

CUT BANK CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022
6:30 P.M. – CITY HALL & ZOOM

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM & AT CITY HALL

City Attorney Smith called the public hearing to order. This public hearing was for public comment on the street lighting district, the permissive health levy, street maintenance districts #1-4, the park maintenance district, the special law enforcement levy, and the general budget, all for 2022-2023 budget year.

Clerk-Treasurer Burley was sworn in. When asked what her responsibilities were regarding this budget hearing, she stated it was her job to post and publish the public hearing twice in the local newspaper. She stated she had done so and had the affidavit of publication to prove it had been done. She was asked if she received any comments on the budget, either in person or in writing, and replied that she had not.

City Superintendent Suta was sworn in by City Attorney Smith. Mr. Suta was asked why the raise in the street maintenance districts was in order. Superintendent Suta explained how much the cost of oil had risen recently and this higher cost must be passed on to continue to maintain the streets on our program.

City Attorney Smith asked for public comment twice and not hearing any, he adjourned the public hearing at 6:40 PM.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Winchell called the meeting of the Cut Bank City Council to order at 6:30 PM, Monday, June 19, 2022. The following persons answered roll call: Mayor Winchell, Councilpersons Cesar Morales (via phone), Kacie Fey, and Doug Vermulm. Also present were City Superintendent James Suta, City Attorney Robert Smith, Building Inspector Yeagley, Police Chief Schultz and Clerk-Treasurer Burley. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS: Vernon & Patricia Thomas, Tom Shock

ABSENT: Tim Curtiss

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CLAIMS: Councilperson Vermulm moved to approve the claims through September 15, 2022, for \$67,108.55, including warrants 60581-60615. Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. A vote was called, and motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilperson Vermulm moved to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2022, meeting, payroll from September 15, 2022, for \$79,948.83, and July financials for \$9,046,069.06. Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Chief presented his report. He has very motivated officers who are writing many trespass tickets. The thefts are down and there seems to be a direct connection to the trespasses being cracked down on and the thefts. He has hired two new officers and will be testifying tomorrow in hopes of getting a \$400,000 grant from the State for another officer. **Councilperson Fey moved to accept the Police Chief's report and Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Building Inspector Yeagley presented his report.

Councilperson Vermulm moved to accept the report. Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk-Treasurer Burley reported to the Council. **Councilperson Morales moved to accept the Clerk-Treasurer's report. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.**

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilperson Fey moved to approve Resolution 22-13, to Levy for Street Lighting. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Councilperson Fey moved to approve Resolution 22-14, to Levy for Street Maintenance Districts #1-4. Councilperson Morales seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Councilperson Vermulm moved to approve Resolution 22-15, to Levy 39.87 mills for Law Enforcement. Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Councilperson Fey moved to approve Resolution 22-16, to Levy 22.55 Mills for Permissive Health Levy. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Councilperson Morales moved to approve Resolution 22-17, to Levy for Park Maintenance. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Vernon Thomas asked if the Cut Bank Creek Park and the Dog Park were in the City's park system. The Creek Park is, but the dog park is not currently. It is not in city limits. **Motion passed 3-0.**

Councilperson Fey moved to approve Resolution 22-12, the Final 2022-2023 Budget. Councilperson Morales seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Winchell shared with the Council some good news. The Glacier County Commissioners, at their meeting this morning, passed a resolution to allow the City to apply for a minimum allocation grant in the amount of \$1,047,854. This is the total minimum allocation grant available for Glacier County entities. The City also has approximately \$539,000 of our own minimum allocation grant that we have not yet asked for. We will be asking for it to put toward our phase 4B water project. This should eliminate the need to raise water rates.

Mayor Winchell also reported that she and Police Chief Schultz will be testifying at the ARPA Economic Transformation & Stabilization & Workforce Development Advisory Commission tomorrow at the State Capitol. They will be requesting a \$400,000 grant for law enforcement. This would allow us to hire another office for four years.

Councilperson Vermulm asked if there was any update on the Glacier Motel cleanup. Mayor Winchell said that the EPA had not yet funded the project, but the department heads would be discussing it further at their next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC COMMENT: Vernon Thomas asked if we were aware of other ARPA grant funds for which we could apply. Some of them are in the works. He also asked if we knew anything about the surplus of funds that have been collected for marijuana sales. The State has approximately twenty million dollars of surplus and has not announced that for which it will be used.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, **Mayor Winchell adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Attest:

Approve:

Linda Burley, Clerk-Treasurer

Kimberly Winchell, Mayor

