

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING**

**August 13, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**City Hall**



**CITY OF MILLS**  
EST. 1921

**Mayor:**  
Leah Juarez  
**Council President:**  
Sara McCarthy  
**Council Members:**  
Cherie Butcher  
Brad Neumiller  
Tim Sutherland

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**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Mayor Juarez  
President McCarthy  
Council Butcher  
Council Neumiller  
Council Sutherland

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor closed the Council Meeting at 7:02pm

Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 7:02pm

1. The Oregon Trail Liquor License Transfer

Mayor Juarez declared the Public Hearing open for consideration of the Liquor License transfer from D's Oregon Trail Bar to Klaus W. Conrad Jr. DBA The Oregon Trail Bar. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with state statute, Mills Council Procedures and other applicable laws. The hearing has been set and advertised in accordance with the statutes. The Mayor asked those individuals who wish to address council on this issue to approach the lectern and state your name and for the record. The Mayor asked if we had a report from the staff on this item. The City Clerk stated that The Oregon Trail Bar is compliant with both the city and Wyoming Liquor Division. The Mayor asked three times if there was anyone in the audience who wishes to speak in favor of this item. No one came forward. The Mayor asked three times if there was anyone in the audience who wishes to speak in opposition of this item. No one came forward. There being no others to speak for or against this item, The Mayor declared the public hearing closed at 7:06pm.

Mayor re-opened the Regular Council Meeting at 7:06pm

**CONSENT AGENDA Brad Tim**

**Minutes**

2. Council Meeting Minutes 7-23-24

**City Licenses**

### 3. New and Renewal Business and Contractors Licenses

#### **Financial Approvals**

4. Treasurer's Report
5. Investment Accounts
6. Court Income
7. Financial Breakdown
8. Transmittal Transactions
9. Payroll Regular/Police 7-15-24 to 7-28-24
10. Payroll Fire 7-18-24 to 7-29-24
11. Payroll Regular/Police 7-29-24 to 8-11-24
12. Voided Checks

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller to approve, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland.

Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Harold Wahl – 522 Midwest Ave – Mr. Wahl came to council to complain about the dogs barking in his neighborhood. He said the dogs are barking all night long and wanted to know if we have a noise ordinance that would cover dog barking. He said he had called the police department over the weekend, they came out Sunday and took a report. He was unaware of how many dogs you could have in city limits. The Council confirmed you could have 5 animals total. He asked if we could change the ordinance to less dogs, 5 dogs is too many. The Mayor told Mr. Wahl we would look into how many dogs his neighbor has and we will also look into the current ordinance. President McCarthy asked the Police Chief about after hours barking. Chief responded that the dogs barking would be a breach of peace. The Mayor assured Mr. Wahl that we would look into the situation. In the meantime we would have officers put a little more emphasis on his area.

Scott Clamp – 720 Wasatch – Mr. Clamp asked about allowing business licenses to be renewed on a 3-5 year basis instead of 1 year. If a business leaves before the 5 years is up, the city could keep the money. The Mayor informed Mr. Clamp that the business licenses are free, the fire inspection is not free. Mr. Clamp recalls having to pay for his business license before the fire inspection was completed. The Mayor said Mr. Clamp was correct, but now with this council, the business license is free and we charge for the fire inspection. If you run a business and you are a fire hazard, the city needs to keep an eye on all hazards and make sure fire inspections are completed. Mr. Clamp explained that his business does not have foot traffic, they just sell stuff. He asked if there was any way to stretch the self-inspections from 1 to several years. President McCarthy responded that things tend to change within a year, our fire inspections need to be every year so we can make sure the public is safe. The Mayor explained to Mr. Clamp that we allowed a lawn company to store flammable fuels and mulch and no one checked on it in 3 years because they don't view that as flammable or hazardous.

Jim Sullivan – 5585 Poison Spider – Mr. Sullivan currently owns Sullivan Trucking at 5585 Poison Spider and is opening a new company Wyoming Tree Service. When he dropped the application off, the office wanted him to pay \$45, but he had already had a self-assessment fire inspection completed for his trucking company. The Mayor started by saying she was happy this came up and it helps us to better understand the situation and that the

Fire Chief addressed the issue and feels the same way, Mr. Sullivan should not have to pay twice. Both businesses are established under the same roof. It would be 1 application but the 2 businesses and 1 self-assessment fire inspection. She told Mr. Sullivan that he is correct and that we agree, the fire chief agrees and he does not need to pay the additional \$45. The Mayor told Mr. Sullivan she really appreciate him coming forward with his concern. Mr. Sullivan requests that the council approves his business application. The Mayor responded, that we already approved it.

The Mayor asked the City Clerk to make sure that the license gets completed.

John Gudger – 827 Fossil Butte – Wanted to know if the city could simplify a couple of things regarding the application process. Mr. Gudger had concerns about the Home Occupation Permit application and requested that the city provides clear documentation attached to the application. He was concerned about where to find the documentation for Home Occupation Permits. He asked that the city provide an easy search link on the website. He said there has been some confusion about whether there is a fee or not. His understanding is that there is an administration fee of \$25 or \$45, he would like it to be clarified that the fee is a separation from an inspection from the fire marshal. He said he had talked to the fire marshal and he does not need an inspection because he is not open to the public. Mr. Gudger also expressed concern about the front office and the information that is given is inconsistent. He questioned businesses and vendors at Summerfest and the Art Walk. Questioned if those businesses abide by the same rules. Stated that it should be clarified. He said there are concerns of unfair practices in regards to vendor events. President McCarthy asked Mr. Gudger to clarify his vendor question and their concerns. Mr. Gudger responded that there is confusion about vendors having to pay a fee and the requirements are not easily findable. Asked if Summerfest or Art Festival vendors have to pay or provide the same application to the city. President McCarthy responded that yes, the vendors do pay a fee for each festival and there is a form that they have to complete. Mr. Gudger continued on to ask the council, until things are clarified, a friend of his had been threatened that they would be blacklisted on Facebook. The Mayor explained that we identify businesses which are different than home occupancy as being non-compliant with the fire inspections. We feel the public deserves to know which businesses have not either passed or fulfilled their fire inspection requirements. Mr. Gudger said his friend's business doesn't even expire until next month and was concerned why she was threatened with that. The Mayor responded that she is sorry if anyone has made that statement to her but that she has spoken to his friend and they are trying to figure out where she falls in this category and to better define where her home occupancy belongs. We are trying to clarify who needs a fire inspection and who doesn't. We don't think that she does need one. Mr. Gudger's last request is in the future if you can just educate those who speak to the public, they shouldn't encourage or say they are going to put them on Facebook and blacklist them unless the information is presented to them on how they can deal with and adequately comply with the city requirements. The Mayor told Mr. Gudger that everything in the front office is recorded on cameras. Wherever there is a claim we can pull the footage and hold that individual responsible. She would not ever encourage any of the staff here to say or make claim of that sort that is very serious and not taken lightheartedly. The Mayor also assured Mr. Gudger that we are working with the front office to better equip them to help ask the right questions so we can give the right paperwork. In this situation the confusion was more on our staff then the resident. Overall this situation opened up a lot of unknowns and a grand issue that we are working through to correct. Mr. Gudger kindly asks that the front office refrains from threatening or putting them on a non-compliance if they are trying to comply. The Mayor agreed.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **13. ORDINANCE 816 - THIRD AND FINAL READING**

#### **ORDINANCE REGARDING INTERFERENCE WITH EMERGENCY CALLS OR EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM**

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller to approve, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Sutherland

**14. ORDINANCE 817 THIRD AND FINAL READING**

ORDINANCE REGARDING CRIMINAL ENTRY

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller to approve, Seconded by Council President McCarthy.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller,  
Council Member Sutherland

**15. RESOLUTION NO 2024-30 - SETTING MUNICIPAL SALARIES**

A RESOLUTION SETTING MUNICIPAL SALARIES

Motion made by Council Member Butcher to approve, Seconded by Council Member Neumiller.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller,  
Council Member Sutherland

**16. RESOLUTION NO 2024-31**

HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT SIGNATORIES

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller to approve, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller,  
Council Member Sutherland

**17. RESOLUTION NO 2024-32**

HOME BUSINESS OCCUPATION PERMIT FEES

Motion made by Council President McCarthy to approve, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller,  
Council Member Sutherland

**COUNCIL APPROVALS**

18. Bayou Liquors Catering Permit #7 8-17-24

Motion made by Council Member Sutherland to approve, Seconded by Council Member Neumiller.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Neumiller,  
Council Member Sutherland

**NEW BUSINESS**

19. Patrick Sweeney - Senior Citizen Mills Levy

Patrick Sweeney turned the floor over to Amy, the director of the senior center.

Amy wanted to address council about the proposed County Senior Service Citizen Service District will be on the primary ballot next week on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The item will be whether to establish or not to establish a district. Amy detailed the difficulties we will have is the district is not established. Currently they have been living on reserves for the past 6 years. Should it be established there would be 5 board members that will oversee the district. They will be voted by the public.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Sutherland as for a motion to adjourn Council Meeting at 7:27pm. Seconded by Council President McCarthy.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

**AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

**NEXT MEETING** - August 27, 2024 at 7:00pm / September 10, 2024 at 7:00pm

**NEXT WORK SESSION** - August 27, 2024 at 6:00pm / September 9, 2024 at 9:00am

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation in order to attend or participate in this meeting should contact City Hall at 307-234-6679 within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to request such assistance.



Mayor, Leah Juarez



City Clerk, Sarah Osborn

