

A COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2013 WHICH WAS HELD AT THE CENTRAL MONTANA COMMUNITY CENTER AND STARTED AT 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gremaux called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Gremaux asked everyone to stand and say the Pledge to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present were Commissioners Berry, Doney, Gremaux, Hewitt, and Poss. Commissioners Putnam and Turk were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were none.

COURTESIES

There were none.

PROCLAMATIONS

There were none.

BOARD AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

There were none.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Kevin Myhre reported on the following issues:

Fire Chief Jason Manley has notified the City that he will be retiring on October 31st of this year. The City Manager will be advertising the position within the Fire Department and am currently evaluating the option of opening the position for outside applicants. It is hoped to have the position filled as soon as possible.

The City Manager has met with several representatives from the Montana Department of Transportation to discuss pedestrian safety issues at several downtown Main street crossings. They have compiled pedestrian accident statistics and would like to make some improvements at those crossings.

The Police and Dispatch employees have elected to become members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). They will need to work

through the Montana Department of Labor to make sure that the process is followed. The City Manager has been contacted by the local representative from AFSCME as a courtesy at this point.

The Central Montana Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC & D) have lost all of its funding due to the federal sequestration cuts and therefore the local board has been dissolved. Monte Seeley has been the RC & D Director for many years and Mr. Richard Ellestad has served on the board as a representative for the City of Lewistown for many years as well. The remaining assets of the RC & D have been transferred to the Snowy Mountain Development Corporation which has been a partner organization for many years.

The City has received a report from a consultant who recently toured the wastewater treatment plant for Department of Environmental Quality and overall it is a very good report. There are some recommendations for changes over time which staff will evaluate for implementation. The report indicates good improvements with odor control within the plant area which is good news for the area residents as well.

The City is once again accepting leaves and grass at the wastewater treatment plant. It is planned to make further improvements in the composting process over the winter months.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Doney made the motion to approve the acknowledgement of the claims that have been paid from October 1, 2013 to October 16, 2013 for a total of \$418,594.75 and Commissioner Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA – Resolutions, Ordinances & Other Action Items:

1. Discussion and action on approving the 2013-2014 agreement with School District No. 1

Mr. Myhre explained that the City of Lewistown and School District No. 1 have had an agreement for many years for the sharing of facilities. Mr. Myhre further explained that the School District realizes that they utilize our services and facilities more than the City uses theirs and therefore gives the City an honorarium amount which is \$4,903.40. This is increased annually by the cost of living. Once this is approved by the City it will go to the School Board for approval. Commissioner Berry made the motion to approve the 2013-2014 agreement with School District No. 1 and Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion. Commissioner Gremaux asked for comments from the audience and Commission. There being none, the question was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and action on approving Resolution No. 3832, a resolution declaring a one year moratorium on the automatic three percent increase for the railroad corridor (trails) lease

Mr. Myhre stated that the City of Lewistown acquired the railroad property from Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad in 2007 and since that time the City has reestablished leases with several businesses located along the railroad. The agreement allows those businesses to

continue to use the property that benefits their business. The leases were adapted from the BNSF agreements that called for an annual 3% increase automatic increase to cover the cost of inflation each year. Mr. Myhre explained that looking over the last three years the cpi index has not gone up 3% each year and as a business assistance he recommends that the City Commission do a moratorium for one year to bring the increase into more in line with the cpi index. Mr. Myhre stated that if the City Commission passes this resolution tonight then those lease rates would remain the same for one year and then it can be looked at again next year. Commissioner Doney made the motion to approve Resolution No. 3832, a resolution declaring a one year moratorium on the automatic three percent increase for the railroad corridor (trails) lease and Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion. Commissioner Gremaux asked for comments from the audience and Commission. There being none, the question was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Semi-annual City Manager Review – the meeting will be closed because the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure in regards to the City Manager review.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

There were none.

COMMISSIONER'S MINUTE

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Gremaux adjourned the meeting.

Dated this 21st day of October, 2013.

Frank Gremaux, Commission Chairman

ATTEST:

Nikki Brummond, City Clerk