

A COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 2, 2016 WHICH WAS HELD AT THE CENTRAL MONTANA COMMUNITY CENTER AND STARTED AT 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Byerly called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Commissioners: Byerly, Doney, Gremaux, Hewitt, Poss, and Turk. Commissioner Putnam was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Doney made the motion to approve the April 18, 2016 minutes with corrections and Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COURTESIES

Commissioner Byerly thanked Commissioner Gremaux for chairing that last meeting as he was absent.

PROCLAMATIONS

Chairman Byerly read the following proclamation:

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE LEWISTOWN CITY
COMMISSION DECLARING MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS MONTH**

Whereas, mental health is part of overall health; and

Whereas, one in five adults experiences a mental health problem in any given year and one in 17 adults lives with mental illness such as major depression, bipolar disorder or schizophrenia; and

Whereas, approximately one-half of chronic mental illness begins by the age of 14 and three-quarters by age 24; and

Whereas, long delays-sometimes decades- often occur between the time symptoms first appear and when individuals get help; and

Whereas, early identification and treatment can make a difference in successful management of mental illness and recovery; and

Whereas, every citizen and community can make a difference in helping end the silence and stigma that for too long has surrounded mental illness and discouraged people from getting help; and

Whereas, public education and civic activities can encourage mental health and help improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness;

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Lewistown City Commission that the month of May, 2016 shall be observed as Mental Illness Awareness Month, to increase public understanding of the importance of mental health and to promote identification and treatment of mental illnesses.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that all citizens, businesses, schools and community organizations are encouraged to take the “stigma free pledge” at www.nami.org/stigmfree in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month.

BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Doney reported that she attended the Local Government Study Commission meeting on Monday, April 25th. Commissioner Doney also reported that they are continuing their Wednesday work meetings and will have an action item on the May 13th meeting.

Commissioner Byerly reported that the Central Montana Health District (CHMD) Board met for the first time in the new office in the Sports Inc building. It appears that staff is happy with the new location. Commissioner Byerly commented that the cost savings the board was hoping for as a result of the reorganization and consolidation appears to be happening.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Kevin Myhre reported on the following issues:

The contractor has poured the concrete for the splash park and also for the water slide runouts. The slide contractor is starting to assemble the slide tubes. There is still a lot of the flat concrete work that needs to be completed. The pool liner has been delivered and is one of the last items to be installed.

Several administrative staff will be training or at meetings during the first week of May.

The City Manager has met several times with the representatives of the Fire Department Bargaining Unit. The City Manager feels that they are making good progress at this point and hope to have a contract ready for Commission approval by the first meeting in June.

The City Commission will have the opportunity to replace my position on the Snowy Mountain Development Corporation (SMDC) Board. The SMDC Board meets approximately six times per year at 10 am and meetings usually last around two hours. If a Commissioner is interested in being on the board, the City Manager can get them more information on the responsibilities. The annual meeting will be held in June.

Public Works recently assisted the Kiwanis Club by removing concrete and debris from the four picnic shelters that are being replaced at the rest area west of town. Mr. Myhre stated that he was notified today that there will not be funding for the rest area for 2016-2017. The Department of Transportation does not have any funds. Public Works is also helping to remove some playground equipment from the Softball Complex at the request of the baseball association.

Park and Recreation Director Jim Daniels is working with a local contractor to have the roof replaced on the bathroom facility located in Symmes Park.

The Montana Department of Labor recently visited the Public Work Department for a safety inspection. They noted several electrical issues within the building that should be updated or changed. Staff are working to remedy the more minor issues that were identified. The Public Works Director will plan to get bids from electricians to update the wiring for the shop lighting.

Mr. Myhre explained that during the committee of the whole meeting this evening the Commission discussed the replacement of the City Manager. Mr. Myhre stated there are two paths moving forward for the City Commission and both are dependent on the decision of the local government study commission. If the study commission votes to put an alternate form of government on the ballot in November, it would make it very difficult for the City Commission to hire a City Manager so the City Commission may have to look at having an interim City Manager for six months. If a change in the form of government passes then it could take up to two years before the finality of the City Manager position. Mr. Myhre further explained that if the study commission does not put anything on the ballot they can start advertising to hire a City Manager immediately and could maybe have someone hired by the end of summer. Mr. Myhre stated he thinks they would still put an interim City Manager into place for a couple of months. The study commission will be voting on May 13th to determine if an action will be put on the ballot or not.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hewitt asked for the claims to be removed from the consent agenda. Commissioner Hewitt had questions to clarify some of the claims. There being no other questions. Commissioner Poss made the motion to approve the consent agenda and Commissioner Gremaux seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The consent agenda was the acknowledgement of the claims that have been paid from April 14, 2016 to April 28, 2016 for a total of \$386,084.29.

REGULAR AGENDA – Resolutions, Ordinances & Other Action Items:

1. Discussion and action on a lease agreement of railroad right of way for the Recycle Our Waste Lewistown recycling facility

Mr. Myhre explained that the Recycle Our Waste Lewistown (ROWL) is located on a small portion of the railroad right of way which 7,300 square feet is proposed for lease and very closely fits the area used by the ROWL group. ROWL has done a lot to establish the area. The standard lease has been updated for the property being discussed for lease. Mr. Myhre commented that the City typically assesses a lease amount for railroad property leased at 7% of the market value and an estimate of the lease amount if it was \$1 per square foot would be \$511. Mr. Myhre stated that he recommends no lease amount because of the benefit to the public and huge volunteer effort of the group. Ms. Rosemary Kent on behalf of the ROWL thanked the City for their support. Commissioner Gremaux made the motion to approve the lease agreement of railroad right of way for the Recycle Our Waste Lewistown recycling facility for zero dollars and Commissioner Doney seconded the motion. Commissioner Byerly 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 authorizing the City manager to apply for clean-up funds for the Marcella East property

Mr. Myhre explained where the property is located at on Marcella and in the 1960s it was a public landfill and was closed and then in the 1970s the City leased it to a citizen that ran a post treatment facility where they used penta and dioxins. DEQ has had this property on their list for testing for many years and recently came to the City and asked if they could test the site to determine contamination. Mr. Myhre explained that a sampling plan was put together. DEQ did sampling and dioxins, penta and lead were found on the site. Mr. Myhre explained that now DEQ would like to submit applications on behalf of the City of Lewistown for some grant funds to clean up the site. Mr. Myhre explained that the application is being worked on right now and it due on May 16th and is part of the next legislative funding. Mr. Myhre further commented he is hoping for approval by the Commission to be able to move forward with the project. Commissioner Doney made the motion to authorize the City manager to apply for clean-up funds for the Marcella East property and Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion. Commissioner Byerly asked for comments from the audience and Commission. There being none, the question was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' REQUEST

Mr. Joe Kerns addressed the Commission and asked about getting his alley opened up which is located where the Broadway Apartments is located. It was his understanding that the City was waiting on the engineers to open up the alley and Mr. Kerns talked to the engineers today and they stated that it is up to the City to open the alley. Public Works Director Holly Phelps explained that there was a preliminary engineering report that was provided to the City and there were a couple of issues that needed to be addressed prior to the City considering unblocking the alley. Ms. Phelps explained that she does not have any documentation that those issues have been addressed and she has requested documentation from the Montana Historic Preservation Alliance.

COMMISSIONER'S MINUTE

Commissioner Hewitt commented that she took her mom for a ride all over Lewistown and wrote down information and location on trailers, campers and motorcycles. Mr. Myhre explained that he will talk with the Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Byerly adjourned the meeting.

Dated this 2nd day of May 2016.

Dave Byerly, Commission Chairman

ATTEST:

Teri Gilpatrick, Asst City Clerk