

## APPROVED MINUTES

The Libby City Council held regular meeting #1659 on Monday, August 19, 2024, in Council Chamber at Libby City Hall.

### **Call to Order:**

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

Mayor Williams announced Mr. Beach had resigned this afternoon, so his name would not be on the roll call.

Present were Mayor Williams, Councilors Melissa Berke, Ian Smith, Kristin Smith, Hugh Taylor, Brian Zimmerman, Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold, and (via Zoom) and City Attorney Dean Chisholm.

### **Approve minutes for regular City Council meeting #1656 held July 1, 2024, and #1657 held July 15, 2024:**

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve minutes for regular City Council meeting #1656 and #1657, Councilor Berke **SECONDED**.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., commented his request to be put on the agenda in the previous meeting did not get added to the minutes, and requests again to have a spot on the agenda to review policy to be added to an agenda with an action item to vote on policy for getting on agenda and to instruct Council what he believes they are doing wrong. Requesting the previous minutes be changed to give more details of what he had said.

Councilor I. Smith **MADE A MOTION** to correct the minutes to reflect what Mr. Orr was trying to say about wanting to be put on the agenda, Councilor Berke agreed, stating she was not sure what the difference was then what was written. The council discussed what Mr. Orr was wanting in the minutes. Council Taylor agreed, Councilor Zimmerman didn't believe it mattered because it reflected just fine, Councilor K. Smith agreed with Mr. Zimmerman.

Councilors Berke, I. Smith, K. Smith, Taylor, and Zimmerman voted **FOR** with the corrections.

### **MOTION PASSED.**

**Announcements:** Mayor Williams announced fire restrictions had been lifted at the recommendation of Steve Lauer, Fire Marshal. The Budget Hearing originally scheduled for the meeting was moved to September 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of the general meeting. At 6:30 on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mike Fraser has requested to hold a public hearing for the CDBG grant request.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Zoning Commission:** Councilor K. Smith announced the Zoning Commission will hold a meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup> to review a zoning change request as well as an annexation request.

**Finance:** Clerk/Treasurer Monigold reported receiving the information from the auditor's office to start our Annual Financial Report, once receiving the final needs list the year end can be finalized and have also already received the first needs list to begin our FY24 audit, which is usually not received until January.

### **Public Comment on Non- Agenda Items:**

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., inquired about the IP settlement.

Councilor Taylor responded, IP negotiations were discussed, and an update was given at the last meeting, and would be happy to brief Mr. Orr after the meeting tonight.

Karen Dinkins, 1210 Dakota Ave., commented Igniters appreciated the street closure and the car show went off without a hitch, but had concerns there was only one police officer on duty.

### **New Business:**

#### **Approve Rotary to take over Dept. of Labor Banner Project:**

Mayor Williams announced a resolution has been drafted for the Rotary taking over the Department of Labor project with the city banners.

Janelle Kimberlin from Department of Labor and Industry wanted to clarify the end goal regarding the Industry Awareness banners and answer any questions. The intent was to bring awareness of local opportunities to the community. The end goal is for an organization to take over the banner project and continue promoting local awareness through the banners. Apologizing for the miscommunication with the council and community regarding the intent of passing on the project to a local organization and would like to work with council and community on a solution to continue displaying banner to promote local awareness. One solution is the banners could be a soft handoff and to an organization where the Department of Labor and Industry will continue to assist in the project, per the council's guidelines.

Councilor K. Smith inquired about the banner frames and if Industry Awareness banners could be used on those frames in the future.

Ms. Kimberlin said the goal was for an organization to take over the entire project and to continue promoting positive awareness of Libby and gave several examples. Explaining for the Department of Labor the project had to be industry awareness that had to show workforce, but the project itself could take on a whole other meaning.

Mayor Williams stated the Rotary decided not to attend and to wait and see what developed as a resolution and a policy, they would then need to take it back to their board before they move forward with this. Mayor Williams read the draft Resolution.

Councilor Berke inquired if the banners could reflect community awareness other than industry for clarity. Yes, that was correct.

Councilor K. Smith suggested changes to the wording of the Resolution, replace "oversight authority" with "management" and questioned the phrase "retains final authority for operations and expenditures" remove "expenditures" and add somewhere "any expenses that are requested by the city to have the authorization"

Council discussed the wording of the resolution and how to say the city would have the final say on what goes on the poles, if funds were needed for new banners they would have to be requested, and the meaning of seasonal decorations.

Council discussed the Rotary's intent for the project heard at the last meeting, questioning if they were willing to do the wreaths and discussed the resolution that was drafted.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., spoke highly of the Rotary and urged Council to let them take over the project.

Janelle Kimberlin inquired how the Council would foresee the future of the project, if Rotary did not agree to takeover.

Councilor K. Smith encouraged the mayor to talk to the Rotary first to find out what they are willing to do or want to do.

Mayor Williams postponed the discussion and resolution to September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Local Study Commission election by acclamation, position appointments:**

Mayor Williams read Resolution #2035 to cancel the Local Government Study Commission election from the ballot and to appoint electors should three or fewer candidates file. Mayor Williams explained write in candidates have until September 3<sup>rd</sup> to register. If there are not candidates the Council will need to call for applications and make appointments after the November election.

Councilor K. Smith **MADE A MOTION** to adopt Resolution #2035, Councilor Berke **SECONDED**.

DC Orr, 1117 Nevada Ave., inquired who the one candidate was and how the other candidates would be solicited to be appointed by acclamation. Encouraging Council to put together a commission that would change the landscape and give people a voice.

Councilors Berke, I. Smith, K. 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 Berke **SECONDED**.

Councilors Berke, I. Smith, K. Smith, Taylor, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Approve all business licenses received to date.**

Cultured Pearl and LAS Masonry.

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve all business licenses received to date, Councilor I. Smith **SECONDED**.

Councilors Berke, I. Smith, K. Smith, Taylor, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Unfinished Business:**

**Discussion to amend Libby development Fund Policy and application process:**

Mayor Williams inquired if anyone had anything new to add, there were no new comments, Mayor Williams said she would review the July 15<sup>th</sup> minutes to see what was discussed and move forward from there during the next discussion.

**General Comments from Council:**

Councilor I. Smith encouraged the community to submit their applications for the Local Government Study.

Mayor Williams commented on the resignation of Mr. Beach, per council policies, the position will be advertised, and would be looking at doing an appointment in the next 30 days.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to adjourn, Councilor Berke **SECONDED**.

Councilors Berke, I. Smith, K. Smith, Taylor, and Zimmerman voted **FOR**.

**MOTION PASSED.**

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.

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Mayor Peggy Williams

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk/Treasurer Leann Monigold