

December 12, 2023

The Red Lodge City Council met in regular session on December 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cogswell, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Present: Mayor Cogswell, Aldermen Battles, Daniels, Durbin, Heaton, Keys and Ronning.

DEPARTMENT HEAD ATTENDANCE: City Clerk – Loni Hanson and Public Works Director- Jim Bushnell.

WARRANTS PAYABLE Motion by Keys, second by Battles to approve warrants against the City totaling \$995,659.98 to be paid and warrants drawn on their respective funds. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Alderman Keys said there is a pass-through payment for the Community Foundation for the CDBG Grant for \$182,000 and a payment to Wilson Brothers for \$462,000 for their work on the stormwater project.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2023 Motion by Heaton, second by Keys to approve the minutes of November 14, 2023 as presented. On roll call vote Aldermen Battles, Daniels, Heaton, Keys and Ronning voted “Aye.” Alderman Durbin voted “No.” Motion carried.

Alderman Durbin had concerns with the way the minutes are being written and asked the rest of the Council to vote “No” until they could be fixed. Please see attachment for her comments. (1A)

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2023 Motion by Heaton, second by Battles to approve the minutes of November 28, 2023 as presented. On roll call vote Aldermen Battles, Daniels, Heaton, Keys and Ronning voted “Aye.” Alderman Durbin voted “No.” Motion carried.

Alderman Durbin had concerns with the way the minutes are being written and asked the rest of the Council to vote “No” until they could be fixed. Please see attachment for her comments. (1A)

MAYOR’S COMMENTS- Use of City Owned Land Permit, Song Writer’s Festival- Mayor Cogswell said in the packet for information, is the Use of City Owned Land Permit for the Song Writer’s Festival.

Board Appointments- Mayor Cogswell said she would like to reappoint Marci Dye to the Urban Renewal District Board. Motion by Ronning, second by Keys to approve the Mayor’s reappointment of Marci Dye.

Mayor Cogswell said she would like to appoint JoAnne Eder to the Urban Renewal District Board. Motion by Ronning, second by Keys to approve the Mayor’s appointment of JoAnne Eder.

Project Update- Mayor Cogswell said included in the packet is a project update from our engineering firm, Great West Engineering, that includes the current public works projects they are working on.

Mayor Cogswell said she felt gratitude for being able to serve the community for the last two years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- Julie Rae, Red Lodge, thanked the Council and Mayor for their service.

Theresa Whistler, Red Lodge, thanked the Mayor for her service and what she has done over her two years in office. Please see attachment. (1B)

Beth Hutchinson, Red Lodge, referenced the discussion of minutes and said they should be time stamped on the audio/video.

Sandy Conlee, Red Lodge, had comments regarding the minutes and said they should be verbatim. She also thanked the Mayor and Council for their service.

Jenn Capp, Red Lodge, thanked the Mayor and Council for their service.

Chelsea Toupin, Red Lodge, had comments regarding the minutes. She also thanked everyone for their service.

Sue Bury, Red Lodge/Denver, said she is on the Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary and asked the Council to postpone the MOU that is on the agenda. She said the staff and board have not had time to review the MOU.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE- General Fund Budget Presentation Alderman Battles gave a presentation on options to improve the General Fund. The presentation is available on the City's website.

Alderman Durbin had comments regarding compensation for the library, clerk, and police departments. She had concerns regarding the budget process.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY- None.

LAND USE AND PLANNING- Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary MOU- Alderman Heaton said the staff and board of the Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary need more time to review this MOU and would like to postpone moving forward with this.

Motion by Heaton, second by Keys to move to table the Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary MOU. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Special Meeting- Alderman Heaton said the Council needs to hold a special meeting to discuss the resolution regarding the dissolution of airport assets.

Motion by Heaton, second by Ronning to call for a special meeting to discuss the possible extension of the dissolution of airport assets. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

An agenda will be posted with a date and time of the special meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS- None.

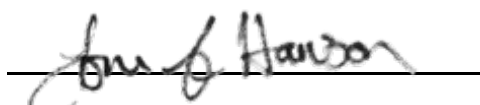
Mayor Cogswell thanked Courtney Long, Planning Director and Jim Bushnell, Public Works Director, for their time and dedication to the City.

CORRESPONDENCE- Any correspondence was included in Council packets.
Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Kieran Connell in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Mayor

Handwritten signature of John F. Hanson in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

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.

