

## APPROVED MINUTES

The City Council held meeting #1574 on Monday, June 7th, 2021, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

### Call to Order:

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was completed, and Roll Call commenced. Present were Mayor Teske, Councilors Williams, Beach, Dufficy, Smith, Taylor, Zimmerman, City Clerk/Treasurer Samuel Sikes, and City Administrator Jim Hammons.

Mayor Teske welcomed all present and prayer was offered by Mark Smith.

Approve City Council Meeting Minutes for #1568 dated 19 April 2021. Councilor Zimmerman **MADE A MOTION** to approve as corrected, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

Approve City Council Meeting Minutes for #1572 dated 3 May 2021. Councilor Beach **MADE A MOTION** to approve, and Councilor Smith **SECONDED**.

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

Approve City Council Meeting Minutes for #1563 dated 17 May 2021. Councilor Williams **MADE A MOTION** to approve, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

### Announcements:

Mayor Teske Announced that Libby has been awarded a Montana Coal Endowment Program Grant in the amount of \$464,000 to work on the Wastewater Plant's PLC's (monitoring systems).

Mayor Teske announced that Tom Wood had noticed that Get Away, an online magazine, had voted Libby a "hidden Gem" describing the city as a special gateway to Montana. Members of the Council voiced approval in the article and to the city.

### Committee Reports:

**City Administrator's Report:** Jim Hammons reported that the annual fire hydrant flush has been completed which has caused at least 4 leaks in the water main thus far identified.

Jim Hammons also reported, in addition to Mayor Teske's announcement, that Libby has been approved for a RRGL Grant for the Wastewater PLC's but was denied a CDBG Grant due to only being allowed one CDBG Grant open at a time.

**Fire:** Councilor Zimmerman reported 8 calls for service in May of 2021, of which, 4 were within the city and 4 were out of the city.

**Police:** Chief Kessel reported 233 calls for service in May resulting in 10 arrests and 32 citations, 22 ordinance violations, and one zoning violation concerning a mobile home whereas last year was 218 calls for 4 arrests, 32 citations. The County reported 473 calls for service in May meaning that Libby was responsible for almost half of the law enforcement calls county wide. In response the Councilor Smith's question at a previous meeting, in pre-COVID May 2019, there were 266 calls for 31 arrests and 44 citations.

Councilor Smith confirmed with Chief Kessel that the ordinance violations were for trash and weeds.

**Resolution/Ordinances:** None.

**Lights/Streets/Sidewalks:** None

**Building:** None.

**Water/Sewer:** None.

**Zoning Commission:** Councilor Smith reported that the next Zoning Meeting would be on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June at 6 pm in the City Council Chambers of City Hall to continue working on residential zoning.

Councilor Smith informed Mayor Teske that the committee will inform all involved once the zoning exhibits are ready for a Public Hearing.

**Cemetery/Parks:** Mayor Teske announced that the Streets Department will be properly cleaning up the area of the Cemetery that was marred by the same department's tractor this last winter. Samuel Sikes announced that a tree had went down in the cemetery during the weekend and stated that the proper people had been informed.

**Finance:** Samuel Sikes reported that the only findings in last week's audit were that the Tax Levy Schedule should have increased the budget for FY19 by \$42,000, and that Sewer was within \$1000 of being in the red. The new Vac. Truck has been paid off and the Volvo loader should be paid off in the next 10 days. According to Mayor Teske, the new cemetery tractor should be here soon.

Samuel announced that the Council would have to approve all Utility Billing adjustments and Journal Vouchers along with the Claims and Payroll as a recommendation from the Auditors.

**KRDC:** None.

**City-County Board of Health:** None.

**Park District Manager:** None.

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

None.

**New Business:**

**Approve Electric Charging Station Lease with Flathead Electric.**

Mayor Teske introduced the lease and Teri Rayome-Kelly discussed the changes in the lease that includes one charging station with two Level II charging plugs that could be expanded in the future if necessary or desired. The station should be in by the end of August 2021.

Dean Chisholm, City Attorney, was fine with the open terms and blanks that will be filled out in the contract. Teri reported that a slight correction had to be made to the Contract that would then be emailed to the Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to enter into the lease agreement with Flathead Electric and Councilor Zimmerman **SECONDED**.

Councilor Dufficy requested a quick refresher on the levels of charging which Teri explained were; Level I – Home charging 3 to 5 miles charge per hour, Level II – 30 to 40 miles charge per hour, and Level III – full charge in 20 minutes.

Councilor Williams was informed that the power for the station would come directly from the power line within feet of the location and Councilor Zimmerman was informed that the station could be upgraded to Level III only at great expense.

Mayor Teske and Teri discussed photographs of charging stations and the various ways to pay for the electrical usage. Mayor Teske agreed to provide Teri with a legal description for the property.

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Approve City Attorney Contract.**

Mayor Teske addressed the attorney contract showing that it went up \$303 month. Attorney Chisholm stated that since 2016 the contract has only increased with the CPI annually, adding that future contracts should begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July to match the Fiscal year.

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

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Approve City Court Contract.**

Mayor Teske read over the City Court contract informing Councilor Dufficy that it had went up 2% for staff wages.

Councilor Smith **MADE A MOTION** to approve the contract and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

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

Mayor Teske read through the application for "Books".

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

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Approve claims and payroll for May of 2021.**

Councilor Williams **MADE A MOTION** to approve the claims and payroll, and Councilor Beach **SECONDED**.

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

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Unfinished Business:**

**IP negotiations.**

Mayor Teske reported playing phone tag with Attorney Payne adding that the discussion is now going over what to discuss and the meeting.

**Approve location for vault toilet at the Cross-Country Ski Course. (Tabled)**

Mayor Teske reported that the plans for the toilet were now in the hands of an engineering firm and informed Councilor Dufficy that the plans would be looked at by the City Engineer once completed.

**General Comments from Council:**

Councilor Smith questioned the progress on the SWP, (Source Water Protection Plan) to which Mayor Teske took responsibility to reach out as Jim Hammons was unsure of any progress.

Mayor Teske informed the Council that no official request for the Subway drive through variance had been received to date and Jim Hammons stated that only two (2) opposing comments had been received on the topic.

Jim Hammons reported that Land Solutions is still putting the Growth Policy contract together as the company has changed names which caused confusion with the Department of Commerce.

The Council expressed pleasure with the new sign located at the park on the Corner of Mineral and First that Achievements maintains. It was discovered that E.J. Foreman created the sign.

Council President Williams announced that the last required transparency week had to be in June mentioning that past events have been official speakers, classes, and updating the website. Councilor Smith thought it would be a good idea to recap the progress online with the posting of the Agendas and Minutes.

The Councilors and Mayor discussed the benefits of having Zoom available and utilized vice Facebook that would not be as easily administered. It was decided that the next transparency requirement would be at 6 pm prior to the next Council Meeting, on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and that questions would be solicited prior to the event to allow time to gather information for the public.

Councilor Zimmerman brought up putting city land up for sale that is not being used. Discussion was held ending with Mayor Teske requesting that Councilor Zimmerman take the lead in looking into the current values, subdivisions, and locating a realtor.

**Adjournment:**

Councilor Dufficy **MADE A MOTION** to adjourn, and Councilor Williams **SECONDED**.

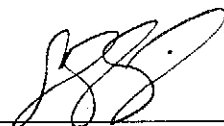
Councilors Williams, Beach, Dufficy, Smith, Taylor and Zimmerman voted **FOR**.

**MOTION PASSED.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.



Mayor Brent Teske

Attest;  \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk/Treasurer Samuel Sikes