

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 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, Fire Chief Hagen and Sergeant Murphy.

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

**AGENDA
APPROVAL**

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilman Petersen moved to approve the consent agenda noting that all claims appeared to be in order including two additional claims, second by Councilman Lovering and the motion carried.

**CONSENT
AGENDA
APPROVAL**

- A. Approval of Claims - \$ 84,148.62 - September 6, 2016
- B. Approval of Payroll Claims - \$ 63,249.53 - August 26 , 2016
Approval of Payroll Claims - \$13,211.81 - August 29, 2016/clothing allowance
- C. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - August 15, 2016

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**VISITOR/PUBLIC
COMMENTS**

APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Approve appointment of Probationary Volunteer Firefighter - Brett Ellis

**APPOINTMENTS-
Probationary
Volunteer
Firefighters-Ellis
and Hutchens**

Fire Chief Hagen said Brett Ellis has lived in the City for about 10 years. Mr. Ellis has shown interest in the Fire Department and has attended some training. Fire Chief Hagen and City Manager Nicosia recommend appointing Brett Ellis as a Probationary Volunteer Firefighter.

Councilman Karper motioned to approve Brett Ellis as a Probationary Volunteer Firefighter, second by Councilman Shepard and the motion passed.

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2016**

B. Approve appointment of Probationary Volunteer Firefighter - Daniel Hutchens.

Fire Chief Hagen said Daniel Hutchens lives in the rural fire district and has attended training at the Fire Department. Fire Chief Hagen and City Manager Nicosia recommend appointing Daniel Hutchens as Probationary Volunteer Firefighter.

Councilman Lovering motioned bringing on Daniel Hutchens as a Probationary Volunteer Firefighter, second by Councilman Shepard and the motion carried.

City Clerk Staland administered the oath of office to Ellis and Hutchens as Probationary Volunteer Firefighters.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

A. Resolution #1730 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Redefining the Area Included Within the Columbia Falls Street Maintenance District and Method of Assessment.

**RESOLUTION
#1730-Street Maint.
District/Method of
Assessment**

City Manager Nicosia said this resolution includes the 2015 annexations and the adjusted large lot modifications. Nicosia recommended approval.

Councilman Piper motioned to approve Resolution #1730, second by Councilman Fisher with Council voting as follows. AYES: Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Petersen, Piper and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

B. Resolution #1731 - A Resolution of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Levying Assessments upon Property within Special Improvements Districts to Defray the Cost of Said Special Improvement Districts for the Fiscal Year 2016-17.

**RESOLUTION
#1731-Levying
Assessments**

Nicosia said this is a routine resolution formally setting annual special assessments made on properties within the lighting and city-wide street

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2016**

maintenance districts for the purpose of assessing each property owner for the allocated share of the cost of the street lighting and street maintenance.

Councilman Shepard made motion to approve Resolution #1731, second by Councilman Lovering with Council voting as follows. AYES: Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Petersen, Piper, Shepard and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

**RESOLUTION
#1732- 2017 FY Mill
Levies**

C. Resolution #1732 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Setting and Adopting the Mill Levies on All Real and Personal Property within the City of Columbia Falls; Approving Special Levies for Special Purposes on Property within the City of Columbia Falls for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year.

Nicosia recommended adopting the levies as set by the Council at the August 15th meeting: The tax levy requirements as expressed in mills, totaling 225.003 mills, 182.083 per Section 15-10-420, MCA including 4 mills carried over from FY 2016, 19.463 - Permissive Medical Levy, 10.015 - Pool GO Bond, and 13.442 - Street GO Bond.

Councilman Fisher motioned to approve Resolution #1732, second by Councilman Karper with Council voting as follows. AYES: Karper, Lovering, Piper, Shepard and Fisher. NOES: Petersen and Barnhart. ABSENT: None.

**RESOLUTION
#1733-Budget 16/17**

D. Resolution # 1733 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Adopting the Budget for the City for the Fiscal Year Commencing on July 1, 2016 and Ending June 30, 2017, Making Appropriations from each Fund of the City of Columbia Falls of Expenditures to Meet City Expenses.

City Manager Nicosia said this resolution approves the Final 2016-17 FY Budget with the increase in the street construction budget for the 4 carryover mills.

Councilman Karper made motion to approve Resolution #1733, second by Councilman Shepard with Council voting as follows. AYES: Lovering, Petersen, Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

E. Resolution # 1734 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Designating the Glacier Glow Run as an Official Activity of the City of Columbia Falls.

**RESOLUTION
#1734-Glacier Glow
Run**

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2016**

Nicosia said this is the first Glacier Glow Run in Columbia Falls and the City is hosting the run for the first time. Mayor Barnhart asked for clarification on the City's liability for the portion of the event at the Coop. Nicosia noted that the resolution specifically states that the City's liability excludes any portion of the event on private property.

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve Resolution #1734, second by Councilman Petersen with Council voting as follows. AYES: Petersen, Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Lovering and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

F. Resolution #1735 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Redefining the Area Included Within the Columbia Falls Street Lighting District.

**RESOLUTION
#1735-Street
Lighting District**

Nicosia reported that this resolution, similar to Resolution 1730, amends the lighting district for 2015 annexations.

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve Resolution #1735, second by Councilman Piper with Council voting as follows. AYES: Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Petersen and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Councilman Piper said he attended the MMIA training and said it was informative.

**REPORTS FROM
MAYOR AND
COUNCIL**

Councilman Shepard said there is a meeting coming up and asked where the City was on the fishing pond with perk testing. Mayor Barnhart asked for clarification on what FW&P is looking for with the testing. Shepard said to see the static water level. Shepard said we could be getting the EPA decision on CFAC within a week if they are going to list it as a Superfund site. Shepard said he too attended the MMIA training and thought it was good, including the discussion on the legality of rolling emails between Council members. Shepard was disappointed about the article in the newspaper noting that it didn't include information on Stampede Packings order from DEQ. Nicosia said that Stampede can't expand where they are and there is still a possibility they will relocate to Columbia Falls.

Councilman Lovering said she heard good things about the Dedication festival at Marantette Park held on Saturday.

Councilman Fisher attended the MMIA training and enjoyed it as well.

Mayor Barnhart said he would like to see a pavilion built at Pinewood Park as it is a beautiful park and it is underutilized. Mayor Barnhart also noted that years ago, volunteers did a lot work around the City. He would like to see the

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2016**

City come up with a list that volunteers could do to enhance the City. Mayor Barnhart also noted that the City has a funding mechanism, the City trust fund, to help with projects.

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY: Absent

CITY MANAGER:

City Manager Nicosia said the Planning/Zoning department has recently reviewed several Airbnb operations for compliance with the City's short-term vacation rental policy. According to the State of MT and the County Health Department the short term rental provisions are the same for room rentals and house rentals. Zoning is complaint driven and the City tries to bring people into compliance. Another recent topic is accessory building dwelling units. Nicosia anticipates either an application for a text amendment or a recommendation from staff in the future.

The Police Chief position closed on August 31, 2016 and the City received 10 applicants who meet the qualifications. Nicosia said she has asked Mayor Barnhart to appoint two people from Council to sit in on the interview process.

Public works committee met and reviewed the engineer's plan for the Riverwood water and sewer installations. City staff and the engineer are updating the plan and gathering information based on that meeting. The Public Works committee will meet again before holding an informational meeting with the neighborhood. Preliminary reports show that only 400 feet of roadway will require major reconstruction due to having inadequate roadway base.

The pool at the end of the season was losing about 10,000 gals per day. We are looking at what was causing the water loss.

The Dedication festival was a success; there were no complaints from any neighbors. Nicosia said she would like the Parks Committee to talk about how many events can be held in the summer months. Parking will remain to be a concern in most city parks. Mayor Barnhart said he would like to attend the next Parks Committee meeting.

INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - List available for Review
REPORTS:

- a. Police - August

ADJOURN: Upon motion duly made by Councilman Piper and seconded by Councilman Lovering and the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

**CORRESPONDENCE
/REPORTS**

ADJOURN

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2016**

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ACTION: September 19, 2016