

March 25, 2014

The Red Lodge City Council met in regular session on March 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS Present: Mayor Williams, Aldermen Foisy, Mahan, Larson, Labrie, Schoenike and Brown. Absent: None.

DEPARTMENT HEAD ATTENDANCE: Community Development Director – Forrest Sanderson, City Clerk – Debbie Tomicich, Public Works – Jim Bushnell and Fire Chief – Tom Kuntz.

MINUTES OF MARCH 11 Motion by Mahan, second by Labrie to approve the minutes of March 11 as submitted. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC REGARDING MATTERS WITHIN CITY JURISDICTION THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA None

SPECIAL COMMITTEES – MDT Highway 212 Construction Presentation Mayor Williams thanked everyone who has been in attendance today with the Highway 212 Project to give insight into what can be expected as this project begins. Stefen Streeter, MDT, said they were here today to spread the message that they are here to work with the community to provide a great facility. There will be an impact to the community and they are sorry for this but they will work very hard to minimize any of the impacts. Streeter introduced the representatives from the various companies that will be working on the project. Streeter said the summer of 2014 will be the construction done on 8th Street to Robinson Lane which will include the round-about at the junction of Highway 212 and Highway 78. Streeter explained that at a later date another round-about will be built at Two Mile Bridge Road. He also pointed out the projects that will be done at a later date and how they will connect going north on Highway 212. Streeter said that MDT is committed to building the pedestrian path that will bring sidewalks up to Third Street on both sides of the highway. This is all one part of a bigger project when everything is completed.

Mayor Williams commented that when the detours go into use due to the project and the round-about being built there are several businesses that will be isolated in this area going north, those being High Country Equipment, Ronning’s, Alpine Hotel, Esteem Salon, Northern Energy, Rocky Mountain Tire, Red Lodge Power Sports, Rock Creek Lumber, Red Lodge Spas and the Hope Chapel. He said that as best as he can tell there is no access to these businesses. This needs to be addressed early on in the project. The Mayor was told that all these businesses will be taken care of during the project so people can access their business.

Doug Bailey, 116 West 5th Street, said he represents several people who live along the detour route on Hauser. He said the residents in this area are very worried about the traffic speed being kept down. In this area are parks and the day care so there are a lot of children along this stretch of road. Mayor Williams said this is something that will be watched very carefully to make sure this does not occur.

Mark Brajcich, School Superintendent, complimented the City on the public input done today regarding this upcoming project. Mr. Brajcich said he has ten buses in the parking lot at High Country Equipment that he will need to be able to move. Mayor Williams told him not to worry that the City will work on identifying something that will work for the school.

Gary Robson said the Festival of Nations will be held the first Saturday of August and the event was not on the list so that it can be worked around. He said this event will be held at Red Lodge Ales. He said a parade will be held on Friday night and that Don Coutts transports people to the event via his horses and wagons. Robson just wants to make sure this is all taken into consideration.

The start of this project will, of course, be weather dependent. Mayor Williams said he is very positive on what will happen this year. He said that everyone appears to be on board to get things done right with a minimal amount of impact to our businesses.

Chamber of Commerce – Highway 212 Construction Campaign Update The Chamber of Commerce told the Council that they have put together an infrastructure improvement campaign which is basically their idea of a media campaign to keep members and others who are outside of the City area updated on what is happening with the construction project. They are going through several channels to help with these updates especially in Montana and in Wyoming. The Chamber will try very hard to keep everyone up to date on the project and hopefully will be able to find sponsors to help with signage to tell what is happening. They will also be working toward finding additional parking during the project.

**STANDING COMMITTEES – ADMINISTRATION – Ordinance No. 902 – Revised
Weapons – 2nd reading/public hearing**

ORDINANCE # 902

**AN ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY AND REVISE THE RED LODGE WEAPONS
ORDINANCE.**

Motion by Schoenike, second by Larson to approve Ordinance No. 902, an ordinance to clarify and revise the Red Lodge weapons ordinance which appeals and reserves section 549 of the City Code on second reading. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. Steve Roi asked what the ordinance was in regard to weapons and the Mayor explained the ordinance to him. He explained that the City was revising their ordinance to comply with State law. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing.

Use of City Owned Land – Headwaters Event Motion by Labrie, second by Schoenike to approve the application for the use of City owned land for the Grizzly Peak Turn Pedal and Burn Race on April 19, 2014. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Mahan pointed out that the application refers to Ski Run Road that intersects with White Avenue and she said this is incorrect. The road is named West Fork Road and her concern is that people

who are not familiar with road names but are part of the event could be confused when they get to the area. Paul Otsu said he would fix this on his website.

Brown said that one of the concerns stated by the Police Chief is that the trash was not picked up last year when the race was held. Otsu said he will be very sure that the trash is all collected. His group takes pride in making sure this is accomplished.

Otsu said that the event would not be going down the highway to Red Lodge Ales as he did not feel comfortable using the highway with the upcoming projects being done so all of the celebration events will be held at the Fairgrounds.

EMERGENCY SERVICES – Ordinance No. 903 – Seasonal No Parking – Broadway Avenue – 2nd Reading/Public Hearing

ORDINANCE # 903

AN ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY AND REVISE THE RED LODGE STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING ORDINANCE. TITLE 6-1-3(E) OF THE RED LODGE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Motion by Mahan, second by Larson to approve Ordinance No. 903, an ordinance to clarify and revise the Red Lodge, stopping, standing and parking ordinance, Title 6-1-3(E) of the Red Lodge Municipal Code on second reading. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. Patty Davis asked if she could be given an explanation of the ordinance. Mayor Williams explained that there would be no parking allowed from October 1 to May 1 on Broadway, from 8th Street to 15th Street, between the hours of 3:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. to allow MDT to plow a wider path during snow removal. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing.

Addressing Fee Waiver – Habitat for Humanity Motion by Brown, second by Larson to approve the request for waiver of the addressing fee for Habitat for Humanity property on Lots 3 and 4 on Cooper Avenue North. On roll call vote those in favor: Alderman Foisy. Those opposed: Aldermen Mahan, Larson, Labrie, Schoenike and Brown. Motion failed.

The committee discussed this request earlier and felt that this could be setting a precedent if the fee were to be waived. The fee amount for addressing is \$100. Schoenike said he would like the City to be consistent with the responses on previous requests to waive fees that were denied.

Interlocal Agreement – Fire Protection Larson said an options committee was developed to start investigating combining the Ambulance District, the Fire District and the City fire department for a more efficient method of providing service. Larson said during the last three months all three organizations have come together to look at different methods of how this could be accomplished. He said that through the committee it was determined that the Fire District would house the equipment and supplies and then they would try to incorporate the Ambulance District and the City fire department. The committee used the document done by the Columbus Fire District and it is being fine-tuned to fit our needs and area. At this time the document is still

being worked on but the committee wanted to report what is being done to the Council as a whole.

Tom Kuntz said that currently there are three separate budgets that need to be maintained and three separate boards that need to be reported to and Kuntz said this is ineffective and inefficient. Kuntz said the end result is to agree on inputs, this being how much each entity will contribute to run the district. In the end this will all provide a better service to the public. The goal is to get things going before the next fiscal year starts.

Commissioner Prinkki said the feeling he has is that the Ambulance District probably is going to operate separately. He suggested that the City Council Emergency Services Committee, the Ambulance District Board of Directors and Red Lodge Rural Fire District Board of Directors come together for a meeting as he feels this will definitely help bring everything together. Larson said that the meetings that have been held so far are diverse with representatives in attendance from all entities concerned. Mayor Williams told Prinkki that he believes the City plan in to contract for the next couple of years until there is the chance for annexation into the Fire District.

LAND USE AND PLANNING – Ordinance No. 905 – Revised Cemetery Ordinance 1st reading/public hearing

ORDINANCE NO. 905

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 8, CHAPTER 3 OF THE RED LODGE CITY CODE CONCERNING CEMETERIES.

Motion by Brown, second by Schoenike to approve Ordinance No. 905 regarding the Red Lodge Cemetery with one amendment, that the City would include the statement “The committee shall adopt by-laws to establish offices, duties and responsibilities of the committee in Section 8-3-4 on first reading. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. Dan Gainer said he appreciated the Council’s consideration of this ordinance. He believes this will be beneficial long term for the community. He said he feels good that the needed improvements can now start being made. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing.

Mayor Williams thanked the Planning Board for the hard work they have done on this ordinance and other projects and that their hard work reflects well upon the community.

Disposition of City Land Schoenike said the Planning Board has briefly looked at a draft ordinance on the disposition of City owned land which will basically codify the City procedure for selling, leasing or renting City owned land or facilities. The Board is hoping to bring the draft ordinance to the Council in two weeks for discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS – CIP Update Foisy said the City received five proposals to do the work on the CIP and these five were narrowed to three interviews. The interviews were held and

Interstate Engineering will now be asked to draft a contract which will then be presented to the Administrative Committee for their review. If a contract, that will be good for the City, cannot be reached then Sanderson said he would contact Sanderson/Stewart, second choice, if they would like to draft a contract.

Library Board Foisy said that he and Larson will be meeting with the Librarian and a Library Board member next week to come to an agreement with the Library on the responsibilities of the City to the Library and the responsibilities of the Library to the City.

Foisy said that sometime in April the City Engineer will meet with the Public Works Committee regarding the water and sewer rates and the impact fee structure. Sanderson said this will be done April 8.

CITIZEN REPORT None

CORRESPONDENCE Sanderson said he included in the Council packets the update from DEQ regarding the work they are doing on the mine subsidence study. DEQ will be doing some borings when the frost is gone.

Sanderson said the City is indeed the regional winner for the Broadway Water Rehab Project that was done last year. It is the APWA 2014 small project of the year in the states of Montana, Wyoming and Idaho. The awards banquet will be held April 23, 2014 in Billings and Sanderson hopes the Mayor and Council will be able to attend.

Brown asked how the City won this award. Sanderson told her the project came in under budget, on time, and weekly meetings were held that were very beneficial to the project. The City did not borrow funds to do the project and also saved a lot of money by doing some work ourselves rather than waiting for MDT to do their highway project.

MISCELLANEOUS Foisy told the Council that a forum is being held March 29, 2014 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm on the Restoring Use and Revitalize of the Old Roosevelt School. This forum will be held at the old Roosevelt School.

Foisy said he will be out of town for six days but will not be missing a meeting.

Mayor Williams said the General Fund budget has been put together by department heads and now the prioritizing of items will begin. Mayor Williams will be meeting with department heads on March 27 to begin this process.

Mayor Williams reported that Prothman has received, so far, about 30 applications for the Police Chief position.

Sanderson told the Council that he would be in Bozeman next week for mandatory training on building inspection. He said he would be back in his office on Friday.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk