

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD OCTOBER 17, 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, Shepard, Fisher, Lovering and Piper

ABSENT: Petersen

**ROLL CALL**

Also present were City Manager Nicosia, City Clerk Staland, City Attorney Breck 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 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: Lovering, Karper, Shepard, Fisher Piper and Barnhart NOES: None. ABSENT: Petersen.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA  
APPROVAL**

- A. Approval of Claims - \$80,015.99 - October 17, 2016
- B. Approval of Payroll Claims - \$21,000.03 - September 30, 2016 - Quarterly payment
- Approval of Payroll Claims - \$86,122.25 - October 7, 2016 Payroll
- C. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - October 3, 2016

**VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT**

A. Cliff Boyd, Calbag, CFAC demolition update

Mr. Boyd updated Council on CFAC, showing on the overhead projector which buildings and other items that have been removed. Boyd said the project is running well and there have been no speed bumps. He reported that the company is making progress, people are working and they are pretty happy with the progress to date.

Mayor Barnhart asked if there were any questions from Council or the Public and there were none.

**VISITOR/PUBLIC  
COMMENT-Cliff  
Boyd CFAC**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/NOTICES:**

None.

**PUBLIC  
HEARINGS**

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**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Engineering Contract, RPA, Riverwood SID

City Manager Nicosia reviewed the Riverwood Estates water/sewer project timeline along with the contract for engineering services with RPA. Nicosia said there is a neighborhood informational meeting scheduled for November 1, 2016. The call for bids on the project will be in mid-March.

**NEW BUSINESS-  
Riverwood SID  
Contract with RPA**

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve the RPA contract and authorize the City Manager to sign, second by Councilman Piper with Council voting as follows. AYES: Karper, Lovering, Piper, Shepard, Fisher and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: Petersen.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution # 1736- A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia Falls, Montana, Fixing the Limits of the Salary and Compensation of Certain City Officials and Employees Pursuant to Title 7, Chapter 4, Part 42, M.C.A., for the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 and Repealing All Other Ordinances and Resolutions in Conflict Herewith.

**RESOLUTION  
#1736-Salary and  
Compensation FY  
16-17**

City Manager Nicosia said this is the annual salary and compensation Resolution for department heads and non-union city personnel as attached in the following documents. Nicosia reported that the wage matrix was increased by 3%, same as the Teamsters approved contract and the offer to MPEA with the only other change being the increase in the city's share of the family insurance premium from \$1,390 to \$1,560 per month.

Councilman Shepard motioned to approve Resolution #1736, second by Councilman Lovering.

Mayor Barnhart confirmed the pay increase was 3%, with Nicosia stating that was correct. Councilman Shepard asked Nicosia if she thought the pay increase will help with pool employment. Nicosia said she hoped with the competitive wages it would help staffing the pool.

AYES: Lovering, Piper, Shepard, Fisher, Karper and Barnhart. NOES: None. ABSENT: Petersen.

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

Councilman Fisher said he attended last week's Chamber of Commerce meeting, adding there were representatives from the EPA and CFAC. Fisher said there was a lot of good information passed around. Mayor Barnhart said the Police Chief interviews were conducted today and they went very well. Candidates were all good; there should be something to report by the Council next meeting.

**REPORTS FROM  
MAYOR AND  
COUNCIL**

**REPORTS/BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:**

City Attorney Breck said he attended the City Attorney portion of the MLCT conference held in Missoula and can provide a summary to Council if they desire.

**REPORT FROM  
CITY ATTORNEY**

**CITY MANAGER:**

Nicosia said she also attended the MLCT conference in Missoula. It went well with record attendance of approximately 400 individuals from 65 cities and towns. Nicosia presented the Legislative resolutions adopted at the conference by the League, noting that she will work with the Council Legislative Committee as we get closer to the session. Nicosia reported that she is asking Sen. Dee Brown to sponsor the Local Govt. Committee bill.

**CITY MANAGER  
REPORT**

Nicosia said she met with state and federal officials on continuing discussion on EDA funding and opportunity in Columbia Falls. The City qualifies for EDA funding as we met all 3 parameters on the statsamerica website used for EDA purposes. The City will have to meet with the owner of the Industrial Park in order to move forward.

The October 12<sup>th</sup> FECC Administration and Operations Board meeting highlighted the need for further review of the by-laws and interlocal agreement. The Board is continuing to work on all of the issues at the Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Graduation Matters advisor, Betsy Funk, contacted Nicosia regarding a student project for way finding signs. Members of the Economic Development committee will meet with them on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Nicosia asked if any council members wishing to attend to let her know. The Economic Development Committee is, Barnhart, Lovering, Petersen and Alternate Fisher.

Today Nicosia received an email from Major Steve from the Salvation Army for the annual valley wide Christmas kettle competition tentatively on Thursday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. Council suggested exterior signs at Smith's and a reminder in the Hungry Horse News.

Northwestern Energy thought their 2016 tax values were too high and they met with MT DOR and have already reached an agreement without protesting. Nicosia said our change in value is less than 1%.

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Mr. Kenneth Bell delivered a letter to the city asking if the City had any interest in an additional 8 acres adjacent to River's Edge Park. Councilman Karper suggested handing it to the Parks Committee for discussion. The Parks Committee is Lovering, Petersen, Fisher and alternate Piper. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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

**CORRESPON-  
DENCE**

**B. REPORTS:**

- a. Finance - September
- b. Police - September activity
- c. Court - 7/1-9/30/16 quarter est. activity

**ADJOURN:** Upon motion duly made by Councilman Karper and seconded by Councilman Shepard, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ACTION: November 7, 2016