

The regular meeting of the Glendive City Council was held Tuesday, November 15, 2022 in the multi-purpose ambulance building. Mayor Teresea Olson called the meeting to order with the following Council members present: Doug Baker, Leon Baker, Rhett Coon, Mike Dryden, Betsey Hedrick, Clyde Mitchell and Gerald Reichert and Jason Stuart. Department heads present included: Frank Ceane, Kitty Schmid, and Mary Jo Gehmert. Bill Klunder, Todd Opp, and Jacquie Silbernagel were absent. Others present included: Tanner Dey, Joe Gillespie, Dan Grooms, Brendan Heidner, Deb Holst, Lavonne Kautzman, Darci Saeman, Don Silbernagel, Pam Silbernagel and Cory Sleeth.

Mayor Olson opened the Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Hedrick moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2022 regular Council meeting; second by L. Baker and the motion passed with 6 in favor of the motion, Coon and Stuart abstaining from the vote.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **STREETS COMMITTEE 11/9/2022**

#### **Attendance**

Mayor: T. Olson

Streets Committee : J. Stuart, M. Dryden, R. Coon

City Employees: J. Reitz, D. Saeman

Media: B. Heidner, Ranger-Review

Guests: Leon Baker, Clyde Mitchell, Sandy Johnson, Steve Heidner, Shane Mintz, Jim Frank

**Meeting Called to Order at:** 4:03p.m.

#### **Agenda**

MDT Merrill Avenue project update

- MDT District Administrator Shane Mintz and staff delivered a presentation/update on the upcoming Merrill Avenue project, now scheduled for 2024. Specifically, MDT provided an update on the proposed changes to the Merrill-Douglas-Barry intersection. The current proposal would create a raised median that would prevent traffic from crossing Merrill to continue south on Barry or north on Douglas. Mr. Mintz noted however that MDT is researching and considering a proposal put forward by a local resident that would still allow traffic to cross Merrill from Douglas southbound onto Barry.
  - Mr. Mitchell expressed concerns that traffic could back up considerably at the Towne St. traffic lights with MDT's current plan. Mr. Mintz noted that MDT recognizes they may need to change the schedule on the traffic lights after the project is complete
  - Mr. Mintz specifically asked for the city's input on two issues regarding the Merrill Ave. project – whether or not to leave Mann St. open or closed to traffic; and whether or not to eliminate curbside parking along the east side of Merrill Ave. from Barry St. to Towne St.
  - After discussion, the committee recommends the city request to MDT that Mann St. be left open to traffic and agrees to eliminate curbside parking along the east side of Merrill between Barry and Towne streets. The Committee requests the Ordinance Committee begin working on an ordinance to prohibit curbside parking on that section of Merrill

Montana Avenue

- Mr. Mintz informed the city that contrary to previous statements to the committee made by Public Works Director Ceane, MDT does not require a traffic study be done on city streets prior to a speed limit change. Per Mr. Mintz, only state-owned routes like Merrill and “urban routes” like Meade and Taylor avenues require a MDT study before a speed limit change. Therefore, it is within the city council’s authority to set or change the speed limit on any other city-owned street at any time

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 5:02 p.m.

## **FUPR COMMITTEE 11/9/2022**

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Mayor:** T. Olson

**FUPR Committee :** M. Dryden, R. Coon, J. Stuart, absent G. Reichert

**Dept. Heads:** None Present

**City Employees:** J. Reitz, D. Saeman

**Council Members:** L. Baker, B. Hedrick, C. Mitchell

**Media:** Ranger-Review B. Heidner

**Guests:** S. Johnson, J. Kruger

**Duration:** 5:02-6:29

### **AGENDA**

1. **Splash Park Fundraising:** Sandy Johnson stated that she would be the contact person for the volunteers attempting to raise money to pay for the resurfacing of the “Splash Park” at Whipkey Park. FYI
2. **Request for Bids on New Ambulance:** Jessica Reitz informed the Committee that the ambulance specs were emailed to Ms. Schmid for Ambulance Director MJ Gehmert. The specs were not available to the Committee at this time.
  - a. **ACTION: FUPR recommends the Council approve a request to go out for bids for a new ambulance pending a review of the specs.**
3. **Watcheast:** The Mayor updated the Committee on Watcheast changing its operation within the City of Glendive. The City Attorney Herring states the proper MT State Agency would need to reapply for a local zoning variation. Director Ceane’s email stated that the State of MT would need to reapply for a zoning variance and a public hearing will be held within 30 days of the City being noticed by the State’s request.
  - a. **ACTION: Chairman Dryden requested the Mayor obtain a written response from the City’s contracted Planner on how to proceed with Watcheast.**
4. **Request for Bids on Sewer/Water Projects (Interstate Engineering):** Director Ceane requested that the City seek bids on the Sewer & Water projects engineered by Interstate Engineering. The Committee had questions of Mr. Ceane.
  - a. **ACTION: FUPR recommends the Council approve the request for bids pending the answers to their questions by Director Ceane.**

5. **Request to Expand Job Site Listings:** Mayor Olson brought a request from the City's Personnel Committee to expand the Job Site Listing Options from just MT Jobs Service to include 4 other options at an additional cost of \$250.00.
  - a. **ACTION: FUPR recommends that the City pay up to \$300.00 to obtain use of the additional job site listings to recruit potential City employees. If this action requires a change in City Policy or practice, then FUPR recommends the change.**
6. **Request to Use Northern Lights Investigations:** Mayor Olson recommended, as did Ty Ulrich and Jake Feist, that the City acquire the services of Northern Lights Investigations to do background checks on Police Chief candidates that have been screened by the City.
  - a. **ACTION: FUPR recommends that the City enter into an agreement with Northern Lights Investigation to screen select Chief of Police candidates.**
7. **Community Gate Request:** Community Gate spokesperson Jan Kruger wanted reassurance from the City that would continue to create a green space at this location.
  - a. **ACTION: The Mayor and Committee stated that the green landscaping would be completed but the City's boring projects would be a priority at that location.**
8. **Proposed City Resolution 3120:** Resolution to clarify that the Council is responsible for the location of the City Council meetings.
  - a. **ACTION: FUPR recommends the Council approve Resolution 3120**
9. **Public Comment:** Mayor Olson recommended that the Council address concerns about the impracticability of the handicap-accessible equipment in City Hall. The Committee commented that they would address this concern with the utmost urgency and work with the Mayor to provide more user-friendly equipment.
10. **Meeting adjourned 6:29 pm**
11. **Respectfully submitted Mike Dryden Ward III**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA**

No public comment was given.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Approve a request to go out for bids for a new ambulance.** Coon moved to approve a request to go out for bids for a new ambulance; second by Dryden and the motion passed 8 to 0.

**Approve a request for bids on water and sewer projects with Interstate Engineering.** D. Baker moved to approve a request for bids on water and sewer projects with Interstate Engineering; second by Coon and the motion passed 8 to 0.

**Approve up to \$300.00 for additional job site listing to recruit chief of police and waive current policy.** Mitchell moved to approve up to \$300.00 for additional job site listing to recruit chief of police position and waive current policy; second by Hedrick and the motion passed 8 to 0.

**Approve entering into agreement with Northern Lights Investigation to screen chief of police candidates.** Coon moved to approve entering into agreement with Northern Lights Investigation to screen chief of police candidates; second by L. Baker and the motion passed 8 to 0.

**Approve Resolution #3120.** L. Baker moved to approve Resolution #3120; second by Stuart and the motion passed 8 to 0.

**Approve accounts payable claims: \$95,775.92.** Dryden moved to approve accounts payable claims: \$95,775.92; second by L. Baker and the motion passed 8 to 0.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Department heads were provided time for comments.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Ordinance Committee 4:00 pm Monday November 21, 2022

Personnel Committee 4:15pm Monday November 21, 2022

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor was provided time for comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY PUBLIC MATTER NOT ON THE AGENDA**

No public comment was given.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council members were provided time for comments.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The regular council meeting was recessed and an executive session was held at 8:00pm for a duty to bargain with the regular scheduled council meeting resuming at 8:26pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

D. Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by L. Baker and the meeting was adjourned at 8:28pm.

Dated this 15th day of November, 2022.

Approved the 6th day of December, 2022.

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Teresea Olson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jessica Reitz, Administrative Clerk