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$	213,366.14

Per the Department of Justice Standard Operating Procedures, appropriations and revenues for the Federal Equitable Sharing Fund may not be budgeted using the fiscal year budgeting process. All appropriations and revenues must be budgeted after the end of the fiscal year, using the budget amendment process.

Fund 2250- Police Department- Animal Control Services

Original Appropriation	\$	4,850.00
Amended Appropriation	\$	<u>48,500.00</u>
Increase in Appropriation:	\$	43,650.00

Typing error in budget. The money will be taken for the General Fund Reserves.

File Attachments for Item:

23. Resolution No. R23-29: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The City Of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board To Work With City Staff To Prepare Comprehensive Updates To The City Of Laurel's Growth Management Plan.

RESOLUTION NO. R23-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LAUREL-YELLOWSTONE CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD TO WORK WITH CITY STAFF TO PREPARE COMPREHENSIVE UPDATES TO THE CITY OF LAUREL'S GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN.

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel's Growth Management Plan has not been updated for several years, it is outdated, and recent developments have made it apparent that amendments and revisions are necessary;

WHEREAS, City Staff is prepared to work with the City of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board to update the Growth Management Plan to guide future growth and development within the City of Laurel and its outskirting areas; and

WHEREAS, Yellowstone County has also requested that the City of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board work with City Staff to update the Growth Management Plan to guide further growth and development within the City of Laurel and its outskirting areas; and

WHEREAS, City Staff is prepared to work with the City of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board to update the current Growth Management Plan in accordance with the procedures and processes required by Montana law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Laurel hereby authorizes and directs City Staff to work with the City of Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board to update the Growth Management Plan to guide further growth and development within the City of Laurel and its outskirting areas.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 9th day of May, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the 9th day of May, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the 9th day of May, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

File Attachments for Item:

24. Resolution No. R23-30: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Independent Contractor Service Contract With True North Contracting.

RESOLUTION NO. R23-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SERVICE CONTRACT WITH TRUE NORTH CONTRACTING.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana,

Section 1: Approval. The Independent Contractor Service Contract by and between the City of Laurel (hereinafter “the City”) and True North Contracting, a copy attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2: Execution. The Mayor is hereby given authority to execute the Independent Contractor Service Contract with True North Contracting on behalf of the City.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 9th day of May, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the 9th day of May, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the 9th day of May, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SERVICE CONTRACT

This Contract is made and entered into this 9th day of May 2023, between the City of Laurel, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Montana whose address is P.O. Box 10, Laurel, Montana 59044, hereinafter referred to as “City” and True North Contracting, a contractor licensed to conduct business in the State of Montana, whose address is 9431 Anglers Way Billings, MT 59101, hereinafter referred to as “Contractor”.

SECTION ONE DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

A. Purpose. City shall hire Contractor as an independent contractor to perform for City the services described in the Bid dated April 25, 2023, attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and by this reference made part of this contract.

B. Effective Date. This contract is effective upon the date of its execution by both Parties. Contractor shall complete the services within 60 days of commencing work. The parties may extend the term of this contract in writing prior to its termination for good cause.

C. Scope of Work. Contractor shall perform his/her work and provide services in accordance with the specifications and requirements of this contract, any applicable Montana Public Work Standard(s) and Exhibit “A”.

SECTION TWO CONTRACT PRICE

Payment. City shall pay Contractor six thousand seven hundred and seventy-five dollars and no cents (\$6,775.00) for the work described in Exhibit A. Any alteration or deviation from the described work that involves extra costs must be executed only upon written request by the City to Contractor and will become an extra charge over and above the contract amount. The parties must agree to extra payments or charges in writing. Prior to final payment, Contractor shall provide City with an invoice for all charges.

SECTION THREE CITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon completion of the contract and acceptance of the work, City shall pay Contractor the contract price, plus or minus any additions or deductions agreed upon between the parties in accordance with Sections one and two, if any.

SECTION FOUR CONTRACTOR’S WARRANTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Independent Contractor Status. The parties agree that Contractor is an independent contractor for purposes of this contract and is not to be considered an employee of the City for any purpose hereunder. Contractor is not subject to the terms and provisions of the City’s personnel policies or handbook and shall not be considered a City employee for workers’ compensation or any other purpose. Contractor is not authorized to represent the City or otherwise bind the City in any dealings, agreements or sub-

contracts in any dealings between Contractor and any third parties. The City is interested solely in the results of this contract. Contractor is solely responsible for all work and work product under this contract, including techniques, sequences, procedures, and means. Contractor shall supervise and direct the work to the best of his/her ability.

B. Wages and Employment. Contractor shall abide by all applicable State of Montana Rules, Regulations and/or Statutes in regards to prevailing wages and employment requirements. Contractor shall comply with the applicable requirements of the Workers' Compensation Act. Contractor shall maintain workers' compensation coverage for all members and employees of his/her business, except for those members who are exempted as independent contractors under the provisions of §39-71-401, MCA. Contractor understands that all contractors or subcontractors working on publicly funded projects are required to have withheld from earnings a license fee of one percent (1%) of the gross contract price if the gross contract price is Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) or more. This license fee is paid to the Montana Department of Revenue pursuant to Montana law.

C. Unless otherwise specified by the terms of this Agreement, all materials and equipment used by Contractor on the Construction Project shall be new and where not otherwise specified, of the most suitable grade for their intended uses.

D. All workmanship and materials shall be of a kind and nature acceptable to the City.

E. All equipment, materials, and labor provided to, on, or for the Contract must be free of defects and nonconformities in design, materials, and workmanship for a minimum period beginning with the commencement of the work and ending one (1) year from completion and final acceptance by the City. Upon receipt of City's written notice of a defective or nonconforming condition during the warranty period, Contractor shall take all actions, including redesign and replacement, to correct the defective or nonconforming condition within a time frame acceptable to the City and at no additional cost to the City. Contractor shall also, at its sole cost, perform any tests required by City to verify that such defective or nonconforming condition has been corrected. Contractor warrants the corrective action taken against defective and nonconforming conditions for a period of an additional one (1) year from the date of City's acceptance of the corrective action.

F. Contractor and its sureties are liable for the satisfaction and full performance of all warranties.

G. Contractor has examined the facilities and/or has made field examinations. Contractor has knowledge of the services or project sought under this Contract and he/she further understands the site conditions to be encountered during the performance of this Contract. Contractor has knowledge of the types and character of equipment necessary for the work, the types of materials needed and the sources of such materials, and the condition of the local labor market.

H. Contractor is responsible for the safety of the work and shall maintain all lights, guards, signs, temporary passages, or other protections necessary for that purpose at all times.

I. All work is performed at Contractor's risk, and Contractor shall promptly repair or replace all damage and loss at its sole cost and expense regardless of the reason or cause of the damage or loss; provided, however, should the damage or loss be caused by an intentional or negligent act of the City, the risk of such loss shall be placed on the City.

J. Contractor is responsible for any loss or damage to materials, tools, work product or other articles used or held for use in the completion or performance of the Contract.

K. Title to all work, work product, materials and equipment covered by any payment of Contractor's compensation by City, whether directly incorporated into the Contract or not, passes to City at the time of payment, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances.

**SECTION FIVE
INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE**

Contractor shall indemnify, defend and save City, its officers, agents and employees harmless from any and all losses, damage and liability occasioned by, growing out of, or in any way arising or resulting from any intentional or negligent act on the part of Contractor or its agents or employees.

**SECTION SIX
COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations. Contractor shall either possess a City business license or shall purchase one, if a City Code requires a business license.

**SECTION SEVEN
NONDISCRIMINATION**

Contractor agrees that any hiring of persons as a result of this contract must be on the basis of merit and qualification and further that Contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability or national origin.

**SECTION EIGHT
DEFAULT**

If either party fails to comply with any term or condition of this Contract at the time or in the manner provided for, the other party may, at its option, terminate this Contract and be released from all obligations if the default is not cured within ten (10) days after written notice is provided to the defaulting party. Said notice shall set forth the items to be cured. Additionally, the non-defaulting party may bring suit for damages, specific performance, and any other remedy provided by law except for punitive damages. The Parties hereby waive their respective claims for punitive damages. These remedies are cumulative and not exclusive. Use of one remedy does not preclude use of the others. Notices shall be provided in writing and hand-delivered or mailed to the parties at the addresses set forth in the first paragraph of this Contract.

**SECTION NINE
TERMINATION**

Either party may terminate the contract for their convenience upon thirty days written notice sent postage prepaid, to the addresses provided herein.

**SECTION TEN
GOVERNING LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

The Parties agree that the laws of the State of Montana govern this Contract. The Parties agree that venue is proper within the Courts of Yellowstone County, Montana. If a dispute arises, the Parties, through a representative(s) with full authority to settle a dispute, shall meet and attempt to negotiate a resolution of the dispute in good faith no later than ten business days after the dispute arises. If negotiations fail, the Parties may utilize a third party mediator and equally share the costs of the mediator or file suit.

**SECTION ELEVEN
ATTORNEY FEES**

If any action is filed in relation to this agreement, the unsuccessful party in the action shall pay to the successful party, in addition to all sums that either is ordered to pay, a reasonable sum for the successful party's attorney's fees and all costs charges and expenses related to the action.

**SECTION TWELVE
ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This contract and its referenced attachment and Exhibit A contain the entire agreement and understanding of the parties and supersede any and all prior negotiations or understandings relating to this project. This contract shall not be modified, amended, or changed in any respect except through a written document signed by each party's authorized respective agents.

**SECTION THIRTEENTH
ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS**

The rights of each party under this Contract are personal to that party and may not be assigned or transferred to any other person, firm, corporation, or other entity without the prior, express, and written consent of the other party.

**SECTION FOURTEEN
SEVERABILITY**

Each provision, section, or subsection of this Contract shall stand separate and independent of every other. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction shall find any provision, section, or subsection of this contract to be invalid, the remaining provisions, sections, and subsections of this contract shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION FIFTEEN
PARAGRAPH HEADINGS**

The titles to the paragraphs of this contract are solely for the convenience of the parties and shall not be used to explain, simplify, or aid in the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement.

SIGNED AND AGREED BY BOTH PARTIES ON THE 9th DAY OF MAY 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

CONTRACTOR

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

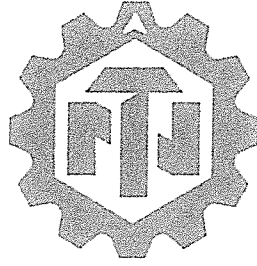
True North Contracting

ATTEST:

Employer Identification Number

Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer

9431 Anglers Way
Billings, MT 59101



INVOICE

Date 4/25/2023

Invoice # 2647

TRUE NORTH CONTRACTING

Bill To

City Of Laurel
P.O. Box 10
Laurel, MT
59044

P.O. No.	Terms
	Due on receipt

Description	Amount
Sub Excavated base and flow filled hole up to asphalt depth	6,775.00
Removed 550 sq ft of 6" thick asphalt and gravel and patch back with 6" thick new asphalt	5,122.00
Total	\$11,897.00



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

File Attachments for Item:

25. Resolution No. R23-31: A Resolution Of The City Council Approving And Adopting The Updated Water System Preliminary Engineering Report Prepared By KLJ Engineering, Inc. For The City Of Laurel.

RESOLUTION NO. R23-31

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE
UPDATED WATER SYSTEM PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT
PREPARED BY KLJ ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE CITY OF LAUREL.**

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel (hereinafter “the City”) was in need of an updated Water System Preliminary Engineering Report (hereinafter “Water System PER”);

WHEREAS, the City retained KLJ Engineering, Inc. (hereinafter “KLJ”) to complete the updated Water System PER; and

WHEREAS, KLJ has completed the updated Water System PER and presented the findings in a public manner, open to public comment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, as follows:

1. Approval. The updated Water System PER, attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein, is hereby accepted and approved by the City Council.
2. Execution. The Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Laurel are hereby given authority to accept and execute the attached Water System PER on behalf of the City of Laurel.
3. Effective Date. The effective date for the approval is upon adoption of this Resolution.
4. Basis. The Water System PER shall hereinafter serve as the basis for the City’s water system improvements planning.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 9th day of May, 2023, by Council Member _____.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel the 9th day of May, 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor the 9th day of May, 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney