

APPROVED MINUTES

The City Council held Council Meeting #1625 on Monday, March 20, 2023, 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 was by Mark Smith, and roll call commenced. Present were Mayor Williams, Councilors Gary Beach, Melissa Berke, Zach McNew, Hugh Taylor, Brian Zimmerman, Administrator Sam Sikes, Clerk-Treasurer Leann Monigold, and (via Zoom) Councilor Kristin Smith and City Attorney Dean Chisholm.

Mayor Williams welcomed all present.

Approve City Council meeting #1624 minutes dated March 6, 2023:

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve City Council meeting #1624 minutes dated March 6, 2023, and Councilor Berke **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Announcements: None

Committee Reports:

Administrator: Administrator Sikes reported there were no building permits sold in February. For the fiscal year, there have been 19 roofs, 1 garage, 2 house sidings, 1 fence, 5 buildings, and 2 remodels for residential permits, 1 truck bay, and 1 remodel for commercial permits, for a total of \$25,247, compared to this time last fiscal year a total of \$18,223 was received.

Fire: Councilor Zimmerman reported 9 calls for the month of February, 3 City, 5 Rural, and 1 outside of City or Rural District. 1 structure, 1 chimney, 3 mutual aid with Libby Ambulance, 1 false alarm, 1 power line, 1 electric and 1 miscellaneous that was a carbon monoxide call, for a total of 12 calls for 2023. The Lincoln County Rural Fire District is assisting with financial support to purchase \$600 worth of flags to attach to fire hydrants.

Police: City Attorney Dean Chisholm stated a response has been received from the independent investigator regarding the situation at the police department and in the process of reviewing the report. He has been in touch with the City's insurer, in touch with council for parties that may be involved in the situation and there was a meeting related to personnel items last week. The City is looking to conclude the situation as soon as possible but several parties are involved so the City is not in control of the timing but looks forward to putting this matter to bed as soon as we can.

Zoning/Planning: Councilor Smith announced the Zoning Commission has a meeting scheduled March 27th at 6pm in Council Chambers.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., commented that Councils is responsible for law and order and public welfare expressing his opinion on the current investigation and inquired why IP Settlement was removed from the agenda.

New Business:

Approve all claims received to date:

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

Public Comment:

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., commented there was another \$10,000 claim for the investigating attorney, asking if Mr. Chisholm was charging extra, and if there was an attorney in mind to handle a criminal investigation. Mr. Chisholm responded that his billing is public, that he has not billed the city anything through the last several months for the difficulty in the police department and noted after having an independent investigation, including a review of criminal charges, had there been any indication from the independent review of criminal charges, we would have been required to submit that to the Attorney General. That has not been done and has not been done for a reason.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Approve all business license applications received to date:

MNTNCAT Massage LLC.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

Unfinished Business: Mayor Williams explained the IP Settlement had been removed from the agenda because there has been no movement on it.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., commented on the removal of the IP Settlement from the agenda.

General Comments from the Council:

Councilor Smith commented on the signage out front of City Hall in the grass area being in poor shape and suggested a new sign be made that is in keeping with other wayfinding signs and use the Community Development funds to pay for it.

Adjournment:

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to **Adjourn** and Councilor McNew **SECONDED**.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM.

Mayor Peggy Williams

Clerk-Treasurer Leann Monigold