

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD JANUARY 19, 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, Police Chief Perry and City Planner Mulcahy.

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

**AGENDA
APPROVAL**

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

**VISITOR/PUBLIC
COMMENT**

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

**CONSENT
AGENDA
APPROVAL**

- A. Approval of Claims - \$ 62,465.22 - January 19, 2016
- B. Approval of Payroll Claims - \$ 17,565.47 - December 31, 2015
Quarterlies
Approval of Payroll Claims - \$ 86,999.06 - January 15, 2016
- C. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2016
- D. Approval of Cancellation of Outstanding Checks
- E. Acceptance of Autozone Water and Sewer Infrastructure
- F. Approval of Subdivision Improvement Agreement, Randy Jones
Construction, 2 Diane Road and authorize City Manager to sign.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NOTICES

None.

**NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

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NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve Preliminary Plat Approval of Vista North Subdivision

City Planner Mulcahy presented staff report CPP-15-01. Mulcahy reported that as a minor subdivision, this project only comes to Council for approval and not through the Planning Board. Mulcahy reviewed the conditions for approval and recommended approval of the minor subdivision with a variance to the subdivision regulations requiring pedestrian paths or sidewalks along the public roadways, Highway 40 and Halfmoon Road. Mulcahy noted that there are no other sidewalks in the area and they would not serve the public.

**NEW BUSINESS
Preliminary Plat of
Vista North
Subdivision**

Mayor Barnhart asked when it comes to building projects in the subdivision, are they subject to our building specifications. Mulcahy said no, they are not subject to the large or small building standards as the property is un-zoned. Mayor Barnhart asked would they have to request a zone change. Mulcahy replied yes.

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve staff report CPP-15-01 as findings of fact, approving the variance to the subdivision regulations, eliminating the sidewalk requirement, second by Councilman Lovering with Council voting as follows. AYES: Petersen, Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Lovering and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Councilman Fisher motioned to approve the Preliminary Plat of Vista North Subdivision, second by Councilman Shepard with Council voting as follows. AYES: Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Petersen and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

B. Call for Bids – 2nd Ave. West Reconstruction Project

City Manager said as previously discussed we are calling for bids to reconstruct 2nd Avenue West by Cedar Creek Lodge and Conference Center. The goal would be to start the project on March 7th, 2016 and an end date of April 21, 2016 depending on asphalt plant opening. A pre-bid conference will be held at City Hall at 11:00 Wednesday, January 27th, 2016. Those interested in bidding the project should plan on attending this meeting.

**CALL FOR BIDS-
2nd Ave West**

Councilman Shepard made motion to approve the call for bids on the 2nd Avenue West street project, second by Councilman Fisher and the motion carried.

Councilman Shepard said he is interested to see where the bids come in. Mayor Barnhart asked what other paving projects the city is looking at. Nicosia said we have our list of priorities which includes 8th Street E and 1st

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Ave. East adjacent to commercial development, along with other priority areas.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

A. Resolution #1719 - A Resolution of the City Council of Columbia Falls, Montana Conditionally Approving the Preliminary Plat of Vista North Subdivision, a Three Lot Minor Subdivision, Described as Tract 4B, in the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 30 North, Range 21 West, P.M.M., Flathead County, Montana.

**ORDINANCE
#1719-Approval of
Preliminary Plat of
Vista North
Subdivision**

Councilman Petersen motioned to adopt Resolution #1719, second by Councilman Karper with Council voting as follows. AYES: Shepard, Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Petersen, Piper and Barnhart. NOES: None
ABSENT: None

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Councilman Fisher said he is making beer at the Backslope Brewery and finishing up construction on the building. Fisher reported in the next couple weeks they should have an actual opening date.

Councilman Lovering asked Nicosia if she had received a letter from Glacier Parks Superintendent in support for the dark skies program. Nicosia said nothing has been received as of yet.

Councilman Shepard said the second round of snow removal caused some difficulty with some of the seasoned citizens, as some driveways were blocked in.

Mayor Barnhart said the lights on the Shay Engine are back on. Mayor said he appreciates the lights are up and asked if we could have someone arrange them a little better next time. Mayor wanted to make sure that in the budget this year we consider paving the fire hall on the west corner where they have been piling snow. Mayor said with the action up Nucleus perhaps the city should consider alley maintenance in the CB4 district. It may behoove us to maintain the alleys or have some sort of a plan. Nicosia said it was in the improvement plan.

Councilman Shepard said it was an interesting meeting/training last week with Planning and Council. Mayor said he thought it was also very informative. Shepard asked how detailed are we doing our meeting minutes, we have had complaints that we don't have detailed minutes. Nicosia said we do not do verbatim minutes; there are statutory requirements on minutes. Nicosia said the City Clerk prepares the minutes and she then reviews them for compliance.

**REPORTS FROM
MAYOR AND
COUNCIL**

REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:

None.

**REPORT FROM
CITY ATTORNEY**

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CITY MANAGER:

The Mayor and I met with Mr. Ruis on Saturday and they moved the electric vault and lines onto their property. FEC will not run their main wire until there is an easement from the City which will need council approval. Mayor Barnhart asked if we can verify the vault has been moved. Nicosia said Public Work Director Jenkins has verified.

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve City Manager Nicosia to sign the said easement with FEC for the power line along 4th Ave. West, second by Councilman Fisher with Council voting as follows. AYES: Fisher, Karper, Lovering, Petersen, Piper, Shepard and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Nicosia said she received a letter today from the Columbia Falls Farmers Market that they have moved their market to the Eagles Nest on Highway 2. The Market will begin on May 12, 2016 through September 15, 2016.

Nicosia said she and Councilman Petersen attended the Chamber Economic Development meeting this morning, where they were going to continue the discussion on the main street program. They will continue working with the business community to determine the interest. Nicosia noted that the City can also take advantage of other programs before becoming a main street participant.

Nicosia said she received correspondence from Steve Thompson and they are starting the North Valley Climate Solutions Cooperative, similar to the Missoula Climate Smart project. They want to know if Columbia Falls is interested in joining this cooperative. They are following the Climate Smart Missoula project. There is a meeting on Monday Feb 1, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. in Whitefish. Nicosia asked as a council how you would like to proceed with this. Mayor Barnhart said he read through a portion of the correspondence. Nicosia said she would send out a reminder as the meeting date approached.

Parks Committee meeting is January 25, 2016, in the Council Chambers. Topics of discussion will be the Red Bridge Park, Fish Wildlife and Parks on the pond, Horine Park playground improvements. Additionally, the other item up for discussion will be do we want to initiate a special permit for alcohol in City parks for special events. O'Brien has inquired about a Brew Fest in the park as well as other requests. The parks committee will gather the information and bring them forward to council.

There is a CFAC Community Panel Liaison meeting this week January 21, 2016 at the High School.

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A. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - List available for Review

**CORRESPON-
DENCE**

B. Reports:

- a. Finance - December
- b. Police - December
- c. Court - Oct - Dec. 2015

ADJOURN: Upon motion duly made by Councilman Shepard and seconded by Councilman Fisher, meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

ADJOURN

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ACTION: February 1, 2016