

AGENDA CITY OF LAUREL CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023 6:30 PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS

NEXT RES. NO. R23-45

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 July 1, 2023.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2023.

Correspondence

3. Beartooth RC&D July Correspondence

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.

- 4. Claims entered through July 21, 2023.
- 5. Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 7/9/2023 totaling \$289,743.55.
- 6. Council Workshop Minutes of July 11, 2023.

Ceremonial Calendar

Reports of Boards and Commissions

- 7. Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of July 11, 2023.
- 8. Public Works Committee Minutes of June 19, 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

- 9. Appointment of Mardie Spalinger to Laurel Urban Renewal Agency Advisory Board for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2023.
- 10. Resolution No. R23-45: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The First Amendment To Right Of Entry And Use Agreement By And Between The City Of Laurel And Montana Rail Link, Inc.
- 11. Resolution No. R23-46: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Lease Agreement With The Laurel Lions Club For The Riverside Hall Located At Riverside Park.

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 July 1, 2023.

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

July 1, 2023

A special 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 6:00 pm on July 1, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Emelie Eaton

Michelle Mize

Richard Herr

Casey Wheeler

Richard Klose

Jodi Mackay

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Heidi Sparks

Irv Wilke

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

JW Hopper, Fire Chief

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

MINUTES: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS: None.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

 Resolution No. R23-44: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Short Term Lease (of Undetermined Duration) of Riverside Park for Staging Area.

Motion by Council Member Klose to approve Resolution No. R23-44, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment.

Council questioned if all monies collected from this lease be used in the Park only. It was clarified that this would go into the General Fund under Parks, just like the Exxon money was earmarked for the Park only.

<u>Motion by Council Member Klose</u> to take a three-minute recess, seconded by Council Member Mackay. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Council Member Klose to adjourn the recess, reconvene, and call the meeting to order, seconded by Council Member Mackay. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Council questioned if any July 4th campers would be displaced. It was clarified that this lease does not affect the campground. They would be occupying the old campground that is not open for camping. The power is back on in Riverside Park. They will be using the power and paying the entire bill. The boat landing will also remain open. They will hire people with jet boats and plan to have them gone by 6:00 am or 7:00 am each morning. They will come back for lunch and drop off anything they have collected. Those bins are sealed and double-layered to protect against any contamination.

Council Minutes of July 1, 2023

They will be back out until 5:00 pm or 6:00 pm. All boats and trailers will be kept within the contained area. They will also be hiring a security guard to monitor the location. All emergency services know that this will be in the area if they receive any calls. There is debris going down the river. We haven't seen anything because our intake is at the bottom of the river.

Council questioned if the boat operators know where the intakes are so they do not hit them. It was clarified that they are identifying where both of ours are so they do not strike them.

Fire Chief Hopper questioned if there was an emergency contact list in case of a boating accident. It was clarified that Mayor Waggoner would get a list of emergency contacts for Department Heads.

Council questioned if the Emergency Services Department Heads were comfortable with this lease. It was clarified that Chief Langve was out of the office yesterday, but the Mayor did not anticipate any issues. Director Gurchiek did not foresee any issues. Fire Chief Hopper did not see any issues once they knew who to contact during an emergency.

Council questioned how long they could expect this closure. It was clarified that they anticipate up to 90 days.

Mayor Waggoner clarified that they are also talking about paying \$500/day for jet boats and operators. They will put someone in there to do the dipping. The Mayor did speak with the City Attorney, and it is perfectly fine to contract out that boat. Council would need to approve the use of the jet boat. Fire Chief Hopper noted that the Fire Department has Public Works Director Wheeler drive the jet boat when needed and didn't see an issue with contracting out the boat. It was clarified that is not the main issue for tonight's meeting, just the staging area.

Council questioned if there are any provisions if, while moving heavy equipment, the road gets torn up or a tree is damaged, etc. Mayor stated that he did not anticipate lots of heavy machinery to be brought in. It will mainly be boats and containers for the debris collected.

A member of the public noted they were appreciative that the City was willing to help the railroad out but also that the City would be receiving compensation. The member of the public did not identify their name/address. They approved of the money collected being used in the parks. It was clarified that MRL would pay \$500/day, MRL would have fenced-in the area that they would be using and that MRL would monitor security for the area in use.

A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT):

Council Member Klose thanked all who came out to put flags in the Park. He received a call from Hometown Troops asking to leave them up over the 4th of July. They will be removed next Thursday.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION: None.

MAYOR UPDATES: None.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Mize to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All six council members present voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Bully	Ma
Brittney Moory	nan, Council Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 25 day of July 2023.

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

File Attachments for Item:

2. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2023.

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

July 11, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 7:23 p.m. on July 11, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Emelie Eaton

Heidi Sparks

Michelle Mize Casey Wheeler Richard Herr Irv Wilke

Casey Wheeler Richard Klose Irv Wilke Jodi Mackay

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

Michele, Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant

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 June 27, 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:

- Primary Election Correspondence.
- Linda Frickel Laurel Urban Renewal Agency Resignation.
- Police Monthly Report June 2023.

COUNCIL DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- Claims entered through July 7, 2023.
 A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's Office.
- Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 6/25/2023 totaling \$186,247.55.

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 Mize. 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 June 27, 2023.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

 Appointment of Anthony Contreraz, Dallas Contreraz, and Kaleigh Olson to the Laurel Emergency Medical Services. Council Minutes of July 11, 2023

Motion by Council Member Sparks to approve the Mayor's appointment of Anthony Contreraz, Dallas Contreraz, and Kaleigh Olson to the Laurel Emergency Medical Services, 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 LuAnne Engh to the Tree Board for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve the Mayor's appointment of LuAnne Engh to the Tree Board for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026, seconded by Council Member Sparks. There was no public comment.

Council noted that Ms. Engh's letter of interest stated she only wanted to serve an additional year. It was clarified that this is a three-year term. She can submit a letter of resignation if she chooses she would no longer like to serve.

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

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

MAYOR UPDATES:

Mayor Waggoner stated the City was approached to rent additional space within Riverside Park by MRL. He and the Public Works Director meet with MRL in the morning to discuss the details. A resolution to amend the agreement will be on the next Council cycle.

Also, the City will send down a diver to inspect the intakes screens to ensure no build-up is starting. Downriver others have been having this issue, and the City wants to ensure the screens are clear.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Klose 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 7:32 p.m.

Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 25th day of July 2023.

Attest:

Dave Waggoner, Mayor

Kelly Strecker, Clerk/Treasurer

File Attachments for Item:

3. Beartooth RC&D July Correspondence

Beartooth RC&D Area, Inc.

Board of Director's Meeting Agenda

Lunch at 12:230 pm Meeting 1:00 P.M. Thursday, July 20, 2023 Beartooth RC&D Conference Room 128 S Main St. Joliet, MT



		I	
12:30	<u>Lunch</u>		
1:00 pm	Meeting Called to Order	Chair	
	Pledge of Allegiance, Introduction of Members and Guests	Chair, All	
	Review Board Minutes	Chair, All	Action
	Congressional Updates Josiah Porcel (Sen. Tester) Tory Kolkhorst (Sen. Daines) Emily Schneller (Rep. Rosendale)		Information
	Treasurer/Financial Reports 1. Treasurer Update 2. RC&D Financials 3. RLF Financials 4. RMAP	Hauge/Knight	Information Action Action Information
	Staff Reports – Program/Project updates		
	 Food/Ag Program – Joel Bertolino Revolving Loan Fund – Nan Knight Economic Development/ CRDC – Jacy Head Operations Support- Myrna Lastusky 	Bertolino Knight Head Lastusky	Information Information Information Information
	Regional Roundup — News and updates from regional members on projects and activities in key CEDS categories (see topics on next page)	Roe et al	Information
	Next Beartooth RC&D Area, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting		
2:30 PM	September 21st, 2023- Red Lodge, MT Adjourn		Information

Regional Roundup

CEDS SWOT

Our goals for the Roundup are to find out what's happening in the area, keep the conversations focused, inform the others attending the meeting, and to tie it all back to and reinforce the importance of the CEDS. Please help us identify the projects in their area that fit into our CEDS categories:

- Infrastructure
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Broadband
- Economy
- Upturns or downturns in industry sectors
- New business openings (or closures)
- Communication
 - Marketing and outreach
- Services
- Health care
- Natural Resources
 - Agriculture
 - Energy
- Human Capital
 - Workforce
 - Education

NOTES:		

Beartooth RC&D

Beartooth RC&D Area, Inc. Board of Director's Meeting MINUTES May 18, 2023

1:00 pm	Meeting Called to Order	Chair	
	Pledge of Allegiance, Introduction of Members and Guests	Chair, All	
	Review Board Minutes	Chair, All	Action
	Congressional Updates Josiah Porcel (Sen. Tester) Tory Kolkhorst (Sen. Daines) Emily Schneller (Rep. Rosendale)		Information
	Treasurer/Financial Reports 5. Treasurer Update 6. RC&D Financials 7. RLF Financials 8. RMAP	Hauge/Knight	Information Action Action Information
	New Accounting/ Auditor for Beartooth	VanBallegooyen/ Knight	Information
	Staff Reports – Program/Project updates		
	 Food/Ag Program – Joel Bertolino Revolving Loan Fund – Nan Knight Economic Development/ CRDC – Jacy Head Operations Support- Myrna Lastusky 	Bertolino Knight Head Lastusky	Information Information Information Information
	Regional Roundup — News and updates from regional members on projects and activities in key CEDS categories (see topics on next page)	Roe et al	Information
	Optional Tour of New Stillwater County Fairgrounds		
2:30 PM	Next Beartooth RC&D Area, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting July 20th, 2023- Beartooth RC&D Conference Room		Information
	Adjourn		

Beartooth RC&D Board Meeting Minutes May 18, 2023 – 1:00 pm Columbus Fire Hall

Members Present:

Joel Bertolino, BRCD
Nan Knight, BRCD
Jacy Head, BRCD
Myrna Lastusky, BRCD
Edie Vogel, Yellowstone Conservation District
Ryan VanBallegooyen, Billings Job Service
Commissioner Melanie Roe, Sweet Grass County
Emily Schneller, Rep. Rosendale
Lorene Hintz, BSED
Kayla Vokral, SBA
Emily Schneller, Rep. Rosendale's Office

Present via Zoom:

Holly Higgins, First Interstate Bank of Hardin Danny Choriki, City of Billings Tory Kolkhorst, Sen. Daines Chris Mehus, Sweet Grass Conservation District Jacob Cote, City of Red Lodge

Meeting Called to Order: Chair VanBallegooyen called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance, Introduction of Members and Guests: All introduced themselves with a special mention of Edie Vogel, who has taken Barb Wagner's place on the board for Yellowstone Conservation District.

Review March Board Minutes (Action): Melanie motioned to approve the minutes; Holly seconded. Motion carried.

Congressional Updates:

• Tory Kolkhorst (Sen. Daines)

- Debt ceiling update don't foresee any cuts being made to veterans' benefits, thankfully. Sen.
 Daines thinks federal spending is out of control and some cuts need to be made to spending if the debt ceiling will be raised.
- Senator has a bill to make tax relief for MT small businesses permanent (Main Street Tax Certainty Act) to cut red tape, strengthen small businesses. Also pushing for New Markets Tax Credits, which have been beneficial to many MT businesses.

• Emily Schneller (Rep. Rosendale)

- Rosendale in state last month and made some stops MT Silver Smiths, Veteran Town Hall in Billings.
- Emily was in Gardiner last week and heard presentation from Yellowstone Superintendent Cam Sholly, which was very interesting. The new road looks great (narrow and windy!).
 Impressive that they got it done so quickly. Another year before making a decision on a more permanent road plan.
- o Nye Road starting to look much better. Should be completed in next few months.

- Rep. Rosendale is busy in DC. Debt ceiling a hot topic. House Republicans recently passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act to address the debt crisis and protect Social Security, Medicare, and Veterans' benefits.
- Working on several natural resources issues. Legislation to delist grizzlies passed committee. Following some Forest Service issues, EPA and BLM proposals.
- Will be doing another energy tour at end of June with stops in Colstrip, Big Horn County, Yellowstone County, and Stillwater Counties.
- o Joel: Any support in Senate for delisting grizzlies?
 - Tory: Sen Daines is a huge proponent for delisting. He has given sound statistics to show the grizzly bear has made a full and robust recovery in MT. Sec. Holland said she would like to ask the bears what they think . . .

Treasurer/Financial Reports

1. RC&D Financials / RLF Financials / RMAP

- a. April books
 - i. 17 loan clients
 - ii. \$1.4 million of revolving loan totals outstanding
 - iii. Signed paperwork and approved for RMAP loan and should be able to do first round of disbursement by end of month.
 - iv. 1 new loan in Hardin we are funding. 2nd position with FIB.
 - v. We received money from State for SSBCI program.
 - vi. Available for funding currently is \$200K in Beartooth books.
 - vii. Haven't received drawdowns in a few programs, so the budget will change a bit.
- Jacy: For CRDC program, we normally have the contract in place already, but there has been a lot of turnover in the procurement office. Have a meeting with Liane Taylor, the division manager for CRDC, after MEDA conference.
 - b. Holly asked if we are able to issue statements more often (asking for a client).
 - i. Nan: My predecessor had it set up to do it annually, but I can do it different. I do it monthly for one client and quarterly for another, so he just needs to let me know how he would like it done.
 - ii. Holly: Mr. W. would like to do statements monthly moving forward.

Melanie motioned to approve the financials for Beartooth RC&D and RLF Financials. Holly seconded. Motion passed.

New Accounting / Auditor for Beartooth (Nan):

• We have been with Wipfli for many years, but the spike in the audit cost really hurt our budget, so we are looking for a new auditor. Any suggestions, please send them our way.

Staff Reports - Program/Project Updates

1. Food/Ag Program – Joel Bertolino

- a. P.14 had a face-to-face meeting in Helena on Apr. 4th. Talked about GTA grant programs, direction of Food and Ag Centers, RFP for FADC funding.
- b. Had to submit new FADC application. Myrna assisted and that was submitted on May 1st. Joel goes to Lewiston on June 9th to answer any questions the committee has on the app.
- c. Projects

- i. S-Ranch Meats new processing plant in Hardin. Submitted a VAPG application for \$250K to further marketing and development of product line of fresh meats produced on their ranch, processed by them, and then marketed.
- ii. Oswald Farms narrowly missed VAPG funding last year and reapplied this year. Did a great job on the application this year. Both S-Ranch and Oswald do direct marketing sales and to restaurants.
- iii. Speedy & Flo's Sweet Corn Tina Toyne brought to our attention. Put together a small GTA grant to help them buy marketing materials including bags for their produce.
- iv. Valley Farmer's Supply fertilizer grant. USDA still hasn't released who will be funded, so we are waiting
- v. Haven't heard from FEI Fertilizer and Fuel or Undammed Distilling. Undammed is still considering a GTA grant.
- vi. Greycliff Mill work with them off and on when they have questions on funding.
- vii. MT Prime Meats hope to fund them with RMAP loan. Nan and Joel visited and they have a drive-through window at retail location, which is a great idea.
- viii. Yellowstone Valley Farms working on a REAP application.
- ix. Primitive Meats haven't talked to recently but waiting for an update.
- x. Becky's Berries developing a whole new line of products; working with MMEC on developing recipes, etc.
- xi. Charter Ranch Vermicast received a GTA for adding value by adding vermicast (use of worms to create healthy soils), then bag those soils and sell them.

2. RLF – Nan Knight

- a. SSBCI funding was approved and will drop in our account tomorrow. That will be closed.
 Participation with FIB on a café in Roberts. The process went smoothly, good to work with Ryan at FIB.
- b. Very busy lately -a few loans in the works
 - i. Burger restaurant hoping to open in Laurel working on business plan, profits and losses, location.
 - ii. SBDC referred a client with a food truck in Laurel and hope to help her.

3. Economic Development / CRDC – Jacy Head

- a. BSTF Nan has been helping with that. Received extension, so it needs to be finished by Sept instead of June.
- b. RCDI grants are going well in Big Horn County and Red Lodge.
- c. CRDC Q1 report was complete and Work Plan too. EDA PPG semi-annual report coming this summer.
- d. RCDI reports are not completed due to waiting on some info. Our Red Lodge one will need to have some changes due to too many people charging time to the grant.
- e. Helping Hands Food Bank things are moving along well. Sampling and analysis have been completed and hope to get the report next week.
- f. Brownfields Assessment grant hope to have an update next time.
- g. EIG/EDA case study still do not have EDA's permission to distribute.
- h. MT Community Foundation MT Disaster Recovery Grant. BRCD received \$15,000 and we took sub-grant applications for \$500-\$1,000. Myrna has taken lead on this and has a spreadsheet outlining fund disbursement if anyone is interested. We do have some remaining funds to grant out.

- i. DOC-Business Attraction Jacy has been attending the monthly check-ins with the State. They will be coming down to meet with Nan and Joel next week to tour Stillwater County.
- j. Roman Theater looking at developing housing in the 2^{nd} story. Working with them and Randy Hafer at HPA.
- k. Yellowstone Horse and Mule expanding into Red Lodge area (from outside Yellowstone National Park) and we are going to help them with a tourism grant
- 1. Worden Senior Group Myrna worked with them to apply for MDRF funds.
- m. Rocky Fork Inn (Red Lodge) working with City of Red Lodge and the owners to initiate Brownfields on that property. Need to do a structural assessment and then DEQ may be able to assist with demolition. Red Lodge is also applying for a RRGL grant and we will assist and hopefully help them repurpose this property. This was the house that took the brunt of the flood's force.
 - i. Joel: They are pulling cottonwoods out of the creek in that area and there is a mountain of cottonwoods getting pulled out.

4. Operations Support – Myrna Lastusky

- a. FADC App assisted Joel with this
- b. Lots of reporting
- c. MT Disaster Recovery Fund Grants We applied for money and received \$15,000, which we then are sub-granting to other organizations. We have approved about 12 different organizations to receive money from this grant. Great variety of projects from flood relief to Bone Daddy's in Red Lodge (roof collapsed from snow) to those who are serving vulnerable populations like elderly, low-income children, veterans, etc. Still have a few thousand dollars in reserve as we await a few applications or in case an applicable project pops up that could really use some help.

Regional Roundup

Danny Choriki, City of Billings:

- Legislature has had serious impacts on local governments and we're still trying to figure them all out. Will have a report in June to Council. Some money was put aside for recreational construction around the reservoir, so that's great.
- City's budget: Focusing on family violence prevention in focus on crime.
- Housing housing starts have been down this year, but there's a lot of work going on in background. Have seen projects underway in downtown area and hope for more soon.

Holly Higgins, First Interstate Bank:

- Ag market is looking good looking at \$1400/head calves in fall.
- Empty lot bought to put in a gated storage unit sounds like it will be very nice. Starting with landscaping.
- KOA opened up in April and have been busy.
- St. Vincent's is closing its Hardin clinic. With One Health, they feel that's enough to service the area. Big Horn Hospital is looking into offering a clinic. Majority of employees were offered jobs somewhere else, but some locals will be looking for work.
- Concerned that the Teepee Service/Convenience store in Crow will close. It's been for sale for a long time.

• Plenty Doors CDC had an open house last week. They moved offices to a new location, and Tipi Creek Coffee opened. Great turnout, delicious food. Plenty Doors will tear down the old building for the incubator, with construction expected to start early 2024.

Jacob Cote, Red Lodge

- Just returned from MT Partnership Housing Conference great few days trying to figure out how to fix the ongoing problem. Some great updates and exciting projects from NeighborWorks and Homeword and others. But the Association of Childcare Facilities and Expenses and how they can relate to housing affordability discussed some projects including childcare incorporated into housing design and development. Good ideas & hope to learn more about that in the future and how it could work in more rural areas.
 - Also quite a bit on recent legislative bills lots of "we'll see" comments but a lot of excitement at potential solutions to the problem.

Edie Vogel, Yellowstone Conservation District

- Edie is the new hire & just came on in April, so just learning the ropes.
- Built a website and will be getting YCD online soon.
 - o Resources, 310 permits, water reservation applications, etc. will all be online
- Local workgroup meeting soon and will bring in community members to drive the program.
- Collaborating with Extension on some Weed District education.
- Nile education will be resumed for 4th graders another part of Edie's role.
- Also will be taking over grants and administering those. Lots on Edie's plate!

Lorene Hintz, BSED/SBDC

- 1 new BSTF we were hoping to get in by June but now they aren't opening it until September.
- Submitted a nomination for Wayne Nelson for Business Champion and had a little celebration at Rock31.
- MEDA Spring Conference is in Billings next week.
- Kayla was just named the Interim Rock31 Director she isn't leaving SBDC; just taking on additional responsibilities.

Kayla Vokral, SBA

- Kayla: Wrapping up 10-week SBDC/Rock31 Business Accelerator and will have a pitch competition during MEDA (3-5 on Tuesday). Also will have investors in the room so even if they don't win a prize, they may get some private investment. Will continue to do this annually.
- Just finished Profit Mastery a 16-hour financial course for small business owners. Hope to do this one or two times per year. Might have another round in fall. Helps businesses understand their financials and deep dive into balance sheets, income statements, etc.
- QuickBooks training starting in June every Tuesday from 4-6 throughout June. Let clients know that is an opportunity.
- Space2Place grants gave out about 5. A cool one happening in Worden. Painting a whole trail of things to do.
- Podcast Joel was on. © Nearing 3,000 downloads and are on all continents except Africa and Antarctica. www.thevaultat201.com Listen on any listening platform, Facebook, etc.
- Will also have a Brownfields update next time.

Scott Miller, Carbon County

- Housing tearing down old trailer house lot that was flooded in Fromberg. Owner is going to put up affordable housing and he's doing it with their own money. Very exciting.
- RLACF is still working on housing with different avenues.
- CART has 3 vans running seniors around the county. County will hopefully give them some money to keep them going.
- Carbon County Meats is up and running in Bridger. Some drama with septic and blood tanks, but they are going. USDA-approval will come in July.
- We have canals filling with water that we didn't think would hold water due to last year's flooding, head gates working, Orchard Canal is up and running . . . lot of money and work has been happening to get water to all these places. Rock Creek Conservation District helped them and should have water running in a few weeks they haven't had water for a couple years, so that's exciting.
- Just hoping to get through June without a disaster.
- Water is lower than usual, snow pack is down a bit, so hopefully we'll be okay flood-wise.
- There will be 200,000 cubic yards of rock removed from Rock Creek by Montana DES. FEMA is paying for it. Will take rock to gravel pits.

Commissioner Melanie Roe, Sweet Grass County

- Powder-coating place opened in Big Timber.
- Bar and Grill in Reed Point is open.
- Frosty Freeze opened and then had to shut down due to sewer issue.
- Looks like summer will be busy with plenty of concerts, BBQs, events
 - o Fiber Fest is this weekend
- A couple of campgrounds still closed after last year's flooding
- Town Halls & MACo legislation still waiting to hear how some of it will impact them
- County, churches, volunteers all working to make sure kids in park get food through the summer
- Also on BLM Solar Cooperatives group meeting as well as the Sage Grouse one and in both we are watching how things trickle down from DC not sure how those will end up.

Jacy told everyone that EDA just opened up some Disaster-Recovery supplemental funding and will have a meeting next week. If you have projects, let us know.

- Melanie we have a bridge. Jacy said that would be a good project.
- 12:30-1:30 next Wed in Billings there will be a meeting if you want to come.

Danny: Much better Zoom meeting than last due to our Montana version of The Owl. ©

Optional Tour of new Stillwater County Fairgrounds following the meeting.

Next Beartooth RC&D Board of Directors Meeting: July 20, 2023 at Beartooth RC&D (12:30 luncheon with meeting to follow)

Scott Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting; Melanie seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Revolving Loan Fund Books- April 2023

Loan Client Review

<u>County</u>	# of loans	<u>\$ Loaned out</u>	
Big Horn	2	\$179,654.33	
Stillwater	1	\$147,574.44	
Yellowstone	10	\$716,496.80	
Carbon	2	\$223,815.14	
Sweet Grass	<u>2</u>	\$153,732.1 <u>5</u>	Total:
	17	\$1,421,272.86	

- USDA Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) loan closing documents signed.
- New Bank accounts opened for SSBCI AND RMAP funds.
- RLF committee approved new loan in Hardin
- Closing in State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) loan in Roberts.

Bank Balances as of April 28, 2023 Total available for lending

Bank of Joliet- EDA (RMAP match	\$110,095.35		\$ 10,095.35
Bank of Joliet-CDBG	\$99,270.34		\$ 32,357.84
Bank of Joliet- IRP	\$179,565.70		\$ 139,565.70
Bank of Joliet-Fromberg	\$31,371.01		\$ 31,371.01
		Available:	\$ 213 389 90

Beartooth 2023 Budget

2023 Income	2023	
	Budget	Actual
AG-FOOD AND AG CENTER	45,000	11,235
Specialty Crop Block	35,000	8,372
BOARD - EDA SPONSOR DUES	56,979	43,399
BOARD-INTEREST INCOME	400	,
BOARD-FOUNDATION MONEY	3,300	3,641
RLF-STAFF REIMBURSE	15,000	
RLF-ORIG FEES	5,000	
CRDC	71,000	17,961
EDA - GRANT	70,000	35,000
BSTF ADMIN \$	4,000	
RCDI (Big Horn)	2,500	1,953
RCDI (Red Lodge)	4,000	205
Pass- Through		24,727
	312,179	146,493
Expenses for 2023		
TOTAL STAFF EXPENSE	244,441	79,718
COMMUNICATIONS	7,000	2,066
EQUIPMENT & VEHICLE	6,000	2,847
CONTRACTUAL	25,000	53,552
SUPPLIES	7,000	1,451
TRAVEL	7,500	2,280
OTHER	11,500	4,761
EXPENSE TOTAL	308,441	146,676
		-182

Statement Ending: 04/28/2023

Checking Account: \$101,557.67
Savings Account: \$64,951.85
Building Account: \$4,482.94

Beartooth RC&D Staff Project Updates

July 2023

FOOD AND AG CENTER PROJECTS

Beartooth FADC

Beartooth FADC activities have been focused on the Request For Proposal process for the next two year cycle of FADC funding that concluded with a review June 9th in Great Falls. Beartooth FADC was awarded \$120,000.00 for the next two years to continue to provide technical assistane to food and agriculture clients in our region. Beartooth FADC also worked with our regional MMEC and SBDC to develop an outreach visit with the wild bison ranch in Bridger.

Growth Through Ag Projects and USDA Projects

Beartooth FADC has worked with several businesses on Growth Through Ag and USDA VAPG grants some of these will have an opportunity to be granted funding and we will continue to assist them in completing their business expansion projects. —

S Ranch Meats

Location- Custer, MT Contact- Hannah Knutson

S ranch meats is a family owned and operated beef business. The ranch operates a 6000 head ranch and developed a USDA meat processing plant in Hardin, MT. They have developed their own line of packaged meats sold at local restaurants and through Facebook and word of mouth marketing. Beartooth FADC has been working with USDA VAPG specialists to assist the business in applying for \$250,000.00 in operating funds to expand their direct to consumer branded beef business.

Oswald Farms

Location- Joliet, MT Contact- Melissa Oswald

Oswald Farms operates a generational ag operation that raises cattle feeds them, has them processed at a local USDA plant and sells their own branded beef products to local restaurants and locally through Facebook. They have developed their own retail location to sell their meat products and other local foods and it is located near the intersection of highway 310 and 312 both heavily traveled roads. Beartooth FADC has been working with USDA personnel with the business to apply for a Value Added Producer Grant for \$250,000.00 to expand their direct to consumer beef business.

Speedy and Flo's Sweet Corn

Location- Hardin, MT Contact-Flo Ramirez

Beartooth FADC worked with Tina Toyne of Big Horn County Economic Development to assist Flo Ramirez and his wife. They started growing fresh produce and sweet corn for local sales over ten years ago on a one-and-a-half-acre garden plot. Their business has grown and they now raise 25 acres of sweet corn and have a 4-acre garden, they sell all of their fresh produce at locations in Hardin, several in Billings, Joliet, Miles City and Absarokee as well as in northern Wyoming. Beartooth FADC and Tina Toyne assisted them on developing a GTA Marketing Development Assistance Grant for custom made bags for their fresh produce that will have their logo and Facebook information for their customers.

J&D Meats

Contact- Jon Schneider Location- Hardin, MT

Beartooth FADC was invited by Tina Toyne of Big Horn County Economic Development to visit with J&D Meats a small meat processing operation that has a retail front selling fresh meats and lunches in Hardin. The business was purchased in 2021 after years of operating as Buds Catering and has been refurbished. The business is looking to continue to grow and is interested in the USDA RMAP micro entrepreneur funding through our revolving loan funding.

Yellowstone Pasta

Location- Billings, MT Contact-Henry Kennah

Henry is a former chef for Jakes in Billings that started making fresh pasta using Montana hard red durum wheat. He was referred to us by our partners Kayla and Lorene at SBDC who are assisting him with business planning. Beartooth FADC met with Henry and discussed his equipment needs for expanding his business and the Growth Through Ag grant and loan program. He is reviewing the guidelines and plans on working with Beartooth FADC on an application in October.

Undammed Distilling

Location-Billings, MT Contact- Allen Hodges

Allen Hodges started Undammed Distilling in Billings approximately two years ago and utilizes Montana ingredients in his spirits, he is looking to expand his business. Beartooth FADC met with him to discuss the Growth Through Ag funding opportunity for equipment and hope to assist him with an application this fall.

Valley Farmers Supply

Location- Worden, MT Contact- Calvin Wilson

Valley Farmers Supply is a rural cooperative business that delivers fuel, propane and fertilizer to Rural and Agricultural Clients, provides seed crop and soil analysis and has a retail store in Worden. Beartooth FADC has been working with then on the development of a USDA Fertilizer Production Expansion Program grant application to assist them with their 3-million-dollar expansion project that will increase their businesses capacity, allow for increased efficiency, reduce energy consumption, increase profitability and their ability to compete in the market. This proposal was unfortunately not funded by USDA.



Beartooth staff has been in communication with Greycliff mill in Big Timber to discuss funding sources for their value added ag operation. The value added business mills local grains used in the breads that are served at their restaurant and coffee shop, they plan to use local milk to make a line of cheeses and grow sweet corn, beans, apples and berries which will be utilized to be sold fresh and in jams.



On Going Projects

Montana Prime Meats

Contact- Lamont Herman

Location- Big Horn County and Billings, MT

Beartooth FADC assisted Montana Prime Meats with the development of a GTA grant in 2021 and have continued to follow up with the business, they opened a retail outlet to sell their beef and lamb products raised on the Herman Ranch in Big Horn County and it has developed a following. They ae now looking for funding to expand their offerings to include fresh cuts of Beef and Lamb. Beartooth Staff visited their business to discuss the potential use of the RMAP funding for their expansion project.



Yellowstone Valley Farm Contact-Reuben Stahl

Location-Laurel

Reuben Stahl has a family greenhouse business growing basil and selling to FSA and Sysco, he would like to add another greenhouse to keep up with increased demand this last year. Beartooth staff visited Yellowstone Valley Farms after Reuben attended a USDA Value Added Producer Grant webinar sponsored by the Food and Ag Centers to discuss the VAPG and the Rural Energy for America Program for funding to improve the energy efficiency of his greenhouse operations to lower the businesses energy bills.



Primitive Meats

Contact- Kelsey Grice Location- Worden, MT

Kelsey Grice and her husband are looking for funding assistance through the GTA grant to help them with construction costs and equipment for their start up meat processing business. This Business also applied for an ARPA Value Added Ag Grant, Beartooth FADC put the business in contact with a local engineering firm to discuss the plans for their plant. Their application was approved for \$150,000.00, Beartooth FADC has been in contact with the owners now plan to start construction of their plant this summer.

Becky's Berries- Absarokee, MT

Contact- Becky Stahl Location-Absarokee

Beartooth FADC has been assisting Becky with locating specialized assistance in recipe development for a new line of products she is currently working on. They have now completed their recipes for a line of mustards and we are now helping them on developing a process for filling and packaging the products.

Beartooth FADC initiated contact with the following businesses

• J&D Meats Hardin, MT

Beartooth FADC Outreach

- Wild Bison Ranch Bridger, MT
- Yellowstone Pasta- Billings, MT
- -Coffee Roaster Big Timber, MT

7/11/2023

- Economic Development/ CRDC / EDA PPG
 - o BSTF
 - Stillwater County Industrial/Business Park Feasibility Study project received approval for extension from MT DOC; awaiting approval on sites from Stillwater County
 - USDA BHC RCDI Grant training continues with Tina Toyne
 - o USDA RLACF RCDI Grant- training and communication continues with Angela Getchell
 - o Next reporting period will include:
 - -USDA RCDI Quarter 2 reports (2)- will be submitted in July 2023
 - -CRDC Quarter 2 report- will be submitted in July 2023
 - -EDA Partnership Planning Grant report- questionnaire will be released soon
 - -BSTF Quarter report- will be submitted at the end of July 2023
 - Helping Hands Food Bank in Hardin- draft report has been created and submitted to DEQ;
 identified a petroleum release which will require DEQ to determine if it will lump into
 previous release or have it classified as a completely new one
 - Former Rocky Fork Inn site in Red Lodge- DEQ is currently selecting contractors to begin assessments on this site; three bids were due on 7/14/2023 to DEQ and they will select one shortly
 - Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment Grant- BRCD was selected for a \$460,000 brownfields grant award; work plan and budget have been submitted to EPA; waiting for official approval; attending EPA Brownfields conference in Detroit (August 8-11th)
 - EIG/EDA case study for Big Horn County- final report is complete and is available for distribution; proposed travel for participation at the IEDC event in Dallas on September 18th (EIG covers registration fee for whole conference, hotel, and airfare)
 - o MCF-MT Disaster Recovery Fund grant- majority of funds distributed; Myrna can give a better update on recipients and amounts awarded
 - DOC-Business Attraction attending monthly check-in meetings; Nan met with Jamie during the week of MEDA
 - EDA Economic Recovery Corps Program- applied to this program for additional capacity to address infrastructure needs throughout the region; technically didn't apply just yet, but I submitted a letter of interest which is the first step of the application process; if we are selected then we will have to apply more thoroughly soon after
 - o USDA Home Repair Workshop in Joliet on July 13th held at 3:30 PM (BRCD's office)
 - o Additional Clients that were worked with:

Yellowstone Horse & Mule in Stillwater County One Health in Big Horn County

Gregory Lloyd in Big Horn County

Red Lodge Fire Rescue Foundation- Sarah Ewald

Frequently Used Acronyms

BIA – Bureau of Indian Affairs

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

BRCD - Beartooth RC&D

BSEDA - Big Sky Economic Development Association

BSTF – Big Sky Trust Fund

CDBG - Community Development Block Grant

CRDC – Certified Regional Development Corporation

CEDS - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

CTEP – Community Transportation Endowment Program

EDA – Economic Development Administration

EDD – Economic Development District

ESRI – Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.

FADC- Food and Ag Development Center

GIS – Geographic Information Systems

GPS – Global Positioning System

GTA- Growth Through Ag Grant and Loan

HOME – Montana Home Investment Partnerships Program

HUD – US Department of Housing and Urban Development

IRP – Intermediary Relending Program

LESA – Land Evaluation Site Assessment

MBI – Montana Board of Investments

MDOA- Montana Department of Agriculture

MDOC – Montana Department of Commerce

MDOL – Montana Dept. of Labor

MDOT – Montana Dept. of Transportation

MDFWP – Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

MEDA – Montana Economic Developers Association

MMEC- Montana Manufacturing Extension Center

NADO – National Association of Development Organizations

NCOC - National Carbon Offset Coalition

NHS – Neighborhood Housing Services

NRCS - Natural Resource Conservation Service

RBDG – Rural Business Development Grant

RC&D – Resource Conservation & Development

RCDI – Rural Community Development Initiative

RD – Rural Development (a division of USDA)

RCPP- Regional Conservation Partnership Program

RLF – Revolving Loan Fund

RMAP- Rural Micro entrepreneur Assistance Program

SBA – Small Business Administration

SBDC – Small business Development Center

TIFD – Tax Increment Finance District

TSEP - Treasure State Endowment Program

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

USFS - United States Forest Service

LSL- Lead Service Lines

Revolving Loan Fund Books- June 2023

Loan Client Review

County	# of loans	\$ Loaned out
Big Horn	2	\$179,141.23
Stillwater	1	\$146,389.89
Yellowstone	11	\$762,637.95
Carbon	3	\$223,589.35
Sweet Grass	<u>2</u>	<u>\$151,525.49</u>
Total:	19	\$1,463,283.91

- one RMAP approved and funded in Yellowstone county, Two more in the pipeline.
- Roberts Café funded with SSBCI, working on another for a start-up business.
- loan in Hardin will close in August.
- Looking at applying for another IRP in September with board approval.

Bank Balances as of June 30, 2023 Total available for lending

Bank of Joliet-RMAP	\$ 150,059.18		\$	150,059.18
\$300,000 (still waiting to be drawn down) Bank of Joliet – RMAP LOAN LOSS	\$ 10,645.87		\$	0.00
Bank of Joliet-CDBG	\$ 111,604.95		\$	46,604.95
Bank of Joliet- IRP	\$ 187,079.36		\$	147,079.36
Bank of Joliet-Fromberg	\$ 31,406.21		\$	31,406.21
FIB – SSBCI 2.0	\$ 148,618.00		<u>\$</u>	0.00
		Available:	\$	375.149.70

Beartooth 2023 Budget

2023 Income	2023	
	Budget	Actual
AG-FOOD AND AG CENTER	45,000	22,471
Specialty Crop Block	35,000	8,372
BOARD - EDA SPONSOR DUES	56,979	43,399
BOARD-INTEREST INCOME	400	-,
BOARD-FOUNDATION MONEY	3,300	3,641
RLF-STAFF REIMBURSE	15,000	
RLF-ORIG FEES	5,000	500
CRDC	71,000	49,505
EDA - GRANT	70,000	35,000
BSTF ADMIN \$	4,000	
RCDI (Big Horn)	2,500	2,863
RCDI (Red Lodge)	4,000	205
Pass- Through		35,599
	312,179	201,555
Expenses for 2023		
TOTAL STAFF EXPENSE	244,441	120,291
COMMUNICATIONS	7,000	3,692
EQUIPMENT & VEHICLE	6,000	2,696
CONTRACTUAL	25,000	90,664
SUPPLIES	7,000	1,814
TRAVEL	7,500	3,034
OTHER	11,500	11,707
EXPENSE TOTAL	308,441	233,898
Statement Ending: 0		-32,344

Statement Ending: 06/30/2023

Checking Account: \$76,085.17 Savings Account: \$65,073.30 Building Account: \$4,488.53

File Attachments for Item:

6. Council Workshop Minutes of July 11, 2023.

MINUTES CITY OF LAUREL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:33 p.m. on July 11, 2023.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

x Emelie Eaton	_x_ Heidi Sparks
x Michelle Mize	_x_ Richard Herr
x Casey Wheeler	x Irv Wilke
x Richard Klose	x Jodi Mackay

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant Lyndy Gurchiek, Ambulance Director

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Appointment of Anthony Contreraz, Dallas Contreraz, and Kaleigh Olson to the Laurel Emergency Medical Services.

Ambulance Director Gurcheik introduced Anthony Contreraz, Dallas Contreraz, and Kaleigh Olson to the Council.

2. Appointment of LuAnne Engh to the Tree Board for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026.

There was no discussion on the item.

Executive Review

Council Issues

3. American Legion Building Septic Tank Discussion

James O'Lexey, TLC Patriot Septic & Excavation, reviewed the attached materials. After inspecting the existing septic system, he felt the tank could be reused. This system is certified to remediate drain systems when conventional repairs are not an option.

It was questioned what has failed and how does this system fix it. It was clarified that this system is very dated. Septic systems are designed to last 30 years; this one was installed in the 1940s.

The drain field failed due to the build-up of a biomat. The sledgehammer system changes the biological processes within the system and helps create bacteria that consume the biomat. This system can be used in wastewater treatment plants to help reduce wastewater loading. The whole system is \$6,000. There is maintenance that goes with that cost to keep the system up and running.

It was questioned if Riverstone Health has approved this system. It was clarified that this system is considered an upgrade to an existing system. No permit or review is needed to complete the work. However, they have received a letter of no objection from the County.

It was questioned if this system could help with the issues the City has been dealing with at the Elm lift station. It was clarified that this is not the scope of today's discussion, but they had a few different ideas and would approach the City later.

It was questioned how long it would take to install the system. It was clarified that it would take approximately a day to install. They will also be back yearly to test and ensure everything works properly. Right now, they are out a few weeks before they would be able to get to it. The City would also receive an as-built after the completion of the project for its records. There will be a filter installed to help protect the drain field. They will also open up the top of the second side of the tank. He noted that the City will not want people driving over the top of this system and will need to ensure it is marked off to keep from damaging the equipment. Also, on the quote, there is a replacement of a transfer pipe included as well.

4. Lions Proposal Discussion

Paul Kober and Kenny Seymour, Lions Club, stated the Lions Club would like to take over managing the old Jaycee Hall. They briefly reviewed their attached proposal.

Park Board has reviewed this request. The only item they disagreed with was renaming the building to Lions Hall. They would prefer to change the building to Riverside Park Hall, managed by the Lions Club with their logo.

So far, the Lions Club has installed five new windows in the building at their own expense. Their goal is to have a community center that people can utilize.

It was questioned if the City rents out the space. It was clarified that it has rented out the space once.

The Lions would like to keep both rooms open to use. While there will be a small loss of income, all monies raised will be used within the community.

It was questioned if the bb gun club would continue shooting in the building. It was clarified that the Lions would take over the utilities within the building. Groups who do not pay will be asked to help pay those utility bills.

5. Special Event Insurance Requirements Discussion

Recently the special event permit process was substantially revised. Applicants have been running into barriers in being able to obtain insurance coverage. It is believed that applicants are asking their agents to up their entire general liability insurance and not obtaining the additional coverage needed via a special events policy. MMIA just announced they have a program offering special events coverage. For low-risk events, those increased insurance requirements have been waived.

The Civil Attorney will meet with a few applicants who do large events within the City to understand better the barriers they have faced. The City will focus on better educating what requirements are needed for applicants. They will also provide the information given by MMIA to applicants as well.

A Council Member noted that his grandson rented out the venue in August for \$300 and now needs expensive insurance. Their homeowner's insurance wouldn't cover the event. Thankfully the father-in-law was able to work something out and meet the requirements.

It was questioned if a caterer has insurance does that reduce the cost to the applicant. It was clarified that it could assist with the insurance requirements.

It was clarified that many wedding venues charge for what they do because of the liability issues involved.

Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All Council Members present plan to attend the next meeting.

Announcements

6. Employee Recognition July – December There was no discussion.

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.

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pumping your septic system is virtually eliminated biomat that clogs the soil. The digestion is so complete that the need for aggressive bacteria migrate into the septic field where they consume the Blend of micro-organisms immediately begin digesting wastes. The septic tank. Once the SludgeHammer® is installed, the SludgeHammer® stimulates the growth of a specialized and helpful bacteria right in your Enter the SludgeHammer®, a patented Aerobic Bacterial Generator that

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- Environmentally safe
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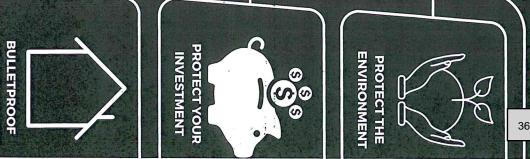
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- Soft spots on lawn
- Sewage leaking out of drain field
- Sewage backing up into pumping of septic tank home despite regular
- Slow-flushing or gurgling toilets and drains
- A sewer odor in house or on property

COMMENT

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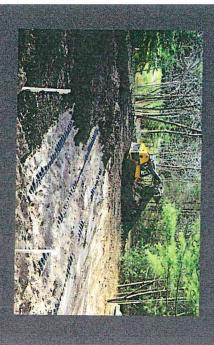
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WHEN A DRAIN FIELD IS FAILING YOU CAN DO THIS...



COST: \$5,000+

(Not including re-landscaping)

OR YOU CAN DO THIS...



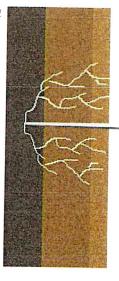
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Drain Field Rejuvenation utilizes a long, narrow probe and an integral pneumatic hammer to penetrate the soil at depths of 3 to 6 feet.



The probe forces air into the soil at a controlled rate creating hairline fractures in the drain field below the ground surface.



Since air tends to follow the path of least resistance, the air will move horizontally and vertically through the soil creating an aerobic condition that facilitates proper draining and rejuvenates the soil.

COST: \$2,800

(And you get to keep your lawn!)

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- **HUGE Cost Savings**
- No Chemicals
- Minimal Disruption to Lawn/Landscaping
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- Immediate Results
- 1-Year Warranty







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Our process is simple:

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- The perfect process to clean sites contaminated by petrochemicals.
- Work is done on-site. No cost needed to move soil off-site.
- The process is biological. There is no need to bake the soil, so no contaminates are released into the air.
- A faster remediation process and less heavy equipment means a smaller footprint and an economical solution.
- No separate workspace needed. A great solution for hard to access sites.
- No chemicals involved.
- Cleans volatile and non-volatile sites.
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- Easily adapted for large or small projects.

And: SludgeHammer has over 20 years of experience in biological waste disposal.

Case studies: The power of the bugs.







MEXICO OIL CLEAN-UP

An oil company in Mexico needed to clean up an extensive 40-acre (15.3 hectare) site contaminated with 80-year old tar-like crude oil. No equipment could be used because the site had oil pipelines buried throughout the region. With simple equipment and our versatile, powerful bacterial blend, the soil was turned from black muck to high quality topsoil.





CAMP PENDLETON

When the Marines found a leaking underground fuel tank behind their First Force Recon barracks they needed technology as tough as they are to do the clean-up. With the San Diego health department looking over our shoulders we completed the project in just six weeks.

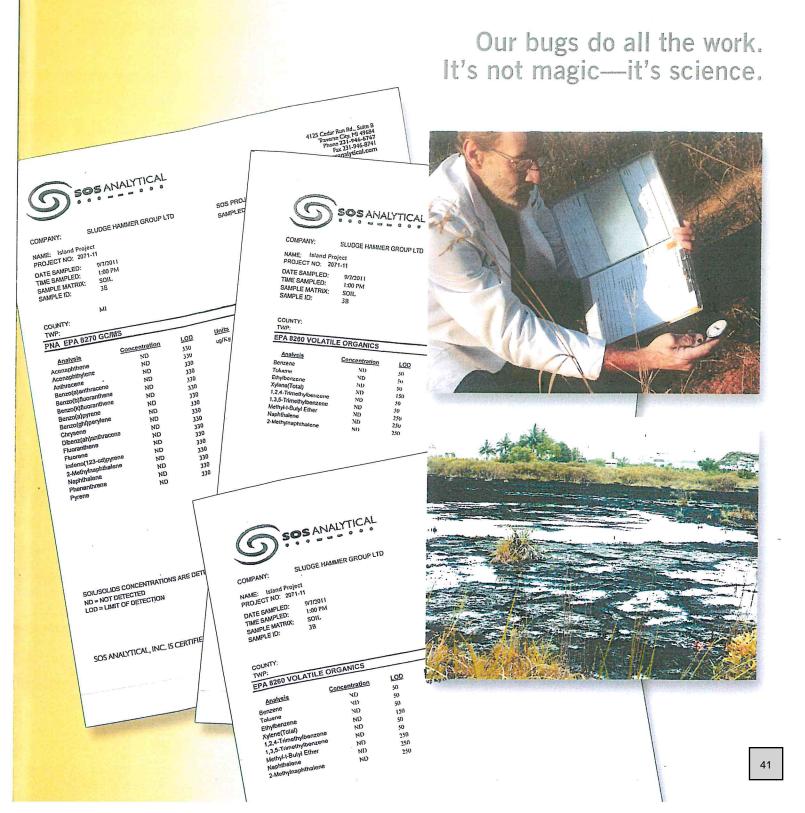


HONOLULU

Waterpark Towers was ready to build its long awaited second tower but the expansion site was right on an old, contaminated landfill. With our technology it only took about a month to get the contamination down to non-detectable and the client was able to expand their development.

Bio•re•me•di•a•tion (bî'ō-rǐ-mê'dē-ā'shən) -noun
is the process in which living organisms are used to decontaminate polluted systems.

Simple by definition, bioremediation can be a complex process. It works only if you have the knowledge and skills to create a soil environment that allows bacteria to flourish and consume the contaminants you need to eliminate. It depends on the right bacteria with the right appetite in a high enough concentration to consume any and all organic compounds. And it requires experience and the know-how to do it right. The SludgeHammer process generates huge amounts of bacteria that feed on contaminants turning them into harmless compounds. SludgeHammer Activated Bioremediation is a quick and efficient process that can work on any site, small or large, and provides the best solution for soil remediation.





SludgeHammer®

nature called. we answered.

Mission

The mission of SludgeHammer Group, Ltd. is to help solve the world's wastewater treatment and reuse problems by providing safe, environmentally appropriate, efficient and effective microbial biotechnology for residential, community, industrial and marine use.

History

Dr. Dan Wickham, a Ph.D. in biology, worked for many years detoxifying petroleum contaminated soil with the use of micro-organisms. In order to bring the same technology into wastewater treatment, he used his decades of experience as a research ecologist at the University of California to guide the introduction of applied microbiology to the industry. He experimented with blends of microbes and tried them out in a variety of circulating containers. Eventually he developed his break-through concept, the Aerobic Bacterial Generator (ABG), and opened the pathway to apply advanced biotechnology to wastewater treatment in a simple and economic fashion.

The SludgeHammer Difference

Over the last decade, our patented SludgeHammer technology has revolutionized wastewater treatment by providing a highly effective, all natural, non-toxic solution to the challenges of failed existing septic systems and the design and development of new systems in unique environments. We design and manufacture our patented SludgeHammer systems to the highest quality standards. Our safe, reliable systems have been installed in residential, commercial, industrial and marine environments to satisfied customers around the world.



commercial & industrial



communities



residential



1.800.426.3349 SludgeHammer.net



7. Budget/Finance Committee Minutes of July 11, 2023.

Minutes of City of Laurel Budget/Finance Committee Tuesday, July 11, 2023

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

Others Present: Kelly Strecker, Mayor David 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 approved June 27, 2023, Budget and Finance Committee meeting minutes. Emelie Eaton moved to approve the minutes of June 27, 2023. Heidi Sparks 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 July 7, 2023. Richard Klose moved to approve the claims and check the register for claims entered through July 7, 2023. Heidi Sparks seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.
- **4.** Review and approve the June 2023 Utility Billing Adjustments, Emelie Eaton moved to approve the June 2023 Utility Billing Adjustments. Michelle Mize seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.
- 5. Review and approve Payroll Register for the pay period ending June 25, 2023, totaling \$186,247.55. Heidi Sparks motioned to approve the payroll register for the pay period ending June 25, 2023, totaling \$186,247.55. Heidi Sparks seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.

New Business -None

Old Business – Richard Klose was able to get a quote in the amount of \$325.00 from Dynamic Design, for the new sign on the kiosk at the cemetery. Richard Klose stated that the sign would be a large map of the cemetery.

Other Items -

- 1. Review Comp/OT reports for the pay period ending June 25, 2023.
- 2. Mayor Update The Mayor stated that there would be a council workshop, followed by a council meeting tonight. Mayor said that he and Matt are going to meet with MRL on Wednesday July 12th to determine how much more space MRL would need at Riverside Park. He stated that MRL needs a little more space than anticipated for the storage of their garbage cans. There will be an additional charge for the extra space. Mayor said that the train derailment project will probably take a little longer than what was anticipated to begin with. Mayor also explained that there will be a discussion about the fireworks on the 4th of July. There seems to be a few liability issues. City Attorney Michele is working on getting a committee together to discuss prior to next year.
- 3. Clerk/Treasurer Financial Update-Kelly stated that she has been working on the FY23/24 budget. She stated that she will have a conference call with Clear Gov. to get the new budget program up and running. Kelly said that union 316 negotiations have been completed and are waiting for the union to ratify, and it will soon be coming to council for approval.

Announcements -

- 4. The next Budget and Finance Committee meeting will be held on July 25, 2023, at 5:30 pm.
- 5. Heidi Sparks is scheduled to review claims for the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:14 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.

8. Public Works Committee Minutes of June 19, 2023.



MINUTES CITY OF LAUREL PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023

The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00pm on Monday, June 19, 2023, by Committee Vice- Chair, Irv Wilke. No quorum present.

Members Present: Irv Wilke- Vice-Chair, Jodi Mackay, Aron Kostelecky

Others Present: Matt Wheeler- Public Works Director

Public Input:

General Items

New Business

Old Business:

Other Items

Announcements

Next Meeting will be Monday, July 17, 2023, at 6:00pm in Council Chambers

9. Appointment of Mardie Spalinger to Laurel Urban Renewal Agency Advisory Board for the remainder of a four-year term ending December 31, 2023.

From: MARDIE SPALINGER

To: <u>City Mayor</u>
Cc: <u>Brittney Moorman</u>

Subject: LURA Advisory Board Vacancy
Date: Saturday, July 8, 2023 10:08:41 AM

Importance: High

To whom it may concern:

Regarding Linda Frickels resignation from the Lura Advisory Board, I would like to volunteer for the opening. I was a member of the voting board in the past, however, I had to resign due to health problems. Since then my health has improved and I'm ready to volunteer once again.

Thank you,

Mardie Spalinger

10. Resolution No. R23-45: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The First Amendment To Right Of Entry And Use Agreement By And Between The City Of Laurel And Montana Rail Link, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. R23-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO RIGHT OF ENTRY AND USE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF LAUREL AND MONTANA RAIL LINK, INC.

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

Section 1: <u>Approval</u>. The First Amendment to Right of Entry and Use Agreement by and between the City of Laurel and Montana Rail Link, Inc., a copy attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2: <u>Execution</u>. The Mayor is hereby given authority to execute the First Amendment to Right of Entry and Use Agreement by and between the City of Laurel and Montana Rail Link, Inc., on behalf of the City.

Council Member	City Council on the 25 th day of July, 2023, by
PASSED and APPROVED by the City July, 2023.	y Council of the City of Laurel the 25th day of
APPROVED by the Mayor the 25th day	of July, 2023.
	CITY OF LAUREL
	Dave Waggoner, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer	
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney	

RIGHT OF ENTRY AND USE AGREEMENT

—DS ≉M

This Right of Entry for Access to Property and Use Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into this <u>3rd</u> day of <u>June</u>, 2023 by and between Montana Rail Link, Inc. ("MRL") and the City of Laurel (collectively, "CITY").

WHEREAS, CITY is the owner of certain real property, commonly referred to as Riverside Park, located in Laurel, Montana and more particularly described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Property");

WHEREAS, MRL desires access to and use of a portion of the Property, including the use of CITY's boat ramp, as part of MRL's response and restoration efforts related to a recent derailment which occurred on MRL-controlled track in Reed Point, Montana; and

WHEREAS, CITY desires to grant MRL access and use of the Property in accordance with the terms and conditions contained herein.

Now Therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, MRL and CITY agree as follows:

I. Term & Renewal

CITY agrees, commencing June 30, 2023 ("Effective Date"), to grant MRL and its contractor(s) access to the Property for use in staging equipment or materials and to use CITY's boat ramp ("Boat Ramp") to launch a jet boat or other river equipment, as part of MRL's response and restoration efforts related to a recent derailment ("Derailment") which occurred on MRL-controlled track in Reed Point, Montana. The term of this Agreement shall be from the Effective Date until at least August 31, 2023, unless MRL notifies CITY in writing that it no longer requires use of the Property prior to such date. This Agreement may be extended or renewed provided that both MRL and CITY agree to such an extension or renewal in writing.

II. Fee

MRL shall tender payment to CITY in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per day that MRL occupies the Property. MRL shall tender payment to CITY, in an amount corresponding to the current accumulated per-day fee, on a monthly basis, until the expiration of the term of this Agreement.

III. Use of the Property

MRL and its contractor(s) shall be entitled to use the Property and Boat Ramp, subject to all applicable laws, rules and regulations, for any purpose related to MRL's response and restoration efforts related to the Derailment, including staging equipment or launching boat(s) or other response-related equipment into the Yellowstone River, as part of such efforts. MRL shall have access to the Property on a 24-hour per day, seven-day per week basis. CITY reserves the right to ensure that MRL is using the Property in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. CITY agrees that during the term of this Agreement it shall not interfere with nor obstruct the operations of MRL or its contractors on the Property. MRL agrees upon the expiration of the term of this Agreement, all MRL personal property, and its contractors'

personal property, will be removed from the Property.

CITY agrees to supply electrical service and garbage disposal services, for MRL's use for the duration of its occupation of the Property.

IV. Indemnification

MRL hereby agrees that it shall be responsible for its and its contractors' activity on the Property during the term of this Agreement. Furthermore, MRL shall indemnify, defend and hold CITY, its successors, assigns, shareholders and insurers harmless from any and all claims, losses, demands, costs (including attorneys' fees) and judgments (collectively, "Claims") which arise out of or relate to MRL's use or occupation of the Property. Claims shall include any alleged violations of environmental laws, rules or regulations and MRL shall comply with any cleanup or remedial order issued by any governmental agency as it relates to Claims arising out of MRL's use or occupation of the Property.

V. Insurance

MRL shall provide a letter of self insurance or proof of the following insurance to CITY:

Type of Insurance	Limits of Liability
Railroad Liability – Personal Injury/Property Damage	\$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence; \$2,000,000 aggregate
Automobile Liability —Bodily Injury And Property Damage	\$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence -Hired car, owned and non-owned autos

A signed letter of self insurance or Certificate or Certificates of Insurance shall be furnished to CITY evidencing the above insurance.

In addition, MRL shall ensure that all of its subcontractors and agents who enter upon the property are properly insured for their respective activities.

VI. Restoration of Property

MRL, upon termination of its right to access and use the Property, through this Agreement, shall restore the Property to a substantially-similar condition as it was found on the Effective Date.

VII. Miscellaneous

A. Entire Agreement

CITY and MRL acknowledge that this Agreement contains the entire agreement between them regarding access to and use of the Property.

B. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the state of Montana.

C. Confidentiality

CITY acknowledges and agrees that any and all information developed, disclosed or otherwise discovered by CITY during the negotiation of any agreements and execution of any tasks on CITY's property by MRL shall remain confidential. CITY shall not disclose or otherwise disseminate any information, including any drawings, schematics, plans, designs, or any terms of compensation or reimbursement, developed during the negotiation of any agreements and/or execution of any tasks related to MRL's activity on CITY's property, unless such disclosure or dissemination is authorized in writing by MRL or compelled by a court of competent jurisdiction.

D. Counterparts

MONTANA RAIL LINK, INC.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and transmitted via electronic mail or facsimile. Such counterparts, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same original instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, MRL and CITY have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

[Signatures to follow]

CITY OF LAUREL

("MRL")	("CITY")
DocuSigned by:	
By: Heathur Mettern	By: Waggan
F7C55C5B1A9C498	1
Its: Vice President Finance & Accounting	Name: David Wagamer
	Title: Mayor
	man will the alex
	ATTEST: ALL MICHIN



FIRST AMENDMENT TO RIGHT OF ENTRY AND USE AGREEMENT

,	This First Ameno	lment to Right of Entry and Use Agreement ("Amendment") is entered
into this	s day of	, 2023, by and between Montana Rail Link, Inc.
("MRL"	') and the City of	f Laurel ("CITY").

WHEREAS, MRL and CITY entered into contract number MRLC23-115 on or around July 3, 2023 (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, MRL and CITY desire to amend the Agreement according to the terms and conditions contained in this Amendment.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, MRL and CITY agree as follows:

- 1. MRL and CITY acknowledge and agree that on or around July 11, 2023, MRL requested CITY permission to access and use an additional portion of CITY property within Riverside Park, more particularly described in Exhibit B attached hereto (the "Additional Property"), as part of MRL's response and restoration efforts related to a Derailment (defined in the Agreement).
- **2.** CITY agrees, commencing July 12, 2023, to grant MRL and its contractor(s) access to the Additional Property, subject to all terms and conditions of the Agreement. CITY further agrees to allow MRL to stage lined roll-off waste bins within the Additional Property area.
- **3.** Effective July 12, 2023, the Additional Property shall be considered part of the Property defined in the Agreement.
- **4.** Section II of the Agreement shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following language. MRL and CITY acknowledge and agree that the replacement language herein reflects an increase in the per-day fee due to the CITY for MRL's occupation of the Property.

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II. Fee

MRL shall tender payment to CITY in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per day for each day that MRL and/or its consultants, contractors, or invitees occupy the Property, for MRL's use of the Property from June 30, 2023 through July 11, 2023.

Effective July 12, 2023, MRL shall tender payment to CITY in the amount of One Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$1,300.00) per day for each day that MRL and/or its consultants, contractors, or invitees occupy the Property.

MRL shall tender payment to CITY, in an amount corresponding to the current accumulated per-day fee, on a monthly basis, until the expiration of the term of this Agreement.

5. All other terms and conditions contained in the Agreement not modified by this Amendment shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

[Signatures to follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, MRL and CITY have caused this Amendment to be executed as of the day and year first written above.

MONTANA RAIL LINK, INC.	CITY OF LAUREL	
("MRL")	("CITY")	
By:	Ву:	
Its: Vice President of Finance & Accounting	Its:	

11. Resolution No. R23-46: A Resolution Of The City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Lease Agreement With The Laurel Lions Club For The Riverside Hall Located At Riverside Park.

RESOLUTION NO. R23-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE LAUREL LIONS CLUB FOR THE RIVERSIDE HALL LOCATED AT RIVERSIDE PARK.

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel owns and operates the Riverside Hall at Riverside Park, Laurel, MT;

WHEREAS, the Laurel Lions Club is interested in leasing the Riverside Hall at Riverside Park;

WHEREAS, it has been determined by City Staff that it is in the best interests of the City to enter into a Lease Agreement by and between the City of Laurel and the Laurel Lions Club for the lease of the Riverside Hall at Riverside Park;

WHEREAS, the Civil City Attorney will draft a Lease Agreement memorializing the terms and conditions of the lease between the City and the Laurel Lions Club and such lease will be provided to the Mayor for his execution on behalf of the City of Laurel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, that the Mayor is authorized to sign a Lease Agreement for the Riverside Hall located at Riverside Park by and between the City and the Laurel Lions Club.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 25th day of July, 2023, by

Council Member	
PASSED and APPROVED by the City Co July, 2023.	ouncil of the City of Laurel the 25th day of
APPROVED by the Mayor the 25th day of J	July, 2023.
	CITY OF LAUREL
	Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:
Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer
APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney