

APPROVED MINUTES

The City Council held Council Meeting # 1602 on Monday, April 4, 2022, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Mayor Peggy Williams.

The Pledge of Allegiance was completed, Prayer was led by Chris Wolfe, and Roll Call commenced. Present were Mayor Peggy Williams, Councilors Gary Beach, Melissa Berke, Zachariah McNew, Kristin Smith, City Administrator Sam Sikes, Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold, (via Zoom) Councilor Hugh Taylor, and Attorney Dean Chisholm.

Mayor Williams welcomed all present.

Swearing in of new Police Officer Joshua Brabo.

Announcements: Mayor Williams received 3 donation checks towards playground equipment at Fireman's park. \$15,000 from Rotary, \$5,000 from Bruce Weatherby of Sherpa Trailers, and \$5,000 from Master Touch Electric, Inc. Total availability is now \$100,000.

Two sealed bids were opened for the Auxiliary Bar Screen project at Wastewater. Dick Anderson Construction's total bid was \$1,382,000.00 and Thompson Contracting's total bid was \$694,000.00. The engineers' opinion of total construction cost was \$585,000.00. Thompson Contracting has been chosen and all information and credentials that are needed are being checked for the project. Due to supply issues, the project is scheduled for completion in March of 2023.

Committee Reports:

Administrator: Administrator Sikes reported the Streets Department has been picking up limbs from trees that were pruned by volunteers and Streets crew have been trimming up Fireman's Park, Cemetery, and Fred Brown Pavilion. Streets Department are patching potholes from the winter and two mandatory paving jobs, along the highway, have been planned for the current year.

One application was received for Seasonal Worker and have extended the deadline to try to get a second person.

Administrator Sikes presented a letter to Council about Cabinet Heights Water Service stating after consulting with engineers a moratorium has been put in place for any new water service connections serviced by the Cabinet Heights Water System until the dimension of the main water line has been increased from 6" to 10" to allow correct water pressure for health and safety. The City will be using ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) monies to secure additional grants for replacement of lines. Currently, the City pays \$2500 annually to the Fire Department to maintain two tanker trucks for required structural fire suppression. Mr. Sikes explained matching grant monies will only allow for adequate line dimension increase and cannot be used to increase the size for possible future growth and currently Chapman, Teri Noble, and new Club House once they seal off existing line, have been authorized to connect. Until the water line dimension is increased no other homes can connect. Council discussed the water connection issues for Cabinet Heights area.

Fire: Councilor Zimmerman reported LVF responded to 4 calls in the month of March. 3 calls in the City, 1 Call in the Rural Fire District, of those calls, 1 Mutual Aid and 3 False Alarms, for a total of 22 calls in 2022.

Police: Chief Kessel reported for the month of March 319 calls for service. That included 17 animal complaints, 8 drug and alcohol arrests, 36 violent crimes, 21 property crimes, and 94 traffic stops. Chief Kessel announced Officer Brabo starts the Police Academy April 18th thru July 13th, going to field training and be on the road early fall.

Zoning/Planning: Councilor Smith reported a meeting was held the previous Monday with a little bit of an update from our consultant with Land Solution on Growth Policy and is waiting for the website to start up for Growth Policy. Zoning Commission reviewed changes to zoning districts to allow for Adult-Use Marijuana business licenses.

Cemetery/Parks: Councilor McNew reported meeting the previous week and a design was finalized for playground equipment in Fireman's Park. Playground equipment has been ordered and the ground base is engineered wood fiber total cost is \$75,000 with a remaining \$25,000 to add to the design.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Approve Resolution #2000 – Designate the Environmental Certifying Official for Wastewater Project:

Mayor Williams read the resolution.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve Resolution #2000, and Councilor Zimmerman **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all claims received to date:

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve all claims received to date, and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all business license applications received to date:

AMC Phelps Inc. DBA Henry's Restaurant and Sumer's Services.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve all business license applications received to date, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Approve beverage license application received to date:

Kaijua Bar & Grill.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve all business license applications received to date, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Unfinished Business:

IP negotiations: Mayor Williams stated a meeting with the EPA is still trying to be set up.

Public Comments: None

General Comments from the Council:

Councilor Smith inquired about receiving a quarterly report from the City Building Inspector.

Councilor McNew discussed gathering ideas from Council on ways the City of Libby could build up its identity and how to communicate with the outside world since the EPA left. Finding ways to project a positive image to tourists and outside visitors that come through Libby.

Councilor Smith mentioned how the Chamber of Commerce has been doing an enormous amount of work to promote Libby. The Chamber received a \$90,000 grant and has been creating videos and posting them online to help increase interest in Libby.

Adjournment:

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to adjourn and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM.

Mayor Peggy Williams

Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold

