

CUT BANK CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 19, 2021
6:30 P.M. – CITY HALL & ZOOM

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM & AT CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Raemaeker called the meeting of the Cut Bank City Council to order at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, January 19, 2021. The following persons answered roll call: Mayor Raemaeker, Councilpersons Tim Curtiss, Mike Wineman, Doug Vermulm, and Kim Winchell. Also present were City Superintendent James Suta, City Attorney Robert Smith, Police Chief Schultz, Building Inspector Yeagley, City Judge Berkram and Utility Billing Clerk Cheri Bundy. Mayor Raemaeker, and Councilpersons Curtiss, Wineman, Vermulm and Winchell attended City Hall to allow the public to join the meeting in person. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS: Brenda Schilling (zoom), Mark Snyder, and Joel Pilcher

ABSENT: City Clerk-Treasurer Lina Burley

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CLAIMS: Councilperson Curtiss moved to approve the claims through January 14, 2021 for \$93,131.87. Councilperson Wineman seconded the motion. A vote was called, and motion carried 4-0.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilperson Curtiss moved to approve the January 4, 2021 minutes, the payroll from January 7, 2021 for \$80,935.69, and the December financials for \$6,786,569.77. Councilperson Winchell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Chief Schultz presented his report. In December, we responded to 350 calls for service, investigated 37 cases with 3 felonies, made 27 arrests, and issued 38 citations. Our grant monies are fully expended, but we have completed paperwork to become eligible for future Federal grants. There has been a string of vehicle and storage unit break ins that are under investigation. We are hoping to get some public help with any information they have. There will be a Press release in the Pioneer Press regarding a deceased female. **Councilperson Curtiss moved to accept the Police Chief's report and Councilperson Wineman seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

Building Inspector Yeagley reported to the Council that there have been no new permits issued as of January 14, 2021. He is working on getting his continuing education credits. **Councilperson Wineman moved to approve the Building Inspector's report. Councilperson Winchell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

Clerk-Treasurer Linda Burley was not present to give her report before the Council, but they received a copy of it in their council packets to review before the meeting. **Councilperson Winchell moved to approve the Clerk- Treasurer's**

report and Councilperson Curtiss seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mark Snyder came before the council to ask for a lower sewer rate. The City bases the sewer rate on 6 months previous winter's usage (October – March), and it is recalculated every July. Mr. Snyder bought the house and moved in August, right after the new rate was applied. The former owner had a large family and Mr. Snyder is the only one living there now. His monthly usage is under 300 cubic feet, the minimum. He has been paying \$93.16 for sewer. **Councilperson Curtiss made the motion to change his sewer rate to minimum, \$67.00 until the next assessment in July. Councilperson Wineman made the second. Motion carried unanimously.**

Joel Pilcher of Great West Engineering gave the Council an update on the balance of the Williams Construction/Phase III Water Project bill. Williams suggested a cost adjustment due to having to take care of broken curb stops and the extra cost and time that entailed. Joel went back and forth with them about things that could have been done differently with there time and not have drug the project out so long. He came up with a lower figure and said we could wave liquidated damages. Williams Construction disagreed and we will need to take it to negotiations. **Councilperson Wineman made the motion to take the disagreement in cost to negotiations. Councilperson Curtiss made the second. Motion carried unanimously.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

WORK SESSION:

There was discussion about the committees that needed council members appointed to them. Councilperson Wineman will be on the Chamber of Commerce, the North Central MT Regional Water Authority, and the Safety Training Committees. Councilperson Vermulm will be on the Executive Committee. It was reconfirmed that Brenda Schilling is on the Sweetgrass Development Board in place of Bill McCauley. **Councilperson Curtiss moved to confirm the appointments as discussed. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, **Mayor Raemaeker adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 1st at 6:30 PM.

Attest:

Approve:

Cheri Bundy, Utility Billing Clerk

Dan Raemaeker, Mayor