

City of White Sulphur Springs

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on May 2, 2022 at 7:00 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. Read & Approve - Accept or Reject Minutes

1. February 7th Meeting – Regular Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

Ron Coleman motioned to approve the February 7th Regular Session as presented. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. Ron Coleman said Aye. Pattie Berg abstained from vote. Lee Blanchard said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

2. February 15th Meeting – Regular Session and Work Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

This was tabled until next month.

3. March 7th Meeting – Regular Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

Pattie Berg motioned to accept the March 7th Regular Session as amended. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

4. March 15th Meeting – Regular Session and Work Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

Pattie Berg motioned to accept the March 15th minutes as amended. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

5. April 4th Meeting – Regular Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

None.

6. April 19th Meeting – Regular Session and Work Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

None.

E. 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.

F. Receive/Accept Reports

1. Sheriff's Report – Sheriff Jon Lopp

Sheriff, Jon Lopp, asked if there were any comments or concerns with the Meagher County Sheriff's Office Complaint Report for the month of April. There was a discussion on citizens parking angled and it would be helpful to post parallel parking signs on the street to prevent angle parking.

2. City Court Report – City Judge Lori Sorenson

City Judge, Lori Sorenson, asked if there were any comments with the April Citation Activity Report and Monthly Case Statistics. There was a discussion on the Community Service Program. Judge Sorenson said that citizens that have community service will have to wear an orange jumpsuit with goggles, sign the White Sulphur Springs Community Service Program Community Service Agreement, and pay \$35 for workers comp, when working to fulfill their hours of service. Right now Ron Coleman and Lee Blanchard are volunteering their time to supervise the community service citizens. Judge Sorenson said that Montana Supreme Court has been hailing down the importance of security and safety in Courts. Judge Sorenson said that right now it is not in the budget to purchase a gun safe for her pistol so she will be purchasing it with her own money.

3. Fire Department Report - City Fire Chief Sam Peeler

Fire Chief, Sam Peeler, said that the White Sulphur Springs Fire Department received a \$9,000 Bair Grant with a \$1,000 City fire department fund match to be used for purchasing a newer electric (battery operated) equipment that is both lighter weight and able to effectively work with the newer high tensile steels utilized in the newer equipment. The tool operates with rechargeable batteries which eliminates the gas powered hydraulic pump and controls. Sam Peeler has not heard anything on the FEMA grants. There will be a State basic wild land fire training session this weekend. Sam Peeler reported three incidents with carbon monoxide in the City and one fire caused by a bird hitting a power line in the County. Sam Peeler said that he will have a program with Clayton to service fire trucks twice a year.

4. City Engineer's Report

The Mayor said that the City Engineer's Report will be later in the meeting.

5. Public Work's Report - City Public Works Supervisor Rocky Vinton

The Mayor said that Rocky Vinton is out.

6. Animal Control Report – Marc Pryor

The Mayor said that Marc Pryor is out.

7. Parks Committee Report – Pattie Berg

Jen Frazer handed out printouts for Pump Track and McStravick Court Rules & Regulations, and Adopt-A-Spot Program for community areas around the City.

G. Unfinished Business - Items for Discussion and/or Actions

1. HRDC Housing Study/Action Plan Phase 2 - Tracey Menez

Continued Discussion from April 19th and/or Action

a) Review discussion from April 19th and continue discussion about using Hard Rock Mining funds (\$7500) for pursuing Phase 2 as proposed.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to direct City Attorney to prepare resolution to join Meagher County in Phase 2 of HRDC Housing Study/Action Plan.

The Mayor and Council discussed the HRDC Housing Study/Action Plan Phase 2. The Mayor asked if there was a motion to direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution to join Meagher County in Phase 2 of HRDC Housing Study/Action Plan. There was not a motion. All said Nay. It was agreed to not fund the next phase of the HRDC Housing Study as the Council did not see the value for the City in it and there were no guarantees it would lead to any development. Motion was failed.

2. Discussion re: Purchasing Options

Continue discussion from April 19th and/or Action

Establish credit/debit card policy based on bank and Council requirements.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to direct City Attorney to prepare resolution adopting Purchasing Policy.

The Mayor said that after speaking with MMIA and the Auditor recommended using a credit card as it gives better protections than a debit card. Currently the City Employees often use their own credit card and then would be reimbursed, but the Auditors did not like this process. The Mayor said that the plan is to have one lower limit card that can be used for fuel and hotel when City vehicles are driven outside the City limits and a higher limit card used for the City Shop to order parts for equipment. Susan Wordal will put together Resolution language allowing the set up of the two credit cards, to allow the adopting a credit card use policy as part of the City's purchasing policy. Pattie Berg motioned to direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution adopting a purchasing policy. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

3. Consider The Wraith RC Request – July 16th Poker Run Street Closure and Open Container Waiver

Discussion and/or Action.

Consider The Wraith RC request for a street closure and open container waiver for July 16th Poker Run.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to approve The Wraith RC street closure and Open Container Waiver for July 16th; OR, Move to continue this matter to XXX meeting date for consideration of formal application.

Heith Stidham presented the Council with a request for a street closure and open container waiver for July 16th Poker Run, street dance and band, Ten Foot Tall and 80 Proof. Heith Stidham said that he already has the street closure signed by Department of Transportation and Sheriff Jon Lopp and approved. Closing the street from Central to 3rd. Heith Stidham said this year The Wraith RC, a nonprofit group, is doing a silent auction, with local get away and other baskets, and part of the proceeds will go to the American Legion locally. Lee Blanchard motioned to approve The Wraith RC street closure and Open Container for the July 16th Poker Run. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed. Heith Stidham thanked the Mayor and City Council.

4. Ratify ARPA Funds for Minimum Allocation Grant for Emergency Generator Project

Resolution 2022-3

Discussion and/or Action.

Carry over from April 19th: City ARPA proposal for Waterline Main Transmission Project IV will not be funded. Per discussion on April 19th, City needs an Emergency Generator and Gt West found an option. Council, by consensus, approved to meet the April 30 reporting deadline.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to ratify expending ARPA fund of \$118,000 for Emergency Generator Project approved by consensus at the April 19th meeting.

The Mayor asked if there was a motion to ratify expending ARPA funds of \$118,000 for the City's Emergency Generator to be installed at the City Yard to power the Water System Wells in case of a power outage. The City previously received a Military Surplus Generator from the Sheriff, Jon Lopp, but it would never run right. Ron Coleman motioned to ratify expending the ARPA funds of \$118,000 for the emergency generator project. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

5. Resolution 2022-4 – Sale of City Vehicle

Discussion and/or Action.

Carry over from April 19th meeting to sell 1 City Vehicle: 1998 Ford F150 ½ Ton Truck.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to adopt Resolution 2022-4 as to sale of 1998 Ford F150.

The Mayor asked if there was a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-4 as to the sale of the 1998 Ford F150, the minimum bid is set at \$3,500. Lee Blanchard motioned to

adopt Resolution 2022-4 as to the sale of the 1998 Ford F150. Pattie Berg seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

H. New Business- Items for Discussion and/or Actions

1. Great West

Discussion and/or Action.

A. Hard Rock Mining Funds – for PER Water Update

Discussion regarding updating the PER for White Sulphur Springs and using Hard Rock Mining funds for this update.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to direct City Attorney to prepare resolution requesting use of \$58,000 in Hard Rock Mining dollars for PER update before June 30, 2022.

The Mayor conference called Craig Erickson. Craig Erickson recommends that the City use the City's Hard Rock Mining Funds with the SEARCH grant for a PER Water Update. The City applied for a RRGL DNRC grant for \$15,000, but unfortunately was not funded. The City applied for a SEARCH grant with USDA RD for \$30,000, they are working on it but have not heard any feedback yet. Pattie Berg motioned to direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution requesting use of up to \$58,000 in Hard Rock Mining dollars for a PER update. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

B. Water Main Replacement Project Phase IV and Leak Detection

Discussion regarding water tank and water main and the Phase IV project to replace the last section of water main on the west side. Discuss options and process for moving this last part of the project forward and potential costs.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Motion to direct Great West to develop engineering plans/specifications for Phase IV of the Water Main Replacement Project and make recommendations for financing options. Task Order #XXX

Craig Erickson presented a few options with SRF loans, ARPA funds, with minimal rate increases, to fund the Phase IV and Leak Detection project.

Great West Engineering will work on the Task Order on the Water System PER.

The discussion regarding the water tank, water main, Phase IV project to replace the last section of water main on the west side, and options/process for moving this last part of the project forward and potential costs, will be continued at a later date.

2. Set Annual Clean Up Day for May 21st

Discussion and/or Action

Set Annual City/County Clean-Up Day for May 21st. Discuss schedule and accept Council volunteers for shifts.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to schedule Annual Clean-Up Day for May 21st.

The Mayor asked if there was a motion to schedule the Annual Clean-Up Day for May 21st. Rick Ellison motioned to schedule the Annual Clean-Up Day to May 21st. Pattie Berg seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

3. Red Ants Pants Music Festival – Street Dance – Street Closure and Open Container Waiver

- Sarah Calhoun

Discussion and/or Action

Discuss Red Ants Pants Annual Music Festival, Street Dance, and need for street closure and open container waiver for July 28-31, 2022.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to grant Red Ants Pants a street closure for street dance and open contain waiver.

Sarah Calhoun presented the Council with a request for a street closure and open container waiver for July 28th Red Ants Pants Music Festival street dance. Sarah Calhoun said that there will be larger trash containers during the street dance this year. Closing the street from the corner of 4th by the Town Pump to Central/Main Street to Houston with porta potties at 4:00 pm to midnight. Sarah Calhoun asked for access again for potable water filling. There was a discussion about parking along the detour route that caused a narrow route for larger trucks coming through town last year and posting no parking signs there. Sarah Calhoun said that there will be a cap on tickets available again. Sarah Calhoun would love a Welcome letter from the Mayor and Council again to kick off the festivities. The Mayor or Council could come and present the welcome at the Red Ants Pants Festival if they wanted to. Sarah Calhoun thanked the Mayor and City Council. Pattie Berg motioned to grant Red Ants Pants a street closure for the street dance and open container. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

4. 2 Basset Brewery – Street Closure and Variance Renewal - Barry Hedrich

Discussion and/or Action

A. Street Closure

Consider request to close 2nd Street from Main Street to Houston for the 2 Basset Brewery Olympics.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to Approve Open Container Waiver and Street Closure.

Barry Hedrich presented the Council with a request for a street closure from 2nd Ave South from Main Street to the intersection of Houston Street and open container waiver for the 2 Basset Brewery Olympics on July 2nd at 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, the event starts at noon. It will be the 6th Annual Brewery Olympics and Cornhole Tournament. Barry Hedrich included the map of the area and the safety plan. Pattie Berg motioned to approve the open container and street closure. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

B. Variance Renewal

Consider renewal of variance request for awning/pedlet patio space.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Motion to renew variance on awning/pedlet for 2 Basset Brewery.

Barry Hedrich presented the Council with a request for renewing of the variance on the awning/pedlet for 2 Basset Brewery for one more year, as he had hoped to be done with the new building by fall but it did not happen. Lee Blanchard motioned to renew the variance on the awning/pedlet for 2 Basset Brewery. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

I. Comments/Discussion

1. Future Business

2. Mayor's Comments—Rick Nelson

The Mayor said that the City Crew is down one employee due to a health issue and should know more in the passing weeks. The Mayor said that he would possibly be looking to hire a seasonal temporary Public Works employee to work from May to October. The Mayor said that the City has been selected for a Community Development Block Grant Program Planning Grant (CDBG) Award in the amount of \$30,000 for a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

3. Council Comments/Discussion

- a. President of the Council—Pattie Berg -There was a discussion on the CORR process. The next Park Advisory Committee will be next Wednesday.
- b. Council Member—Ron Coleman -The City Crew took out and tried out the new Asphalt Zipper on SW 5th Street and it is going to work very well. The City Crew needs to wear a safety helmet and vest when working outside.
- c. Council Member—Rick Ellison-Nothing else.
- d. Council Member—Lee Blanchard-Nothing else.

J. Claims Signing/Motion to Approve the Bills

Pay the Bills

Claim Check #'s 18591-18605 April 20, 2022 thru April 30, 2022 for \$14,518.03

Payroll Check #'s 9017-9028 for \$9,414.45


Payroll Check #'s 9029-9045 for \$11,845.28

Electronic Check #'s \$5,320.85

04-15-2022 thru 04-30-2022 were presented for Council's approval. The Mayor asked if there is a motion to pay the bills. Lee Blanchard motioned to pay the bills as presented. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

K. Motion/Vote to Adjourn the Meeting

The Mayor asked the Council if there is a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rick Ellison motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.


Michelle Stidham—Clerk-Treasurer


Mayor – Rick Nelson