

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD MAY 16, 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 Piper moved to approve the agenda, second by Councilman Shepard, and the motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA  
APPROVAL**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

**CONSENT  
AGENDA  
APPROVAL**

- A. Approval of Claims - \$ 194,617.58 - May 16, 2016
- B. Approval of Payroll Claims - \$82,721.52 - May 6, 2016,
- C. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - May 2, 2016
- D. Approval of Change Order #2 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave West Reconstruction Project, Sandry Construction Company, Inc. and authorize City Manager to sign.

**VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A. Cliff Boyd, Calbag - CFAC Demolition Update

Mr. Boyd said his company is about 90% complete with asbestos removal that they can reach. There is concern the landfill cannot take all of the asbestos material but he will continue to search for a solution. Calbag had two crews working 7 days a week on two different shifts. At this point they are 8 months behind because they do not have a final permit. They have had a temporary reduction of staff but intend to be in full production next week after receiving the final DEQ permit. Mr. Boyd believes the work will be completed by Jan 2018 by working 7 days a week with two crews. Currently his employee count is 42 and it will be up to 70 as production increases. Mr. Boyd thanked Councilman Shepard for the letter to

**PUBLIC/VISITOR  
COMMENTS**

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
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the editor and the news article in the Hungry Horse News expressing concern in the DEQ delay. Mayor Barnhart said the council was under the impression that the DEQ delay resulted in significant layoffs and work stoppages. Mayor Barnhart asked Mr. Boyd if he needed anything from Council at this point. Mr. Boyd said not at this time, things are moving along and DEQ indicated that he would have the final permit the next week.

Councilman Petersen asked Mr. Boyd if he got a sense of where Congressman Zinke stood on the project on the cleanup project during his visit to the site last week. Mr. Boyd said in his experience with similar sites, every private project has gone quicker and the longer a cleanup project takes, the more expensive it becomes.

**APPOINTMENTS :**

A. Police Commission – Rick Skyberg, 3 year term ending May 2019.

Mr. Skyberg indicated he would serve another 3 year term.

Councilman Fisher motioned to appoint Rick Skyberg for another three year term for Police Commission, second by Councilman Lovering. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENTS-  
Police Commission**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. CFAC Demolition Letter of Support

Council considered Mr. Boyd’s testimony and decided to not write a letter to the Governor and DEQ Director at this time. Councilman Petersen suggested sending a positive thank you letter in place of a negative one.

**UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS-**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Grant Park Use Fee Waiver – Community Garden Fun Run Fundraiser  
Nicosia said she does not have the authority to waive such fees. This is a Park Use Application for a Fun Run at River’s Edge Park on June 11, 2016; they have planned for their own cleanup, volunteers and extra garbage cans during the event. Mayor Barnhart asked what the park fee would be. Nicosia said it is based on the amount of people attending the event but it would be \$75 plus cleaning deposit. Nicosia recommends a fee waiver for the Fun Run community event similar to fee waivers for Lion’s concerts, Heritage Days and formerly the Farmer’s Market at Pinewood Park.

**NEW BUSINESS-  
Grant Park Use Fee  
Waiver**

Councilman Karper moved to waive the Park Use Fee, for the Community Garden Fun Run, second by Councilman Petersen. Councilman Lovering recused herself from voting as she is the Board President of the Community Garden. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

A. Resolution # 1723 – A Resolution of the City Council of Columbia

**RESOLUTION-1723  
Final Plat of Vista  
North Subdivision**

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Falls, Montana Approving the Final 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.

City Manager Nicosia said the 3 lot minor commercial subdivision is located adjacent to Murdoch's. This resolution adopts the findings of facts as prepared by Eric Mulcahy, on Staff Report CFP-16-01 and grants final plat approval.

Councilman Lovering motioned to approve Resolution #1723, second by Councilman Piper with council voting as follows. AYES: Lovering, Petersen, Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

**REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:**

Councilman Lovering said the new fence at the Community Garden is up and looks nice.

Councilman Shepard reminded council the American Legion Post is doing a Vietnam remembrance walk on Memorial Day morning 10:45-1:00 from Super One to the bridge then back to the to the Memorial wall at Marantette Park.

Councilman Petersen said the exterior of Xanterra is looking good but the eastern border along 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue needs to be addressed. Nicosia said they are supposed to be addressing it now plus putting up a fence around the garbage area.

Councilman Karper said the annual Arbor Day Celebration was a success thanks to the city staff and the 75-80 kids that attended. Karper reported that Mayor Barnhart was there to give his welcome speech; Tree Board member Ellis Hagen helped during the entire event; Libby Jenkins played Sprig and the Fish Wildlife and Parks and DNRC departments also participated.

Councilman Piper said T-Bend construction is doing the parking lot construction at the Circle Plaza.

Mayor Barnhart said he was disappointed in the attempt of directing traffic at the intersection at the Blue Moon during construction. Mayor Barnhart said he has a new understanding in the trial system after attending during the Kent case; the City's lawyers, Todd Hammer and Marcel Quinn were great and well prepared to defend the city. Mayor Barnhart mentioned that Rick Lawrence from the street department was helpful down at the River's Edge Park getting a path cut in to the meadow.

Council Goal Setting - 2016-17 FY

Goals:

Council discussed setting goals for the upcoming FY 2016-2017 including:

Intersection at Hwy 2 and Nucleus control/ownership resolved

Arch Project

**REPORTS FROM  
MAYOR AND  
COUNCIL**

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD MAY 16, 2016**

City logo change  
Foot path from Columbus Park to River's Edge Park  
Fishing pond at River's Edge Park  
Capital planning- Fire trucks  
Paving the North Fork Road to Camas Creek  
Recycling - Columbia Falls active leader  
Outdoor parks and recreation: wave park, bike paths  
Economic Growth - ensure amenities maintained; support community, parks/gathering places (gazebos)  
CB-4 alleys maintained/cleaned up  
East Side - path/Railroad St sidewalk completed  
Maintain City facilities/evaluate staffing levels  
East side of City sidewalks/paths  
Baseball field maintenance  
Evaluate Trust Funds

**REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:**

City Attorney Breck said the Kent trial could be appealed within the next 30 days. Breck noted that the attorneys were masterful and did an excellent job during the entire trial. Breck noted that it was a very important case due to the precedence it may have set.

**REPORT FROM  
CITY ATTORNEY**

**CITY MANAGER:**

Nicosia reported that City officials will be meeting on May 18, 2015 at 3:15 p.m. at the Columbia Falls Industrial Park with the MDOC Director and the Lieut. Governor for a public presentation of the Stampede Packing Big Sky Trust Grant presentation and then to the baseball fields for the Youth Recreation grant presentation. Nicosia also noted that May 25<sup>th</sup> is the CFAC site visitation open to the public.

Shepard asked if a decision had been made on the 911 review. Nicosia said the committee has identified the scope of the project and is in the process of hiring a consultant. The 911 Board approved a preliminary budget that sets the 2017 FY contributions from each entity at the same level contributed in the 2016 FY; for Columbia Falls that amount is \$115,183.

The push-button lights for the Nucleus/6<sup>th</sup> St West intersection should arrive in the next week. Public Works Director ordered double beacons at the cost of \$7,518.46. Also, North Fork Pizza is planning a wall sign addition with lights that will also help light up that intersection.

Applied Water Consulting completed their summary of our existing water rights and are currently working on updating the pre-1973 claims.

**CITY MANAGER  
REPORT**

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**A. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE** - List available for Review

**CORRESPONDENCE**

B. Reports:

a. Finance - April 2016

b. Police - April 2016 activity

**ADJOURN:** Upon motion duly made by Councilman Shepard and seconded by Councilman Piper the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ACTION: June 6, 2016.