

City of White Sulphur Springs

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on October 3, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Julian Theriault with the following members present:

1st Ward-----Mike Eby
George Kirkwood
2nd Ward-----Sara Driemeyer

Mayor Julian Theriault asked the council if there is a motion to accept or reject the minutes from the last meeting. George Kirkwood motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Mike Eby seconded the motion. All said Aye. Motion carried and passed.

Public Discussion – The Mayor asked if there is any public discussion. There was none.

Sheriff's Report – The Sheriff's department presented the council with a copy of the Complaint Report for the month of September 2016. The Mayor asked if there were any questions. There were none.

City Fire Report – Mayor Theriault asked City Attorney Susan Wordal if she had information to present to the council. Otto Ohlson was also asked for his input on behalf of the fireman's retirement. Susan received a phone call from Kelly Lynch, legal counsel for League of Cities & Towns. Kelly read a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding to Susan. Susan reported that the State Administration of Veteran Affairs has been dealing with an issue of a matter of the transportation committee findings and have been trying to deal with the ripple effect of last years Senate Bill #157 because of the way they redefined assessed value. Assessed values occur in two places relating to the status of the Firemen's Fund. The state is proposing a change which says you can put in 3 times but no more than 5 times the benefits paid in the previous fiscal year, which should be easier to calculate. Because of the language and the proposal, Susan advised the city to hold off with paying any more mills until the session is over which should be in April of 2017. Once the Governor signs the bill, it will go into effect immediately. The city will still have plenty of time to view drafting Proposals. Susan said that if the Fire Department needs funds in the time being, they can generate money through fund raisers or other means, but until this is signed by the Governor the city has no control over the situation. When the state decides, we will get 1½ times whatever the assessed value is. Otto said they would just like this resolved. He said it's a shame for the volunteer workers to get the same as they did years ago. Susan said that the city doesn't set the dollar amount. That is done by the state. What comes out of the state meetings will change things. The City is currently paying four mills. The city currently can not make up the difference the Fire Department is asking for, nor is it the city councils obligation to be their judiciary. Mayor Theruiault said that the Fire Department and the City need to get together to talk about things so everyone understands the situation and is on the same page. The mayor stated that when Shelly gets back from vacation she could explain about the mills and

where they go. Sara talked with Jay Berg and he would be more than willing to meet with the city. Susan will be attending meetings and getting more information.

Ribbon Cutting – The ribbon cutting event for the new Main Street will be Saturday October 15th. This will include recognition of a number of areas in the community such as Sarah Calhoun of Red Ants Pants, the new 2 Bassett Brewery on Main Street, the city beautification project, an update on the Community Street Lighting project and more. There will be newspaper and TV coverage, music, and various city and state speakers.

DEQ – The amended consent order has been sent in and is done.

Old Dump Truck – City would like to sell the old dump truck and needs Council's permission. All council people agreed and said yes.

Judge – Judge Wells withdrew his request to meet with council. Possible reschedule at a later time.

Memorandum of Understanding- The County feels the City should be giving more funds for the Police department to help with vehicles etc.. Mayor Theriault said the city has to go by state law. Susan said the county will get paid what the tax payers vote on and that the city pays for services, not objects or infrastructure. If more deputies are needed the county should adjust their budget instead of asking the city to pay more. Mike thought special districts could be set up and that the commissioners need to understand why the city won't give them any more money. Susan said Bozeman has "mutual aid" program with Three Forks. One city will help the other when needed but they each operate independently of the other. This works well. Susan will put feelers out at League of Cities & Towns meetings. She will try to meet with the commissioners to explain things.

Study Commission – The meeting was postponed. There will probably be just one more meeting this year.

Growth Policy – Mike reported the Growth Committee Planning Board will meet with CTI engineers soon.

Public Works - Daryl reported on getting a different truck which came with a set of new wheels. They put our old sander on the truck. The patcher is done and ready to go. John Adams went to water school in Bozeman and took his first water test. No results yet. City needs to paint white stripes on the pedestrian crossings at the school. The city will probably do more patching. Things at the lagoon are looking good. After removing sludge from lagoon pond, sewer engineers said we have really decent gravel and they will set it aside for city use elsewhere. Daryl said the fence around the pond is being delayed right now because of injury of the contractor. Mayor commented on the condition of Baker Street. It is really bad shape. Can't fix the way we want this year but will do it good next year. Mayor Theriault informed council that he spoke to the lady in charge of the Spring Manor (Cordial Management) about the bent curb box. The city can't turn the water off as it is. She said she will pay for the repairs and would like an estimate of the costs. Daryl thought it would cost about \$650 to \$750 and best to tell her on

the high side. It's better come down on the job then to add more than quoted. The Mayor said there have been a lot of late paying customers lately, especially those from out of state. Shelly thought if she mailed their bill to them personally it might help.

Mike made a motion to pay the bills and George seconded the motion. All said Aye.
George made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Sara seconded the motion. All said Aye.
The meeting ended at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Michelle Stidham

Michelle Stidham-Clerk

Martene Wells - Assisant Clerk

Julian A. Theriault

Julian A. Theriault- Mayor