

CUT BANK CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 3, 2022
6:30 P.M. – CITY HALL & ZOOM

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM & AT CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Kim Winchell called the meeting of the Cut Bank City Council to order at 6:30 PM, Monday, October 3, 2022. The following persons answered roll call: Mayor Winchell, Councilpersons Tim Curtiss, Doug Vermulm (via phone), and Kacie Fey. Also present were City Superintendent James Suta, City Attorney Smith, and Clerk Treasurer Burley. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS: Chrissy Grimm, Vernon Thomas, Kim Stoltz, Seth and Summer Burlingame.

ABSENT: Cesar Morales

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kim Stoltz told the Council about the Urban Community Forest Program. The federal government is putting funding into this. The purchasing of trees, along with planting and irrigation, would qualify for funding. Ms. Stoltz feels that trees have an infinite positive affect on people.

CLAIMS: Councilperson Curtiss moved to approve the claims through September 29, 2022, for \$61,788.81, warrants 60616-60641. Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. A vote was called, and motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: None

CONSENT AGENDA: **Councilperson Fey moved to approve the September 19, 2022, minutes, the payroll from September 29, 2022, for \$67,289.64. Motion carried 3-0.**

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Superintendent Suta reported that the first water leak of the season was last night, and crews are working to get it repaired. The new rotating assemblies were installed at the lift station and the pumps are now working. **Councilperson Curtiss moved to accept the City Superintendent's report and Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

City Attorney Smith presented his report to the Council. **Councilperson Fey moved to accept the City Attorney's report and Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Councilperson Curtiss moved to approve Resolution 22-18 requesting distribution of BaRSAA funding. Councilperson Fey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

WORK SESSION: The use of conditional use permits to make temporary rentals legal in residential zones was discussed. Vernon Thomas stated that as the "gateway to Glacier National Park," the City should have more temporary housing available. These rentals are desperately needed. Superintendent Suta stated that he would rather not have one in his neighborhood. Clerk-Treasurer Burley stated that there is one on her block and it has not caused any problems that she is aware of. The home was refurbished when purchased by the owner and it has a nice curb appeal.

Chrissy Grimm spoke in favor of having these rentals in Cut Bank. Her two bring in enough income to pay for two hired hands and the materials to work on her other properties in Cut Bank.

Summer Burlingame told the Council about her experiences with these types of rentals and encouraged the Council to continue to allow them in residential zones. She pointed out that while calling them Airbnbs is correct, that is a brand name so we should be cautious to call them short term rentals in our documents. She also pointed out that many of these brands require high insurance on these properties in order to be listed with them. This is just an added bonus to having these types of properties in our neighborhoods.

The topic will be on the agenda for the next regular meeting, along with the zoning ordinance review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

City Attorney Smith and Superintendent Suta attended the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority meeting. Attorney Smith is closely watching the lawsuit between the Authority and the Town of Kevin. They held annual elections and the officers remained the same.

The City County Planning Board will have a meeting on October 20, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, **Mayor Winchell adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Attest:

Approve:

Linda Burley, Clerk-Treasurer

Kim Winchell, Mayor

