

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CONRAD, COUNTY OF PONDERA, STATE
OF MONTANA, HELD AT CONRAD CITY HALL
ON APRIL 19, 2022

The City Council of the City of Conrad, County of Pondera, State of Montana, met in regular session at the Conrad City Hall on April 19, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Present: Mayor Miller; Aldermen Karla Breeding, Nathan Hunsucker and Ron Widhalm; Finance Officer Ritter; PWD Zimbelman; City Attorney Daniel Jones.

Absent: Alderman David Cates and Chief Padilla with permission.

Guests present: Tony & Agnes Fowler, Cheryl Curry, Amy Salois, Shauna Ellefsen, Brad Koon and Darryl Burditt

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Miller at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Alderman Widhalm, second by Alderman Breeding to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2022 regular meeting, as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Claims #39021 through #39052 (refer to the claims register).

Motion by Alderman Breeding and second by Alderman Hunsucker to approve the claims, as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Water Contracts: None

Correspondence: Letter from Mary Ann Ritts of 514 S Virginia St, in favor of urban chickens.

Public Comment:

Cheryl Curry, Representative/Treasurer of North Central Montana Regional Water introduced herself and gave report on the progress to the Regional Water project.

Karen Burditt is wanting to do a Torch Run for Special Olympics on Thursday, May 5, 2022. Search and Rescue and police usually escort at the stop light to detour traffic. Mayor Miller said Chief Padilla will be in contact.

A proposed solution was presented for the portion of the waterline on City property for the baseball fields. The proposal was for a private donation for the portion of waterline located on City property. The light project is pushed out to August due to ordering delays; this allows for more time to review in the best interest of everyone involved. Discussion was had on the position of poles, waterline, and easement. In addition, questions were asked on the specification of the existing waterline. A map and structural engineering report of pole locations is requested to bring to Council.

Motion by Alderman Hunsucker, second by Alderman Widhalm to table the discussion pending additional information.

Brad Koon, Triple Tree with a proposed Task Order for Stormwater Preliminary Engineering Report. Task Order amount not to exceed \$16,000. The City was awarded a RRGL planning grant for \$8,000 to cover half the cost of the PER update.

Motion by Alderman Breeding, second by Alderman Hunsucker to approve the Task Order Engineering for the preliminary report.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Triple Tree planning services for boundary relocations. Proposing to sub-consult with WWC a certified planner and pass-through the bill with no mark up from Triple Tree. WWC costs would be up to \$2,000 for sub-division regulations. Fee schedule is appropriate, but some are more detailed. A disclaimer would need to be added to the fee schedule and would require a public hearing. Will determine if WWC or current building inspector to do zoning reviews.

Motion by Alderman Breeding, second by Alderman Hunsucker to approve Triple Tree's plan to use WWC and authorize the cost up to \$2,000 to get up to date on sub-division regulations.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Request of extra cost to Triple Tree on Water Treatment Fill Station project of \$30,699.09. Extra work done for site grading, valley gutter around pad and re-grading site. Invoice was found that had not been sent in. Continuing to work with the degassers, they are not working as well as hoped. Temperature fluctuations cause it to work less during winter and with more efficiency in warmer weather.

Motion by Alderman Hunsucker, second by Alderman Breeding for an amendment to the Triple Tree budget in the amount of \$30,699.09, as requested.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The Conrad Stormwater/Lift Station project ranked No 2 out of 179 applications for a \$2 million grant. Rob Cook with Pondera Regional Port Authority completed the application. Discussion was had regarding the impact on MOU with the county. Brad Koon will ask the necessary questions. Need to provide a copy of the MOU. Will try to get engineering cost included in grant.

The 1st reading on ORDINANCE 423 2 & 3 of TITLE 6, CHAPTER 2, OF THE CONRAD CITY CODES §6-2-2 AND §6-2-3(A) ("ANIMALS ALLOWED") was on April 5, 2022. More research was needed in ensuring proper procedures were followed regarding publishing and posting. Discussion was had on the Avian Flu in Pondera County. This Ordinance is for a permit process which will give the City visibility.

Resolution 22-1268, to permit Finance Officer Ritter authorization in the Short-Term Investment Pool (STIP) Montana Board of Investments.

Motion by Alderman Breeding, second by Alderman Widhalm to approve Resolution 22-1268, permitting authorization in STIP.

Motion Carried Unanimously

No active discussion on Board and Commission appointments.

Executive Session: None

Other Business: Building inspector concerns. Communications are going through the City Attorney. Building inspector has been more engaged. This is a contracted position with a 30 day either party removal.

Items to appear on next agenda: Board and Commissions, Chicken Ordinance, update on Parks & Recs easement and ballfields.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Mayor

Attest:

Finance Officer