

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD DECEMBER 21, 2015**

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, Shepard, Fisher and Lovering
ABSENT: Plevel and Petersen

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 Shepard moved to approve the agenda, second by Councilman Fisher, and the motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA
APPROVAL**

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilman Shepard moved to approve the consent agenda noting that all claims appeared to be in order, second by Councilman Fisher. Motion carried with Council voting as follows: YES: Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Shepard and Barnhart NOES: None. ABSENT: Plevel and Petersen.

**CONSENT
AGENDA
APPROVAL**

- A. Approval of Claims - \$125,857.13 - December 21, 2015
- B. Approval of Payroll Claims - \$57,374.03 - December 18, 2015
- C. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - December 7, 2015
- D. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Applied Water Consulting, LLC and authorize City Manager to sign (\$13,950 - Water Rights Assistance)

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

**VISITOR
COMENTS**

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

A. FIRST READING - Ordinance # 756 - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Amending Portions of Title 18 of the Columbia Falls Municipal Code (Increase the Accessory Building Height to Allow for Current Building Standards and to Amend the Building Height from 30' to 35' to be Consistent Within all of the Residential Districts).

**ORDINANCE
#756-First Reading-
Title 18 Building
Height**

Councilman Shepard made motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance #756, second by councilman Fisher and the motion carried.

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B. FIRST READING - Ordinance # 757 - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Amending Title 18 Chapter 18.438 Signs of the Columbia Falls Municipal Code (Chapter 18.438 Signs to comply with a recent US Supreme Court decision requiring sign regulations be content neutral while still regulating time, place and manner of signage.)

**ORDINANCE
#757-First Reading-
Title 18 Signs**

Councilman Fisher motioned to approve the First Reading of Ordinance #757, second by Councilman Lovering. Motion carried.

C. FIRST READING - Ordinance # 758 - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Adding Title 18 Chapter 18.439 Cluster Unit Development to the Columbia Falls Municipal Code (to provide another zoning tool that respects the overall density of a property but also preserves more farm and open space areas.)

**ORDINANCE
#758-First Reading
Title 18 Cluster
Unit Development**

Councilman Karper motioned to approve the First Reading of Ordinance #758, second by Councilman Shepard and the motion carried.

D. Resolution # 1717 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Annexing Certain Real Property Located in the East Half of Section 17, Township 30 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., Flathead County, Montana, Described as Parcel A on Certificate of Survey No. 19988, Records of Flathead County, Montana.

**RESOLUTION
#1717-Annexation**

Nicosia reported that notice was given to the property owner and the City did not receive any protest within the 20 day comment period, which ended December 12th.

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve Resolution #1717, second by Councilman Lovering with Council voting as follows. AYES: Karper, Lovering, Shepard, Fisher and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: Plevel and Petersen.

E. Resolution #1718 - A Resolution of the City Council of Columbia Falls, Montana Abandoning, Discontinuing and Vacating a 10' Portion of 8th Street East Adjacent to Lot 1, Block 61 Columbia Falls Original, Columbia Falls, Montana.

**RESOLUTION
#1718-Abandon 10'
on 8th Street E.**

City Manager Nicosia said she attached a memo noting that the request to revise the petition to abandon a 10' portion of 8th Street East adjacent to Lot 1; Block 61. The original request was to abandon the 10' to allow for a retaining wall and an upper deck encroachment, the revised request is to add the 10' to the lot and allow the structure to be built within the full 35' width. Nicosia said she and Public Works Director Jenkins have reviewed

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the request and recommend Council approval. Mayor Barnhart asked if they can build to the property line. Nicosia replied yes, but will not be allowed to encroach into the remaining right of way.

Councilman Shepard made motion to approve Resolution #1718 to include the amended request, second by Councilman Karper, with Council voting as follows. AYES: Lovering, Shepard, Fisher, Karper and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: Plevel and Petersen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Councilman Fisher said the Brewery building is coming along but they have not started brewing yet.

Mayor Barnhart announced Columbia Falls won the Battle of the Bells competition for the Salvation Army for the third consecutive year. Mayor said it makes him proud to be a part of this caring and generous community.

**REPORTS FROM
MAYOR AND
COUNCIL**

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:

None.

**REPORT FROM
CITY ATTORNEY**

CITY MANAGER:

City Manager Nicosia announced that City Hall will close at noon on Christmas Eve as we do not generate foot or phone traffic in the afternoon, employees will use four hours of vacation or comp time.

January 12, 2016, the Chamber of Commerce luncheon will feature Mr. Wisemiller from Department of Commerce to present the MT Main Street Program. If you would like to attend the luncheon contact City Clerk Staland to reserve your seat. Also on January 12th 2016 there will be Planning/Council training from City Attorney Breck and City Planer Mulcahy.

Nicosia reminded Council of the CFAC meeting Thursday, January 21, 2016 at the Columbia Falls High School Cafeteria.

Nicosia also noted that the Parks Committee will need to schedule a meeting soon to discuss the pond at the River's Edge Park. Nicosia reported that the City received a \$1,000 donation offer from Larry Fowler to put towards the pond at River's Edge Park.

At the January 4th Council meeting, council will update the committee list. Nicosia noted that the list will be put in the next packet for council.

Mayor Barnhart noted that the City paid for engineering for the Red

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

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Bridge Park. Nicosia said the engineer's produced a plan but we were not successful in getting the heavy equipment program from FVCC to come move the dirt. Nicosia said they will look at starting the project in the spring. Barnhart and Fisher would like to review a copy of the engineer's plan.

A. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

A. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - List available for Review

B. Reports:

a. Police Report-November 2015

**CORRESPON-
DENCE**

ADJOURN: Upon motion duly made by Councilman Fisher and seconded by Councilman Lovering, meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

ADJOURN

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ACTION: January 4, 2016