

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD AUGUST 15, 2016**

Regular Meeting - Transact Routine Business

Mayor Barnhart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with roll call as follows:

PRESENT: Mayor Barnhart
COUNCIL: Karper, Petersen, Shepard, Fisher, Lovering and Piper
ABSENT: None

ROLL CALL

Also present were City Manager Nicosia, City Clerk Staland, City Attorney Breck and Police Chief Perry.

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Barnhart requested a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Fisher moved to approve the agenda, second by Councilman Karper, and the motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA
APPROVAL**

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilman Karper moved to approve the consent agenda noting that all claims appeared to be in order, second by Councilman Fisher and the motion carried.

**CONSENT
AGENDA
APPROVAL**

- A. Approval of Claims - \$ 61,969.07 - August 15, 2016
- B. Approval of Payroll Claims - \$ 93,884.69 - August 5, 2016
- C. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - August 1, 2016

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

**VISITOR/PUBLIC
COMMENTS**

APPOINTMENTS:

A. Approve appointment of Probationary Volunteer Firefighter - Joe Schrader
Councilman motioned to approve firefighter Schrader
B. Approve appointment of Probationary Volunteer Firefighter - Clark Davis
Fire Chief Hagen said Joe Schrader was a volunteer from 2004-2007 he moved out of the fire district and has recently purchased a home in the rural district. Clark Davis has spent time on the Smith Valley Department and his family currently lives in Columbia Falls. Fire Chief Hagen said the recommendation is to appoint both as volunteer firefighters.

**APPOINTMENTS-
Fire Department
Volunteers-
Schrader and Davis**

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve Schrader and Davis as Volunteer Firefighters, second by Councilman Piper and the motion

carried unanimously.

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NOTICES OF HEARINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Public Hearing Continuation: Notice is hereby given, that the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, will hold public hearings beginning on August 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Columbia Falls City Hall, 130-6th Street West, Columbia Falls, Montana, for the following purposes:

**PUBLIC
HEARINGS**

Preliminary Budget

RESOLUTION

Presentation and consideration of the preliminary budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017. This hearing will be continued until final adoption of the budget.

Special Assessments

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

Consideration of the adoption of the Street Lighting District and Street Maintenance District assessments for FY2016/2017. Council will hear any objections to the final adoption of the resolution levying special assessments for FY 2016/2017. Special Assessments are estimated as follows:

Street Lighting District \$ 33,928

Street Maintenance District \$301,000

Individual property payment schedules are available for inspection ten (10) days from this notice, in the office of the City Clerk, 130 6th Street West, Columbia Falls, Montana, during regular hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Permissive Medical Levy

Consideration of adoption on the proposed tax levy to fund health insurance premium contributions for group benefits beyond the amount of contributions in effect on June 30, 1999. The actual mills for consideration decreased 3.046 due to the increase in the mill value and a \$9,430 decrease in the appropriations.

Taxpayers are encouraged to attend the hearings and give written or oral comments on any or all of the budget-related items. Written comments may be mailed to the City Clerk, 130 6th Street West, Room A, Columbia Falls, Montana, 59912. Questions regarding the proposed items can be made by contacting City Manager Susan Nicosia at 892-4391.

Nicosia reported that Council can levy the maximum with no change on taxable value. Nicosia said she is recommending reducing the Leaving street assessments \$301,000 and street lighting at \$33,928

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Mayor opened and closed the public hearing at 7:39 p.m.

Councilman Petersen said he likes to look at things over the last 5-10 years instead of year to year. The increase didn't appear to be much for one year but what would it be for 5 years.

To maximize the levy's. SN Dec. 3 the revenue and transportation committee entertained making a change right away. The city has always used their maximum mills.

Mayor Barnhart there was a time when we didn't have much money, we had growth and now that we have growth and this is a good budget.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCES

A. SECOND AND FINAL READING - ORDINANCE # 765 - An Ordinance of the City Council of The City Of Columbia Falls, Montana, Changing The Zoning Classification From CB-2 (General Business) and CR-4 (Urban Residential) To CRA-1 Residential Apartment for Certain Property in the Columbia Falls Zoning District, Described as Tract B of the Crescent Amended Plat Excluding MDOT Right-Of-Way and Assessors Tracts 1A and 1AD all Located in Section 9, Township 30 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., Flathead County, Montana, More Particularly Described as 673 8th Avenue E.N. and 810 Railroad Street, Columbia Falls.

Nicosia said there has been no change.

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Fisher noticed the new playground at Pinewood Park.

Lovering the letter from Mr. Gasser on the banks. SN said it was more on the benches. Jenkins has looked at the bank. There is concern that we need signage. And we are watching it. Lovering the businesses along the highway what is the requirements for property upkeep. SN said before 07-08 there was not landscaping requirements. A new business should be meeting the requirements.

Mike can we put up a POA flag to put up at Maranetee Park. SN said yes. Shepard said we donated the proceeds to the baseball field grandstand.

Petersen said the economic meeting was good.

Mayor the bench at the Marantette wall is not level, can we get it secured and leveled. Do you have a start time on the Red Bridge park. SN said Mark Delaray is communication. Last meeting Duffy 4th and Talbot does not have adequate lighting maybe reflector delineators may be.

NEW BUSINESS

**ORDINANCE
#765-Rose
Maldonado zone
change**

**REPORTS FROM
MAYOR AND
COUNCIL
REPORT FROM
CITY ATTORNEY**

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REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:

None.

CITY MANAGER:

SN said the reflector delineators is a good idea.

The meeting with big sky tourism grant definitely gave us ideas. The public works committee will meet Tuesday to review water, sewer. We are planning a neighborhood meeting on September 2nd.,

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

A. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - List available for Review

**CORRESPONDEN
CE**

B. REPORTS:

a. July Police Activity

ADJOURN: Upon motion duly made by Councilman -----and seconded by Councilman -----the meeting adjourned at p.m.

ADJOURN

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ACTION: September 6, 2016