

APPROVED MINUTES

The City Council held Council Meeting # 1595 on Monday, December 20, 2021, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Peggy Williams.

The pledge of Allegiance was completed, Prayer let by Marcus Girod, and Roll Call commenced. Present were Mayor Peggy Williams, Councilors Gary Beach, Rob Dufficy, Zachariah McNew, Kristin Smith, Hugh Taylor, Brian Zimmerman, City Administrator Sam Sikes and Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold.

Mayor Williams welcomed all present.

Approve City Council Minutes #1594 and Public Hearing Minutes dated Monday, December 6, 2021.

Councilor Dufficy **MADE A MOTION** to approve, and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Dufficy, McNew, Smith, Taylor, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**. Councilor Taylor recused voting on the Public Hearing Minutes due to being absent.

MOTION PASSED.

Announcements: None

Committee Reports:

City Administrator: Administrator Sikes announced that Travis Breiland has been hired to become a City Service Worker. Sikes reported a major water leak between Reese Court and the houses on Bowen Hill. All water was shut off from the Water Plant to that area for 2 hours while the leak was being fixed. Flathead Electric was called in to utilize a crane to save a power pole from toppling while the City Service Workers dug down to repair the leak. The leak was fixed by replacing the water lines and valves. Sikes stated the City is in need of a mini tractor to address similar issues and funds are available under the Capital Improvement Plan to purchase one.

Ordinances: Councilor Smith reported a recent Ordinance Committee meeting was held to discuss adult use marijuana. The Committee will be coming forward with a request to submit a Resolution in front of the City Council for the County to adopt taxation.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

D.C. Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave, Informed the Council his court case was over, and he would be requesting a criminal investigation against the administration of the City of Libby about theft of his trailer, campaign sign, and property from his railroad lease near the easement request on City Service Road.

Gail Burger, 302 California Ave., inquired about receiving an updated letter of support from the City Council for the Historic Hotel Libby Rehabilitation Project in preparation for upcoming grant applications.

Matt Skranak, 403 Mineral Ave., was concerned about a misconception in an article written regarding storage of the Christmas wreaths. Skranak wished to inform the Council the wreaths needed to be stored in another location due to a lack of storage space at Managhan's Furniture. Skranak expressed to the Council how community driven his family is and that Managhan's Furniture would assist in any way possible with the effort needed in putting up and taking down the wreaths for the City's enjoyment.

Dave Kemmerer, 124 Pioneer, enquired about Pioneer Park's upkeep. Mayor Williams informed him that Pioneer Park was the County's responsibility, not the City's.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Approval of the Resolution 1997 updated fee for Alcohol Licenses.

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve, Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Dufficy, McNew, Smith, Taylor, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all business licensed received to date:

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve businesses for Green Diamond Resource Company, Lincoln and Beyond Moving Labor, LLC., and Massage Muse of Montana and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Dufficy, McNew, Taylor, Smith, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**.

MOTION PASSED.

Unfinished Business:

IP negotiations: Mayor Williams informed Council an email was sent to Allen Payne to receive an update but no response was received.

Public Comments:

D.C. Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., commented he has been urging the Council to pursue legal help in obtaining the IP money.

Noble Investments request for easement: Mayor Williams indicated that the Council is awaiting a revision to the agreement as well as the construction of exhibit A, which should be ready for the Council meeting on January 3rd.

Public Comments:

Dave Kemmerer, 124 Pioneer, expressed concern over the road's construction and stated he would like to speak with Noble about his concerns.

Randy Remp, 294 Kootenai Views Dr., advised the Council the easement is 40 feet long, not 60, and he was present to represent the first four residences near the easement request. Remp and three of his neighbors are opposed to the easement being granted.

D.C. Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., stated he was going to request a criminal investigation into the theft of his property in the Noble easement area. Attorney Chisholm asked if Orr's comment was germane to the discussion of the Noble easement. Orr was concerned the Noble easement would restrict access to his railroad lease property. Attorney Chisholm informed him there was nothing in the easement agreement that would restrict access to property.

General Comments from the Council:

Mayor William announced this would be Councilor Dufficy's last meeting and said goodbye to him and thanked him for his service.

Councilor Dufficy gave an exit speech and thanked the Council for the camaraderie over the last 4 years and wished everyone Merry Christmas.

Councilor Taylor announced a letter was received from Fish Wildlife and Parks they will begin trapping at the end of December thru the end of February for CWD.

Councilor McNew stated he had read an article about Town Pump installing charging stations for electric vehicles and was wondering if the City could peruse something like that as well. Mayor Williams responded that Flathead Electric is installing charging stations around Northwest Montana, one at Fireman's Park.

Adjournment:

Councilor Dufficy **MADE A Motion** to adjourn and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Beach, Dufficy, McNew, Taylor, Smith, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**
MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:31 PM.

Mayor Peggy Williams

Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold