

February 27, 2024

The Red Lodge City Council met in regular session on January 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Westwood, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Present: Mayor Westwood, Aldermen Conlee, Daniels, Keys, Miller, Ronning and Toupin.

DEPARTMENT HEAD ATTENDANCE: City Clerk – Loni Hanson and Public Works Director – Mike Maples

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA- Motion by Conlee, second by Daniels to adopt the agenda as presented. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

MAYOR’S BUSINESS- Mayor’s Reports- Mayor Westwood and Police Chief, Greg Srock, presented Scott Cope with a retirement plaque for his 30 years of service in the Police Department.

Mayor Westwood had a retirement plaque for Jim Bushnell for his 24 years of service in the Public Works Department but Jim could not be present at the meeting. The Mayor presented it to the City Clerk to give to Jim.

Rocky Fork Inn Correction and Update- Mayor Westwood said he made an incorrect statement at the last Council meeting regarding the appraisal value for the Bastian property. He had said the appraisal value is based on post-flood, but the correct statement is the appraisal value is based in pre-flood.

Mayor Westwood said the land acquisition is moving forward and discussed the options for the 25% match the City will have to come up with.

Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary Update- Mayor Westwood gave an update on the YWS property lines. He said the City Attorney and Public Works Director met and a land swap would be the City’s best option.

Airport Negotiations Update- Mayor Westwood said there will be a meeting on March 5, 2024, between the County Commissioners, City and County Attorneys and himself to work on the Airport agreement.

Mayor Westwood said there will be three member openings on the Planning Board coming up at the end of March. He said the posting will be in this week’s paper and the appointments will be made at the first meeting in March.

Mayor Westwood said he is working with the Parks Board and MDT on a walking trail going up Brewery Hill (Highway 78).

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA- Max Mainerd, Red Lodge, asked about the FEMA funding and the Eagles Nest Motel and if there is money to clean up that area as well.

ACTION ITEMS- Update Standing Committee Assignments- Alderman Ronning, Council President, read a statement regarding the standing committee assignments for the newly appointed Council member, Doug Miller.

Motion by Conlee, second by Daniels to assign Alderman Miller to the Land Use and Planning and Public Health and Safety Committees. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Motion by Conlee, second by Daniels to change the Land Use and Planning Committee meeting time to 3:45 p.m. and the Public Works Committee meeting time to 4:45 p.m. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Appointment of Resort Tax and Sustainability Committee Members- Mayor Westwood asked Council to approve the following Mayor reappointments to the Resort Tax Committee; Tom Kuntz for a two (2) year term and Jeremy Battles for a one (1) year term.

Motion by Daniels, second by Keys to approve the Mayor's reappointments to the Resort Tax Committee. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Mayor Westwood said he would like Council's approval to reappoint Kris Keys to the Resort Tax Committee for a one (1) year term, expiring on April 2025.

Motion by Daniels, second by Conlee to approve the Mayor's reappointment to the Resort Tax Committee. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Mayor Westwood said we had two openings on the Resort Tax Committee. We received two letters of interest, Brent Moore and Joy Goodwin. Mayor Westwood said these will be Council appointments.

Motion by Conlee, second by Daniels to appoint Brent Moore for a two (2) year term and Joy Goodwin for a one (1) year term to the Resort Tax Committee. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Mayor Westwood said he would like to reappoint Julie Hancock and Alan Best to the Sustainability Board and newly appoint Joy Goodwin to the Sustainability Board, all with two (2) year terms.

Motion by Toupin, second by Keys to approve the Mayor's reappointments and new appointment to the Sustainability Board. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Resolution No. 3640, Authorize to Submit CDBG Planning Grant Application- Motion by Conlee, second by Keys to approve Resolution No. 3640, authorization to submit CDBG Planning Grant application. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Resolution #3640

Authorization to Submit CDBG Planning Grant Application

WHEREAS, the City of Red Lodge in conjunction with the Red Lodge Area Community Foundation (RLACF) is applying to the Montana Department of Commerce for financial assistance from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program to prepare a Housing Study for eligible property within the Urban Renewal District for the City of Red Lodge as an Appendix to the Red Lodge Growth Policy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Red Lodge has the legal jurisdiction and authority to adopt a Housing Study for eligible property within the Urban Renewal District as part of the Red Lodge Growth Policy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Red Lodge and RLACF agrees to comply with all State laws and regulations and the requirements described in the CDBG Application and Administration Guidelines for Planning Grants specifically, and those that will be described in the CDBG Project Administration Manual generally; and

WHEREAS, within the City of Red Lodge, a lack of available housing has reached detrimental levels and is impeding economic development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Red Lodge and RLACF seek to find solutions that will increase the supply of low-income housing and workforce housing; and

WHEREAS, the matching funding sources for the 1:1 grant for development of the Housing Study for eligible property within the Urban Renewal District would be donated by RLACF;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Red Lodge Montana that the Mayor of the City of Red Lodge is authorized to submit this application to the Montana Department of Commerce on behalf of the City of Red Lodge, to act on its behalf and to provide such additional information as may be required.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council on the 27th day of February 2024.

FOR THE CITY OF RED LODGE, MONTANA:

City of Red Lodge

Attest:

By: _____

By: _____

David Westwood, Mayor

Loni Hanson, City Clerk

Resolution No. 3641, Resolution to Exclude Certain Real Property from the City of Red Lodge- Motion by Conlee, second by Daniels to approve Resolution No. 3641, a resolution to exclude certain real property from the City of Red Lodge as amended. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Cody Marxer, Contracted Planner, read her staff report that was included in the packet. She said if the Council approves this resolution, there would be a record of decision that would be attached to the approved resolution stating the conditions of approval.

Mayor Westwood opened the Public Hearing regarding Resolution No. 3641.

No one spoke.

Mayor Westwood Closed the Public Hearing.

There was discussion among the Council regarding Resolution No. 3641.

Motion by Keys, second by Conlee to amend Resolution No. 3641, adding "1.d. Any real cost incurred by the City shall be borne by applicant." under "Now therefore be it resolved" On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 3641

A RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF RED LODGE

WHEREAS, the City Council of Red Lodge, Montana, met at their regular meeting place in the Red Lodge City Hall, 1 South Platt, Red Lodge, Montana on February 27, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, Title 7, Chapter 2, Part 48, MCA, authorizes the City to exclude real property from the City of Red Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, a petition to exclude land dated November 22, 2023, has been filed with the City of Red Lodge by D & S Langlas LLC to exclude land from the city limits of the City of Red Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, a revised exclusion petition dated January 12, 2024, has been filed with the City of Red Lodge by D & S Langlas LLC to exclude land from the city limits of the City of Red Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of Red Lodge has reviewed the Petition submitted by D & S Langlas LLC; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the petition is (1) signed by not less than three-fourths in value of the territory to be excluded, (2) that the territory petitioned to be excluded is within the corporate limits and on the border of the corporate limits, (3) that the granting of the petition is in the best interest of the City and the inhabitants, and (4) the granting of the petition will not materially mar the symmetry of the City.

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution #3638, a Resolution of Intent, to exclude the properties as legally described below:

The subject property is located north of Cole Drive and can be legally described as part of Red Lodge Country Club Estates, Section 22, Township 7 South, Range 20 East, RLCCE 4th Filing Lot 42A1, Block 9, COS 1448 RB, P.M.M., Carbon County Montana, with the request to exclude land involving 0.51-acres.

WHEREAS, the City of Red Lodge provided for a protest period of 20 days, in accordance with MCA 7-2-4806; and,

WHEREAS, D & S Langlas LLC must comply with all conditions of approval, as described in the Record of Decision; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Red Lodge, Montana:

1. That the City Council finds as follows:
 - a. That all applicable sections of MCA specific to the Exclusion of Land have been satisfied.
 - b. That the granting of the petition is in the best interest of the City and it's inhabitants and will not materially mar the symmetry of the City.
 - c. That the boundary of the City shall then be as set forth in Exhibit A (attached hereto) of this resolution and referenced below:
 - d. Any real cost incurred by the City shall be borne by the applicant.

The specific land to be de-annexed and excluded can commonly be described as land lying north of Cole Drive and east of Highway 78.

2. That this Resolution becomes effective 30 days after its passage and approval.
3. That the City Clerk shall, within 30 days after the passage and approval of this Resolution, provide a copy thereof to the Carbon County Clerk for filing, duly certified together with a map showing the amended corporate limits of the City.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Red Lodge, Montana, on the 27th day of February 2024.

FOR THE CITY OF RED LODGE, MONTANA:

BY: _____
David Westwood, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Loni Hanson, City Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE- Any correspondence was included in Council packets.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY- Conlee updated the Council on what the Public Health and Safety Committee is working on, including crisis management, addressing fireworks, Resort Tax survey for police salaries and capital purchases for the Fire Department that could be taken out of Resort Tax.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE- Alderman Ronning said the Admin and Finance Committee is working on the business registration ordinance and fees resolution and ordinance that will be coming to Council soon.

City Council Rules and Procedures- Alderman Ronning went over some of the changes the Committee looked at that need to be updated and/or changed in the City Council Rules and Procedures. She also requested from Council any feedback and/or changes they would like to see.

There was discussion among Council members regarding the meetings and the City Council Rules and Procedures.

LAND USE AND PLANNING- Planning Board Priorities- Alderman Conlee went over the Planning Board priorities and what the Land Use and Planning Committee felt were the most important ones the Board should be working on.

There was more discussion among the Council regarding the Planning Board priorities.

Motion by Toupin, second by Ronning to extend the meeting past 8:00 p.m. but not later than 8:30 p.m. By show of hands all Aldermen present approved.

PUBLIC WORKS- Republic Services Budget Shortfall- Alderman Toupin explained the budget shortfall in the solid waste fund and the options the City could do to fix the shortfall, including putting the garbage fees back onto the utility bills.

There was more discussion regarding the mechanism for collecting the fees for garbage.

Pool Fees- Alderman Toupin talked about the pool fees that the Pool Committee is recommending this year.

Arbor Day Grant-Resolution Needed- Alderman Toupin said the City received an Arbor Day Grant. The Council needs to approve a resolution approving the grant.

EPA's CPRG Grant- Alderman Toupin said this grant is for a solar grid project at the sewer lagoons and the water pumping station. She said they are going to move cautiously on this grant to make sure we won't be wasting anyone's time and following the right steps.

Readdressing Project- Alderman Toupin said the committee didn't have time to discuss the readdressing project.

Pride Park MOU- Alderman Toupin said the committee didn't have time to discuss the Pride Park MOU.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY PUBLIC MATTER NOT ON THE AGENDA- Max Mainerd, Red Lodge, talked about short term rentals and how maybe the City could give incentives to property owners who have short term rentals to change over to long term rentals.

Jenn Capp, Red Lodge, AAA Rentals, said they could possibly assist in funding pool passes for people that can not afford them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

Disclaimer: These minutes conform to the requirements of MCA Code 2-3-212. A full recording of the meeting and discussion may be found at www.cityofredlodge.net/meetings.

