

City of Columbus  
Council Proceedings  
May 6, 2019

The regular meeting of the Columbus City Council was called to order by Mayor JoAnn Lunstad at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 6, 2019 at the Columbus Community Center.

Council members present: JoAnn Lunstad, David Ronning, Chris Kihle and Cindy Lautenschlager.

Council members absent: Amber Nygard.

Employees present: Christine Aasheim and Raymond MacBeth

Guests Present: Valerie Post and Chris Hageman with Ackerman Estvold.

**Motion by Lautenschlager, second by Ronning to approve the Agenda with additions. Mayor Lunstad called for a vote. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Lautenschlager, second by Kihle to approve the April 8, 2019 minutes with corrections. Mayor Lunstad called for a vote. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Ronning, second by Kihle to approve the Board of Equalization Minutes as read. Mayor Lunstad called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Old Business:

- Montana Dakota Utilities – Street lights – received customer complaint about MDU workers tearing up grass while removing lights. Also received concerns about lights generating much smaller stream of light resulting in more dark spots in town.
- Ackerman Estvold – SRF Loan Update – No questions at this time.
- First District Health Notices:
  - Still awaiting City Attorney’s opinion on personal liability of property owners for tearing down and cleaning up rather than the City tearing down and assessing property.
  - Estimates to tear down houses – Tabled
  - Fencing around theater – Raymond will fence the open sections of the building.
- Bulk Water Depot – meter and valve have been purchased, internet has been installed in building, waiting to fit into vendors schedule for installation.
- Meter Installs in Fire Hall, County shop and Park – Raymond will work on getting meters installed in fire hall and County shop. The park will require a vault and will need to be discussed with the Park Board.
- Sale of Equipment/Real Property – will be putting property and equipment out for bids, hope to have bids opened at the June meeting.
- City Attorney – waiting for response from potential new City Attorney.

New Business:

- Change in wages/insurance – Motion by Lautenschlager to pay 50% of employee health insurance premium rather than the current 100% paid, discussion was held. Motion failed. **Motion by Lautenschlager, second by Ronning to pay \$600 toward each employee's health insurance premium rather than the current 100% paid. Mayor Lunstad called for a vote: ayes: Lautenschlager, Ronning, Kihle; nays: none. Motion carried.**
- Water meter reader – Current water meter reader is no longer functional, meter reads had to be estimated for the April 2019 billing. **Motion by Kihle, second by Lautenschlager to purchase new water meter reader per estimate from Ferguson Waterworks.**
- Burke and Divide County Hazardous Mitigation Plan – **Motion by Ronning, second by Kihle to accept the Burke and Divide County Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Mayor Lunstad called for a vote. Motion carried.**
- City Wide Cleanup – will not be sponsored by the City due to excessive cost in the past.
- Amendment to court contract – Tabled
- Gutter Spouts for the Community Center – Raymond will replace ASAP.
- Community Center – the Columbus Community Center will be available for rent at a rate of \$100 per day. Renters will be required to leave a damage/cleanup check for \$500 with the city prior to use of the premises. If the building is left clean and undamaged, the check will be returned to the issuer; otherwise the check will be cashed and used for cleanup and repairs and the difference (if any) returned to the issuer of the check.

Auditor's Report:

- Bills to Pay – Bills were reviewed.
- Financial Reports – through April 30, 2019 were presented **Motion by Ronning, second by Lautenschlager to approve the financial reports through April 30, 2019, and to pay bills as presented. Mayor Lunstad called for a vote: ayes: Ronning, Kihle, Lautenschlager; nays: none. Motion carried.**
- Delinquent accounts – All City utility customers are less than 30 days past due or their water service has been shut off.

**Motion by Lautenschlager, second by Ronning to adjourn meeting. Mayor Lunstad relinquished the chair, Auditor called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned.

**Announcements:** Next regular meeting will be held June 3, 2019 at the Columbus Community Center.

Bills to pay: MDU 823.16, Gooseneck Equipment 4,839.00, Raymond MacBeth 2,121.36, Christine Aasheim 1,904.81, EFTPS 844.86, Banyon Data 1,269.00, Circle Sanitation 1,373.00, Core & Main 1,407.09, First District Health, 25.00, Jerry's Transfer and Storage 20.00, NCC 101.31, Northwest Rural Water 2,383.45, Verizon Wireless 236.28, BCBS 2,102.80, Lignite Oil 554.87, One Call Concepts 3.25, Pearce Durick PLLC 40.00, Riteway Business Forms 176.06, Visa – Auditor 406.54 (Stamps 350.00, Intuit Payroll Monthly Fee 8.40, Wal-Mart 48.14)

---

Christine Aasheim  
City Auditor

---

JoAnn Lunstad  
Mayor