

## City of White Sulphur Springs

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on December 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Rick Nelson called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Pattie Berg  
Ron Coleman  
Rick Ellison  
Lee Blanchard

### A. Call Regular Meeting to Order

### B. Roll Call

### C. Pledge of Allegiance to Flag

**D. Public Comment:** Public comment will be accepted on public matters not listed on this agenda and are within the jurisdiction of the City Council and having a significant interest to the public. During a regular session, there will be time after each agenda item for comment about that item.

1. Step up to the podium and state your name and address for the record.
2. Please limit your comments to THREE (3) minutes.

### E. Unfinished Business - Items for Discussion and/or Action

#### 1. Reconsider City Shop Building Contract Award

Discussion and/or Action

Brought back from October 3 and 18, and December 5 Council meetings, Mayor to address issued with VOD contract and negotiations. Reconsider other bidders or proposals and re-award contract or republish bid solicitation.

Accept Public Comment

*Possible Motion Options: Move to re-award contract to XXX for their bid of \$XXX,XXX. OR, Move to republish bid solicitation (with or without revisions).*

The Mayor and Council discussed the Shop estimate from Dennis Doran, Cornerstone Inc., for approximately \$116,658.80. The Mayor said that Cornerstone recommended that the new City Shop should be its on building and leave a 8 ft breezeway between the buildings. Susan Wordal just received the estimate quote today and would need to review it further. The Council will review the estimate and discuss it further on the next meeting January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### F. New Business- Items for Discussion and/or Action

#### 1. Resolution 2022-11 – Supporting 2022 Legislative Resolutions

Discussion and/or Action

Consider a resolution supporting the Montana League of Cities and Towns 2022 Legislative Resolutions guiding the legislative goals and positions of the League as outlined at <https://mtleague.org/2022-resolutions/>.

Accept Public Comment

*Possible Motion: Move to adopt Resolution 2022-11 recognizing, concurring, and supporting the MT League of Cities and Towns legislative goals and positions on behalf of the League.*

The Mayor, Susan Wordal, and Council discussed the resolutions. Resolution 2022-11, a resolution of the City of the White Sulphur Springs, Montana supporting the 2022 Legislative Resolutions of the Montana League of Cities and Towns, Exhibit “A”. Backgrounds and Actions.

Resolution 2022-1 General Principals  
Resolution 2022-2 Property Tax Reform and Protection of Local Revenues  
Resolution 2022-3 Housing  
Resolution 2022-4 Land Use and Environmental Regulation  
Resolution 2022-5 Invest in Local Government Infrastructure  
Resolution 2022-6 Compensation for Retirement  
Resolution 2022-7 Support City of Colstrip and other Communities impacted by  
Natural Resource Industries  
Resolution 2022-8 Support for Public Safety Services and Accountability  
Resolution 2022-9 Support Military Operations in Montana  
Resolution 2022-10 Accumulation of Building Code Fee Collections  
Resolution 2022-11 Coronavirus Global Pandemic

The Mayor asked if there was a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-11 recognizing, concurring, and supporting the MT League of Cities and Towns legislative goals and positions on behalf of the League. Lee Blanchard motioned to adopt Resolution 2022-11 recognizing, concurring, and supporting the MT League of Cities and Towns legislative goals and positions on behalf of the League. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

## **2. Appoint a City Representative for the Housing Project.**

Discussion and/or Action

Consider the appointment of Council member Rick Ellison as the City's Representative to the Meagher County Housing Project.

Accept Public Comment

*Possible Motion: Move to appoint Rick Ellison as the City's Representative to the Meagher County Housing Project.*

The Mayor asked if there was a motion to appoint Rick Ellison as the City's Representative to the Meagher County Housing Project Committee. Ron Coleman motioned to appoint Rick Ellison as the City's Representative to the Meagher County Housing Project. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

## **G. Council Review of Financials**

### **H. Claims Signing/Motion to Approve the Bills**

#### Pay the Bills

Accounting Claim Check #'s 18892-18914 November 16, 2022 thru November 30, 2022 for \$381,401.63.

Payroll & Electronic Check #'s 9266-9285 November 16-30 for \$19,544.94

Utility Billing System Adjustments Journal Vouchers \$124.42 November 1-30

Accounting Claim Check #'s 18915-18955 December 1, 2022 thru December 20, 2022 for \$30,843.40

Accounting Journal Vouchers November 1, 2022 thru November 30, 2022 for \$1,484.02

Payroll & Electronic Check #'s 9286-9297 December 1-15 for \$11,855.90

Received a copy Budget Expenditure/Revenue November 1-30, 2022.

November 16, 2022 thru December 20, 2022 were presented for Council's approval. The Mayor asked if there is a motion to pay the bills. Lee Blanchard motioned to pay the November 16-November 30 bills as presented. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. Rick Ellison, Ron Coleman,

and Lee Blanchard said Aye. Motion carried and passed. Rick Ellison motioned to pay the December 1-December 20 bills as presented. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. Rick Ellison, Ron Coleman, and Lee Blanchard said Aye.

**I. Motion/Vote to Adjourn the Regular Meeting**

The Mayor asked the Council if there is a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Lee Blanchard motioned to adjourn the regular meeting. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. All said Aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

**WORK SESSION (Starts directly after Business Meeting adjourns)**

**A. Call Work Session Meeting to Order**

**B. Council Discussion:**

**1. City Code Review: Titles 7, 8, 9 and 10**

Resume discussion of identified chapters Title 7-10 with time permitting, suggest revisions, explore options as identified in discussion.

The Mayor, Susan Wordal, and Council reviewed Title 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the code book. There was a discussion on Chapter 1: Sidewalks, 7.1.3. There was a discussion about Title 8: Public Utilities, 8.1.15 charge for turning water on and not a water turn off fee when an owner is requesting it due to a seasonal absence (snowbird). Susan Wordal will be reviewing the language and making the necessary changes this section. The Mayor asked if the Council still had what Jen Frazer had handed out about different towns last time with Ennis and Choteau and their Town Ordinances about Trees. Jen Frazer had made notes and suggestions on her handouts of what she thought the City could use in regards of the towns of Ennis and Choteau Tree and Shrub ordinances. There was a discussion on Title 9: Building Regulations sections, the City does not have a building department, the City does review the land use permits currently. There was a discussion on Building Codes, Inspectors, and who would be in charge of making sure everything was done, but there would need to be a person within the City that was capable of doing it, keeping records that Contractors or the State inspects, and would need to know what to do with the results. It was suggested that any resident that is going to build would need to build it to State building code requirements. Susan Wordal will review this and include the needed language. The Fire Code needs to be updated as they are outdated. Susan Wordal will look into what the State code is now and review the needed changes. The City Map will need to be updated also. The Planning section was adopted in 2019. Zoning will be addressed again in the future. There was a discussion on Title 10: Flood Control and if the City had an updated Flood Plain map. The City has an old Flood Plain FEMA map from 1960. The City Engineer was appointed to be the Flood Plain Administrator. Susan Wordal will speak to the City Engineer about the Flood Plain section and updated it as they see it need to be changed. The Mayor said that if there is anything in the code book that the Council feels after reviewing the language that needs to be changed or addressed should bring it up to the next meeting to discuss.

## J. Comments/Discussion

1. Future Business
2. Mayor's Comments—Rick Nelson

The Mayor said that the company that is doing the GIS of the City, Diamond Maps, is not able to make the City colored water/sewer line map of what Matt Swett made overlay within their program, but they could assign a college student that is working towards his degree that would be able to input the map that Matt Swett made and put it into the Diamond Map programing at no cost to the City so that the student could get credits. The Mayor said that Rocky Vinton went back 10 years until now and researched how long Willow Creek was online. The last 10 years of the historical loss of Willow Creek was that, 10 years ago it was online 11 months, 9 years ago it was 11 months, 8 years ago it was 11 months, 7 years ago it was 11 months, 6 years ago it was 11 ½ months, 5 years ago it was 10 months, 4 years ago it was 9 months, 3 years ago it was 5 months, 2 years ago it was 5 months, and up and till last year Willow Creek was online 1 ½ months a year. The Mayor said that Michelle Stidham reviewed and printed out the last 5 years of electricity of the Northwestern Energy bills. The Mayor will input the increase of electricity costs and have it ready at the next meeting. There will be a meeting with Trent Townsend about Willow Creek held at City Hall sometime in January. The Mayor wishes a Merry Christmas, Happy New Years, and will see everyone January 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Council meeting.

### 3. Council Comments/Discussion

a. President of the Council—Pattie Berg  
Merry Christmas.

b. Council Member—Ron Coleman  
Merry Christmas.

c. Council Member—Rick Ellison  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Rick Ellison, the City representative to the Housing Project Committee, has been in contact with Jackson Rose about the Housing Project. He also said that he has been in contact with a lady in Livingston, that speaks all over the Country, about the community housing development/affordable housing project process is willing to come up and speak about it and give some ideas to the Council.

d. Council Member—Lee Blanchard  
Merry Christmas.

## K. Motion/Vote to Adjourn the Meeting

The Mayor asked the Council if there is a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Coleman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

  
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Michelle Stidham—Clerk-Treasurer

  
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Mayor – Rick Nelson