

City of White Sulphur Springs

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on September 6, 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. 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. Read & Approve - Accept or Reject Minutes

1. June 21st Meeting – Regular Session and Work Session
Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.
Not ready yet.
2. July 5th Meeting – Regular Session
Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended
Not ready yet.
3. August 1st Meeting – Regular Session
Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended
Not enough time for Council to review.
4. August 16th Meeting – Regular Session and Work Session
Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.
Not enough time for Council to review.
5. August 23rd Meeting – Special City Council Session
Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended
Pattie Berg motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

F. Receive/Accept Reports

1. Sheriff's Report – Sheriff Jon Lopp
The Council reviewed the Meagher County Sheriff's Office complaint report for the month of August.
2. City Court Report – City Judge Lori Sorenson
Judge Sorenson handed out the White Sulphur Springs City Court Monthly Activity for August for Citations (issued/disposed) and Case Statistics. City Court Activities have increased with more involved cases Judge Sorenson has been a bit overloaded to try and get through everything in the three days (16 hours a week), with the Sheriff's Department being fully staffed with Deputies and a K-9 and not having a local Highway Patrolman since 2019 has increased activities. The City Judge hours will need to be changed to be able to keep up with the extra hours needed and be compensated.
3. Fire Department Report - City Fire Chief Sam Peeler – none.

4. City Engineer's Report

Craig Erickson reported to the Mayor about a PASER-Asphalt Study (evaluation of gravel/asphalt roadways) to analysis the City streets for approximately \$7,500 and would use a portion on the PER and CIP funds budgeted to cover this cost.

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

Public Work's Supervisor, Rocky Vinton, reported that the City Crew plans on starting the grinding on streets. In the morning the City Crew will jet out a sewer line. The thunderstorms during the week of August 22-26 had possibly shorted out the well#2 pump and melted the lines coming in from the pole. The well #2 pump should be arriving from UPS tomorrow. Western Water Wells in Helena will come up and install the well pump and then the electrician, Brian Fisher, will install the electricity and the Scada contractor, M.E.T will review and try to find out what happened and determinate what caused the problems that led to the well pump failure. The City will submit a claim to MMIA insurance. Willow Creek's turbidity goes down to .87 then goes back up to 2.0, DEQ says that they would like it under 1.0, so the water system's Sand Filter is not running right now. The City Crew will put more sand in the Sand Filter in the Fall in hopes that this helps with the turbidity issues.

6. Animal Control Report – Marc Pryor

Marc Pryor, said that he would like to thank Daryl Mesecher, Rick Ellison, Robert Thompson, Ron Coleman, and the Local Veterinary Mandy Britt for donating/helping with the 16 dogs and 2 cats since August 21st. Mandy Britt is taking care of the one of the female dogs, the mama dog and six puppies. Mandy Britt is going to give a reduced charge of approximately \$400 for the care of the animals. One of the male dogs had been injured and is limping, this would be an additional cost. Once the owner releases ownership of the animals then the animals can be adopted out. There have been a few citations here and there for loose dogs.

7. Parks Committee Report – Pattie Berg

Pattie Berg said that the next Parks Advisory Committee will be meeting September 15th.

8. Library Report – Rachel Wahlstrom

Rachel Wahlstrom said that the library does not do any programs in August. Storytime, Preschool, and monthly Colony visits are starting back up.

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

1. Revised Resolution # 2022-8: Pit Meters

Discussion and/or Action

Continued from August 1 discussion and August 16 meeting. Consider Revised Resolution 2022-8 to affect the replacement of identified water meters housed in below-ground chambers or pits to finish the exchange of old water meters for the new system meters: purchase the pit chambers and supplying the new meters for owners of each identified property to install.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Motion to approve Revised Resolution 2022-8 as presented or as amended.

Resolution #2022-8 revised, a Resolution of the City of White Sulphur Springs, Montana, to order and replace incompatible pit meters at partial City expense and authorizing expenditure for such replacement. The City discussed providing pit meters and pits for the remaining customers that still need to replace from the older Master Meter style to the new Neptune pit meter and pit within 180 days to comply with the changeout of the meter. Lee Blanchard motioned to approve Resolution #2022-8 as amended. Rick Ellison seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

2. RFP/RFQ for Auditor - Appointment

Discussion and/or Action

Mayor and Council to discuss submissions, if any, for City Auditor under the RFP/RFQ and Strom & Associates proposed continuation contract. Mayor to appoint City Auditor for 3-year term with consent of Council.

Accept Public Comment