

CITY OF FORSYTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF March 4, 2024
STATE OF MONTANA

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; officials in attendance were; Council Members Ethan Bell, Doug Roberts, Sam Beyl and Chris Purkett, City Clerk/ Treasurer Sandra Donley, Water/ Wastewater Director - Code Enforcement Officer Taylor Hallman and Undersheriff Scott McDermott. Excused from attending were Public Works Director Richard Thompson, Pool Manager Jason Forberg, and Attorney Jeff Weldon.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

REVIEW – REVISE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Kopitzke presented the consent agenda for approval:

Council Member Purkett made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included claim numbers 23448-23478 in the amount of \$73,993.21 and check numbers 22161–22186 in the amount of \$32,476.09 for prior approved claims. The motion to approve the consent agenda was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

CITIZENS:

Unfinished Business:

1. 242 N 12th Avenue- Undersheriff McDermott stated he had nothing new on this matter. Mayor Kopitzke stated he will contact County Attorney White.

New Business:

1. Mayor Kopitzke presented Open Container, Parade and Street Closure Permits from Mrs. Molly Thornberg of the Montana Warriors on the Water for a Fundraiser May 31, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve the permits requested contingent on proof of insurance, the motion was seconded by Council Member Purkett. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

2. Mrs. BreeAnn Purkett with the Forsyth Chamber of Commerce had three (3) requests to present. Mayor Kopitzke asked that she present each request separate.

1. Disk Golf- BreeAnn presented a proposed course for Riverside Park. Mr. Aaron Jones spoke on the course he had designed and answered questions.

Council Member Bell made a motion to approve the Chamber of Commerce to move forward with putting the disk golf course in Riverside Park, the motion was seconded by Council Member Purkett. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

2. New logos on sidewalks- BreeAnn handed out a sample of the new logos and explained how the logos would be placed on the sidewalks. Discussion was had on the material that would be used and BreeAnn explained the material would not be slick.

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve the Chamber of Commerce to move forward with putting the new logo on sidewalks, the motion was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

3. Tax Exemption for McConnell Park- BreeAnn stated the yearly costs for the Chamber of Commerce for McConnell Park. Discussion was had and BreeAnn was directed to Rosebud County to see if they could do something with the property tax. City Clerk Donley stated the taxes that run through the city are lights and street maintenance and these are taxed to every property owner even nonprofits.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: City Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Donley, Water/Wastewater Director Taylor Hallman and Undersheriff McDermott gave verbal and written reports. Code Enforcement Officer Taylor Hallman gave a verbal report. Public Works Director Richard Thompson and Pool Manager Jason Forberg had a written report included in the packet.

Code Enforcement Officer: CEO Hallman stated he had spoken to Ms. Young concerning her Oak Street property and she is aware there may be penalties as she stated she will not have the trailer cleaned up by the date the city set. Taylor also reported he was working on debris letters and had went over Title V.

OLD BUSINESS:

Levee (Dike) Update: Nothing New

Windfarm-Impact Funds: Mayor Kopitzke stated he would meet with City Clerk Donley on this item and the council could revisit it at the next meeting.

Water Project Update: Director Hallman reported the project had nothing new at this time.

Front Street Project: Mayor Kopitzke reported the State of Montana has started removing trees for the project and that the City of Forsyth should reapply for the transportation assistance grant for 2025.

Union Negotiations: City Clerk Donley will get in contact with Teamsters regarding the start of negotiations for a new contract.

Code Changes:

1. Vegetation Code: Council Member Purkett stated he was still working on this code.
2. Title V: CEO Hallman stated the code may need a few changes in wording.
3. Smoke Issues: Council Member Bell has checked into State Code as there is no city code. Council Member Purkett stated this may be a DEQ issue.
4. Riverview Villa Zoning: Council Member Bell stated the Riverview Villa Board was okay with not zoning the Villa and having them change their rules to cover issues they may have. City Clerk Donley stated she had emailed the tax valuation to Bob Martelle that he was asking for.

NEW BUSINESS:

Oak Street Bid Opening: Mayor Koptizke reported Lane with Interstate Engineering had been to city hall earlier in the day to do bid openings. There were two (2) bids that were both submitted electronically. City Clerk Donley and Mayor Kopitzke both were present for the openings. Lane with Interstate Engineering will be present at the April 8, 2024 council meeting to present the bids so the council may award the job.

REPORTS:

City Judge Egeland had a report included in the packet.

City Council: None

Mayor: Mayor Kopitzke presented his report and asked if there was any questions.

City Attorney: None

COUNCIL COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS:

Parks and Public Works: Council Members Purkett and Bell attended a committee meeting with Public Works Director Thompson on February 23, 2024 in the city hall council chambers. Council Member Purkett reported the committee talked about putting up a new sign at the transfer station to remind people to check with the transfer station

employee before dumping. The committee thinks the form for cutting and taking wood from the transfer station pile should be obtained from city hall and a new form is needed daily. The committee talked about a possible fee for contractors to dump and a new gate for the transfer station. Todd Maciag with the Forsyth Young Men's Club attended the meeting and reported the club would like to possibly put in a new fire pit and volley ball pit at Marcyces Park.

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 8, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Public Comment: Mayor Kopitzke asked for public comment after each topic, if comments are made; those comments are recorded as part of the official minutes.

Agenda Items for the Next Meeting: Union Negotiations, Windfarm-Impact Funds, Water Project Update, Levee Update, Code Changes, Awarding of Oak Street Project, Transfer Station, Zoning Map Update and 242 N 12th Avenue Update.

With no other business to discuss, Mayor Kopitzke adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke

City Clerk Sandra Donley