



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CONRAD, COUNTY OF PONDERA, STATE OF MONTANA
HELD AT CONRAD CITY HALL ON NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024**

The City Council of the City of Conrad, County of Pondera, State of Montana, met in regular session at Conrad City Hall on Wednesday, November 6th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor David Cates, Alderman Amber Schoenrock, Alderman Carrie Doty, Alderman Karla Breeding, Alderman Darryl Burditt, Public Works Director David Zimbelman, Billing Clerk Kim Cooney

Absent: None

Guests: None

Teleconference Guests: None

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cates at 6:00 p.m.

Action: Read and approve minutes of the November 6th, 2024 regular council meeting and executive session

- Motion by Alderman Breeding, Second by Alderman Doty, to approve the minutes of the November 6th, 2024 regular meeting and executive session, as presented
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

Action on any Claims and Payroll:

Claims: #28535 – 28545, 28547, 28549 – 28554 (refer to the claim approval list)

- Motion by Alderman Breeding, Second by Alderman Doty, to approve the claims, as presented
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

Action on Water Contracts: None

Correspondence:

Mayor Cates read a note from the Conrad Area Chamber of Commerce thanking City employees for all they do.

Public Comment (no action taken): None

Discussion/Action: Conrad Area Chamber of Commerce request for free days at Norley Hall

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to approve the request by Conrad Area Chamber of Commerce for free days December 2nd – 7th, 2024 at Norley Hall



- Motion Carried Unanimously

Discussion/Action: Departmental promotion for Jim Aitken, from Maintenance Worker II to Maintenance Worker III

Public Works Director Zimbelman noted that Jim Aitken has been with the City for 11 years, primarily driving the garbage truck. With the anticipated new hire taking on that responsibility, Jim will work more on maintaining the ballfields. The wage increase is based on the union wage difference between Maintenance Workers II and III.

- Motion by Alderman Doty, Second by Alderman Burditt, to approve departmental promotion of Jim Aitken from Maintenance Worker II to Maintenance Worker III at \$24.85/hour, effective 11/1/24
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

Discussion/Action: Departmental pay increase for Boyd Matheson for passing water treatment test

Director Zimbelman said Boyd Matheson has been a great asset since he started. He's a fast learner and received his distribution license initially. Now he has his water treatment plant operator's license. Director Zimbelman explained that he rounded-up Boyd's pay increase to create some space between him and the new hire, and because he's been doing so well and showing initiative.

- Motion by Alderman Breeding, Second by Alderman Doty, to approve departmental pay increase to \$25/hour for Boyd Matheson, effective 11/1/24, for passing his water treatment test
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

Discussion/Action: Hire Maintenance Worker II

Director Zimbelman said Matthew Porter lives outside of Brady and has been a garbage truck driver for Republic Services in Great Falls for close to 17 years. He's willing to take a wage cut to avoid the daily commute to Great Falls. The starting wage of \$22/hour is based on Matt having a current CDL and air brakes.

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to approve the hire of Matthew Porter as Maintenance Worker II at \$22/hour effective 11/25/24
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

Executive Session: None

Other Business:

Alderman Breeding asked about the cones by Joe's Steakhouse. The owner has been notified but hasn't taken the awnings down. Mayor Cates suggested that the owner be contacted again. He will look for a City ordinance regarding public hazards.



Items to Appear on the Next Agenda:

- 1) Public Hearing on the Budget Amendment to end at the December 17th meeting
- 2) Street Closure for Christmas Stroll December 6th

There being no further business to come before the Council,

- Motion by Alderman Doty, Second by Alderman Breeding, to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m.
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Cates", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor, David Cates

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amber Schoenrock", written over a horizontal line.

Attest
Council President, Amber Schoenrock

