

CUT BANK CITY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 22, 2024  
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 Winchell called the meeting of the Cut Bank City Council to order at 6:30 PM, Monday, January 22, 2024. The following persons answered roll call: Mayor Winchell, Councilpersons Doug Vermulm, Kacie Fey, and John Reynolds. Also present were City Attorney Robert Smith, Building Inspector Yeagley, Police Chief Schultz, and Clerk-Treasurer Burley. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS: Justin Perry, Vernon Thomas, Maynard Nygaard

ABSENT: City Superintendent Suta, Deputy City Attorney Bugni

PUBLIC COMMENT:

**CLAIMS: Councilperson Fey moved to approve the claims through January 18, 2024, for \$23,385.46, including warrants 61814-61836. Councilperson Reynolds seconded the motion. A vote was called, and motion carried 3-0.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

**Councilperson Reynolds moved to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024, meeting, payroll from January 18, 2023, for \$98,194.50. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

## DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Chief's Report: **Councilperson Fey moved to accept the Police Chief's report and Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion that passed unanimously.** The statistics for 2023 vs 2022 are remarkable. They illustrate just what an excellent job our police department is doing.

Building Inspector Yeagley presented his report.

**Councilperson Vermulm moved to accept the report. Councilperson Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

Clerk-Treasurer Burley reported to the Council. **Councilperson Reynolds moved to accept the Clerk-Treasurer's report. Councilperson Vermulm seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.**

OLD BUSINESS: None

## NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Winchell provided another opportunity for the Council and the public to ask questions of the candidates for the Council seat. **Councilperson Fey moved to appoint Maynard Nygaard to the Council. Councilperson Reynolds seconded the motion.** All Councilpersons expressed that they felt all candidates were qualified and each brought a unique set of qualifications to the table, but in the end, they felt that Mr. Nygaard's knowledge of the infrastructure was needed, as Councilperson Curtiss had a vast knowledge of the infrastructure and left a void in that area. They also voiced that with the upcoming retirement of City Superintendent Suta they felt this knowledge would be even more valuable. **A vote was called, and motion carried unanimously.**

Maynard Nygaard was sworn in as a Councilperson and took his seat at the table.

**Councilperson Fey moved to approve the Proclamation of May 15, 2024, as Cut Bank Arbor Day. Councilperson Reynolds seconded and the motion passed 4-0.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

WORK SESSION: Vernon Thomas asked to be heard. He proposed that the City install a sidewalk at the City Park, in front of the stage, that runs to the west all the way to the street. He has spoken with several senior citizens who feel that the park is difficult to walk through with the thick grass. He said that there is a grant available through AARP which could fund up to \$55,000 of the project. He was encouraged to put together a plan with an estimated cost and bring it to the Council when he has more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Police Chief Schultz reported that he attended the recent Glacier County Port Authority meeting and was appointed to the board. They recently approved a grant to a Cut Bank business.

Mayor Winchell reported that she attended the annual meeting of the Tri-City Interlocal. The bookkeeping is being moved from Conrad to Shelby for the next 4 years. There have been issues with equipment being used and not paid for, so the superintendents will be keeping a closer eye on rental information. Equipment maintenance will be done this winter.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, **Mayor Winchell adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

Attest:

Approve:

---

Linda Burley, Clerk-Treasurer

---

Kimberly Winchell, Mayor

