

City of White Sulphur Springs

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on August 2, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Rick Nelson called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Pattie Berg
Ron Coleman
Stacy Menard
Lee Blanchard

A. Call Regular Meeting to Order

B. Roll Call

C. Pledge of Allegiance to Flag

D. Read & Approve - Accept or Reject Minutes

1. July 6th Meeting – Regular Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

Mayor Rick Nelson asked the Council if there is a motion to accept or reject the minutes from the July 6th regular meeting as presented. Stacy Menard motioned to accept the minutes from the July 6th regular meeting. Pattie Berg had a change to page four the section on setting schedule/office hours for the Mayor, it should state that it does not require Council approval. Pattie Berg motioned to accept the July 6th minutes as amended. Stacy Menard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

2. July 20th Meeting – Regular Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

The Mayor said that the minutes from July 20th will be presented next month.

3. July 20th Meeting – Work Session

Possible Motion: Move to Accept Minutes as presented or as amended.

The Mayor said that the minutes from July 20th will be presented next month.

E. Public Comment: Public comment will be accepted on public matters not listed on this agenda and are within the jurisdiction of the City Council and having a significant interest to the public. During a regular session, there will be time after each agenda item for comment about that item.

1. Step up to the podium and state your name and address for the record.
2. Please limit your comments to THREE (3) minutes.

F. Receive/Accept Reports

1. Sheriff's Report – Sheriff Jon Lopp

The Mayor, City Attorney, and Council reviewed the Meagher County Sheriff's Office Complaint Report for the month of July 2021. There was a discussion on the animal complaint with a deputy finding a hound at the Town Pump and bringing it to the office and the owner came and got the dog. The Animal Control Officer will speak with the Sheriff Department Office and will visit and go thru the processes.

2. City Court Report – City Judge Lori Sorenson

CITY COURT OF WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

JUDGE SORENSON

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

AUGUST 2, 2021

REPORT FOR JULY

Hours: 72.5

Dog at Large ticket= Dismissed

Suggested Bonds for Dog At Large Citation: From Full Court

Columbia Falls=City Court 1st=\$25 2nd= \$50 3rd= \$75

Bozeman= 1st=\$50 2nd= \$100 3rd=\$150

As discussed with Mark Pryor White Copy of citation needs to be brought to me ASAP Tickets get processed through Full Court just as a speeding ticket is so we can record the offense.

2 New Cases For the Month of July

1 Arrest Warrant served – Defendant found Incarcerated in Dawson County. Hearing Scheduled

City Judge, Lori Sorenson, said that the Council will need to discuss and establish fees for animal control and impound.

3. Fire Department Report - City Fire Chief Sam Peeler

The Mayor said that Sam Peeler has been extremely busy with fires, but apologizes for not being there.

4. Library Report – Jessica Ketola

The City/County librarian, Jesseca Ketola, presented her first monthly library report to the City. Jessica Ketola said that she has been doing monthly reports to the County for a couple of years and it was brought up why there has not been a City monthly report presented. Jessica Ketola said that they had their regularly story times, friends of library, summer reading program, brown paper craft projects, extra give away books & prizes, City wide safari, volunteers, food bank, and conference meeting rooms used.

5. City Engineer's Report – City Engineer Terry Threlkeld

Terry Threlkeld gave the Council an update of the Water Main Line Project. The notice of award went out. Big Belt Excavation, Bodie Morrison, was worried that the contractors would not be able to get the needed materials right away, to start this fall. He suggested gathering the materials and setting it aside and this would give some time to get the contract signed, and then start in the spring. There was a progress phone conference with DNRC, DEQ, and the funding agencies that he missed but the Mayor said that SRF is basically on board with increasing the loan funding and forgiveness and will work through that with them. The Mayor said that the funding agencies need the revised project budget to be able to complete the Bond Resolution. Terry Threlkeld submitted the ARPA competitive grant in July.

6. Public Work's Report - City Public Works Supervisor Rocky Vinton

Rocky Vinton said that the millings have all been laid out for 32 blocks in the City and 2.5 miles of the County by the Dump, but the crew is still working on driveway approaches, intersections, sewer manholes, and water curb stops. Rocky Vinton said that he has been getting prices on chip sealing and has found out that at one place it is about \$2.00 per square yard, oil is \$529.00 a ton, and this is without a delivery cost yet. Rocky Vinton said that between potable water from Red Ants Pants and Fire Camps there has been a lot of water going thru and had suggested to the Mayor to set water restrictions. It was asked how long Willow Creek has been off and a concern about water rights. Rocky Vinton said Willow Creek has been off about 10 months and he had already visited about the water rights. There was a concern about potable water trucks and the use of a backflow preventer. Rocky Vinton said that the potable trucks have been inspected by the State. There was a concern about potable trucks not using water from streams or ponds instead of the City's treated water. The potable trucks are charged a \$20 permit fee and are inspected, the water that they get from the City are charged \$3.00 per 1000 gallons. In the newspaper ad it stated that residents with wells would have water restrictions also. The City is considered a dry valley community and the City does still have water rights to it.

7. Animal Control Report – Marc Pryor

Mark Pryor said that the spay & neuter clinic went well and hopes to do another at a future date. Animals need to be vaccinated and registered before being released back to the owners. There is a family of skunks on 5th. There was a discussion on cats if the City handles them or not. The Ordinance is very vague on cats. Both dogs and cats must be licensed, vaccinated, and registered. There was a discussion on adding feral cats.

8. Parks Committee Report – Pattie Berg

Pattie Berg said that Rock Hard Contracting was awarded the concrete bid for the Tennis Court Project. The Mayor will visit with Rock Hard Contracting tomorrow.

G. Unfinished Business - Items for Discussion and/or Actions

1. Appointment of Planning Board Member (1-year unexpired term)

Continuation of the discussion and/or action regarding the appointment of a new City representative on Consolidated City/County Planning Board to fill a vacant seat

Possible Motion:

Move to appoint _____ to the Consolidated City/County Planning Board.

Terry Taylor presented the Council with her interest of the appointment of a new City representation on the Consolidated City/County Planning Board to fill the vacant seat. Terry Taylor, as a realtor agent, felt that she could help the City/County come up with a smoother process of approaching projects one at a time, as a City Representative. Ron Coleman motioned to appoint Terry Taylor to the Consolidated City/County Planning Board. Lee Blanchard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

2. Land Use Variance – Benjamin Nunery

Continuation of the discussion on the request to run 200 feet of water line from Central Ave down the alley to his lots on Garfield. Sewer already exists in the alley, though the City isn't sure of the size of the line.

Possible Motions:

Move to approve Land Use Variance to run water line down the alley. OR

Move to continue/table Land Use Variance pending further investigation.

The Mayor and Council continued the discussion on Benjamin Nunery land use variance. There is not a water main running past his property. Benjamin Nunery would like to build a home with two bedrooms/ two bathrooms with a shop. Susan Wordal will write up the variance from the Council's discussion. Stacy Menard motioned to approve the land use variance to run the water line down the alley temporarily. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

H. New Business - Items for Discussion and/or Actions

1. Impound Fees for Animal Control

Discussion on the impound fees needed for animals impounded by animal control or by the Meagher County Sheriff in Animal Control's place.

Possible Motion:

Move to authorize Resolution setting impound fees to be presented at next meeting.

The Mayor and Council discussed impound fees for animal control from other towns. Susan Wordal will write up the Resolution based on what the Council discussed that sets per day fees for animals impounded, as well as for animals brought in from outside the City limits and will have it available for the next meeting.

2. Preliminary Budget Discussion

First public hearing for the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget for the City of White Sulphur Springs.

The Mayor discussed the amount of reserves in the General fund to be able to transfer into the Capital Projects Fund and CCIP Fund. The Council will go from \$50 per meeting to increase by \$5 a meeting (\$55). The Mayor went from \$650 a month to increase by \$150 a month (\$800). Public Works salary went up \$3,000. Animal Control increased it by \$1,500 to (\$10,000). The Parks stayed the same. The Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer would like the Council to review the budget and input any proposed changes, then present the changes in a week so that they could be inputted before the next meeting.

I. Comments/Discussion

1. Future Business

2. Mayor's Comments—Rick Nelson

The Mayor said that after the recent power outage and fires burning it highlighted the need to get the back-up switch system wired up for the well pump generator set up a priority. The state of emergency declaration may allow the City to be able to receive FEMA funding to pay for some of the switch system work. The Mayor has a meeting with Townsend Flooring about the City Hall flooring replacement on Thursday. The Mayor spoke with MMIA about having Ron Coleman insured as a volunteer for \$50 a month so that he could drive a City truck to take the City Crew with him and be able to take their CDL driving test. The Mayor said that Nancy Schlepp with Tintina discussed having a training session offered to the County and City on August 16th-17th about Communication and Team Building session. There was a Planning Board meeting discussion on the Hospital Annexation. There will be a Housing Study meeting on next Tuesday. The Council should review the draft and forward along any concerns/changes.

3. Council Comments/Discussion

a. President of the Council—Pattie Berg

Pattie Berg said that she discussed her questions earlier.

b. Council Member—Lee Blanchard

Lee Blanchard asked if the Council received the generator manual that he had found and placed on Shannon Graham's computer desktop.

c. Council Member—Ron Coleman

Ron Coleman said that he didn't have anything else.

d. Council Member—Stacy Menard

Stacy Menard said that she didn't have anything else.

Susan Wordal wanted to inform the Council that she would be checking with the City's Water Rights Attorney, Colleen Coyle to see if she would be available to work through issues with the proposed annexation of property east of town.

J. Claims Signing/Motion to Approve the Bills

Pay the Bills

Claim Check #'s 18206-18226 July 7, 2021 thru August 2, 2021 for \$12,720.64
Journal Vouchers #'s
Payroll Check #'s 8743-8766 for \$17,943.65
Direct Deposit Check #'s for \$3,833.95
Electronic Check #'s for \$7,251.33
Utility Billing System Adjustments for \$113.52

07-07-2021 thru 08-02-2021 were presented for Council's approval. The Mayor asked if there is a motion to pay the bills. Lee Blanchard motioned to pay the bills. Stacy Menard seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

K. Motion/Vote to Adjourn the Meeting.

The Mayor asked the Council if there is a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stacy Menard motioned to adjourn the meeting. Pattie Berg seconded the motion. All said Aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.



Michelle Stidham—Clerk-Treasurer



Mayor – Rick Nelson