

CUT BANK CITY COUNCIL
November 19, 2018
6:30 P.M. – CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Dan Raemaeker called the meeting of the Cut Bank City Council to order at 6:30 PM, Monday, November 19, 2018. The following Council members answered roll call: Councilpersons Timothy Curtiss, Donovan Grubb, Tim Kipp and Erik Nelson. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Linda Burley, and City Attorney Robert Smith. All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ABSENT: None

VISITORS: Carolyn Berkram, LeAnne Kavanagh, Rachel Kipp, Caitlin Roark, Lucas Gunderson

PUBLIC COMMENT: Rachel Kipp and Caitlin Roark, Opportunities, Inc., addressed the Council about a grant that they are applying for which would fund a Head Start Program for younger children. It would provide day care for children 6 months to 3 years of age. This would make it possible for single parents of young children to work while knowing their children were being cared for. Rachel asked the Council for support by writing a letter of support to be included in the grant. Council would be happy to give support and tasked the Mayor with writing a letter for them.

CLAIMS:

Councilperson Grubb moved to approve the claims through November 16, 2018 for \$89,373.52. Councilperson Kipp seconded the motion and the motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Floor Cleaner at the Civic Center, Campers on the Street.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilperson Grubb moved to approve the City Council Minutes from November 5, 2018 and November 15, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$80,407.33. Councilperson Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The Police Chief's report was tabled until the next meeting as Chief Schultz was not able to attend this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilperson Kipp moved to approve Williams Construction's claim for \$318,619.66. Councilperson Curtiss seconded the motion. Williams Construction's employee Lucas Gunderson addressed the Council about concerns they had regarding the work left until next year and the street conditions. Williams will be leaving some equipment in Cut Bank to do street repairs as needed. Some of the delays were due to the valves not working properly and the need to cut in new valves that were not planned for in the engineering of the project. **The vote was called for and it passed 4-0.**

Mayor Raemaeker announced his appointment of Robert Smith as City Judge, taking over for the retiring Judge Yunck.

Councilperson Grubb made the motion to confirm the appointment. Councilperson Kipp seconded the motion.

Mayor Raemaeker explained to the Council that City Attorney Smith wishes to cut his hours and would like the appointment as City Judge. City Attorney Smith explained that the Certification School for newly elected and appointed City Judges begins on December 1, 2018. It is required that the appointee attend but he cannot attend until he has been elected or appointed. For this reason, the Mayor must appoint someone and have the Council confirm it in time for the appointee to attend this school.

City Attorney Smith also explained that he would like to change the City Court to a Court of Record. Some of these changes will make a budget amendment necessary. He suggested increasing the salary of the City Judge to \$3500 per month, since Judge Junck has only been getting approximately \$1900 per month.

Justice of the Peace Elect Berkram brought up the additional cost of having a substitute judge sit in for cases that City Attorney has prosecuted. She told the Council that she was in attendance because she is also interested in being appointed as City Judge.

Much discussion was held on the possible need for a budget amendment if either candidate was appointed, as well as the protocol for being trained if not able to attend certification school. There was also concern about who would become the new City Attorney if City Attorney Smith was appointed.

A vote was called and the motion was not approved. Voting to confirm the appointment was Erik Nelson and voting against the confirmation were the other three councilpersons.

Council asked that a special meeting be held on November 26, 2018 at 6:30 pm, for the purpose of getting more information to aid in the decision of confirming the City Court Judge appointment.

WORK SESSION:

Discussion was held on whether the Civic Center needs a floor cleaner machine. Apparently they have one, but it was not available to the crew cleaning up after the Parade of Lights.

The parking of campers on City streets was brought up again. If they are not being driven then complaints can be given to the Police Dept and they will have the Ordinance Officer write some tickets

It was announced that the Council's float in the Parade of Lights got first place in the Judges Pick. Several 5th graders helped decorate the float and rode on it in the parade. Council would like to invite the 5th grade in future years to help also.

The date for the Christmas Party was changed. It will be held on December 22, 2018, at the Elk's Club. There will be 4 menu selections.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, **Mayor Raemaeker adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2018.

Attest:

Approve:

Linda Burley, Clerk-Treasurer

Dan Raemaeker, Mayor