

A SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING OF JULY 23, 2018 WHICH WAS HELD AT THE CENTRAL MONTANA COMMUNITY CENTER AND STARTED AT 3:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Turk called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Commissioners: Doney, Hewitt, Loomis, Oldenburg and Turk. Commissioners Byerly and Dunnington were absent.

REGULAR AGENDA – Resolutions, Ordinances & Other Action Items:

1. Discussion and action on approving the 2018 Street Improvement bid

City Manager Phelps explained that the City advertised for the 2018 street improvements and received one bid from Century Construction. The improvements were discussed at a previous Commission meeting. The bid received was for a total of \$641,760. Commissioner Doney made the motion to approve awarding the 2018 Street Improvement bid to Century Construction in the amount of \$641,760 and Commissioner Hewitt seconded the motion. Commissioner Turk asked for comments from the audience and Commission. There being none, the question was called for and the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Turk turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Doney so that she could return to work.

2. Presentation on proposed draft of the Forest Management Plan and possible impacts on the municipal water source.

City Manager Phelps introduce Mr. Wayne Green, a hydrologist and geologist with the Forest Service and is here to discuss the Forest Management Plan proposed draft. Mr. Green introduced Deb Atwhistle, a hydrologist and is the Forest Plan lead. Mr. Green explained that the they are working on 2014 Forest Plan and a draft has been completed and is out for review and comments. Ms. Atwhistle commented that there is a draft forest plan and there are alternatives to the forest plan and both documents are out for review for comments. Mr. Green commented that he was looking at municipal watersheds and the City of Lewistown watershed is not included in the 1986 Forest Plan. Mr. Green further commented that the City of Lewistown would like the watershed to be included in the draft plan. Mr. Green stated that he would review what the inclusion in the plan would do for the watershed. Including the watershed does not preclude them from doing management in the watershed, but the key thing to remember is the watershed is currently roadless. If the watershed is included in the plan the Forest Service would have to include the City in any decision made that would made regarding the watershed. Mr. Green commented that the City has completed their well protection plan, but seems that it is a little inadequate to him. City Manager Phelps commented that it is a very generic plan. Mr. Green stated that he does need to understand better the groundwater discharge and recharge areas for Big Spring Creek. Ms. Atwhistle explained that wilderness study areas were set aside by Congress in the 1970s. The wilderness study area was only going to be for five years until Congress determined if they would be wilderness or not and that decision was never made. As a result, they have remained designated study areas by Congress. Ms. Atwhistle stated that recommended wilderness is completely different and part of the 2012 planning rule was a

requirement to do what is called a wilderness inventory. This would be looking at the map and determining what could be considered a wilderness. Further discussion was held on the alternatives. City Manager Phelps reminded everyone that they will be doing a more detailed presentation at the BLM tonight. Mr. Green commented that he will get in touch with the City Manager to move forward with getting the watershed in the forest service plan.

CITIZEN'S REQUESTS

There were none.

COMMISSIONER'S MINUTE

Vice Chairman Doney asked for some comments and how the Commissioners felt about the discussion. Commissioner Hewitt commented that she did not understand why the watershed wasn't included. City Manager Phelps explained that it was done many years ago and we could look at previous meeting minutes to find out more information. Commissioner Loomis thanked them for taking the time to come and explain the process to them. Commissioner Doney commented that the Commission would like the City Manager to work on a comment letter and map to get the watershed included in the plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Doney adjourned the meeting.

Dated this 23rd day of July 2018.

Patty Turk, Commission Chairman

Gayle Doney, Commission Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Nikki Brummond, City Clerk