

CITY OF FORSYTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF June 27, 2022
STATE OF MONTANA

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; officials in attendance were; Council Members Ethan Bell, Carole Raymond and Chris Purkett, City Clerk/ Treasurer Sandra Donley, Water/ Wastewater Director Andrew Sullivan, Public Works Director Richard Thompson, Pool Manager Jason Forberg and Undersheriff Scott McDermott. Excused from attending were Council Member Doug Roberts and Attorney Jeff Weldon.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Kopitzke asked if there was anyone present from the public that wish to comment on items not on the agenda. There will be no discussion of personnel. The Council will take no formal action at this point in the agenda. No comments were heard.

PUBLIC HEARING(S):

Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 22-23:

Mayor Kopitzke recessed the regular meeting at 7:01 p.m. to open the public hearing for the preliminary budget of Fiscal Year 22-23, and asked for public comment, hearing no comments he closed the hearing at 7:02 p.m. and reopened the regular meeting.

Mayor Kopitzke recessed the regular meeting at 7:02 p.m. to open the public hearing for a variance from Darrell and Steffani Grogan for Residential 2 side setbacks. Darrell Grogan spoke of the plans for his property if he was given the variance. Neighboring property owners Kurt Seward and Albert Martens stated they are both in favor of the variance. With no other comments Mayor Kopitzke closed the hearing at 7:03 p.m. and reopened the regular meeting.

REVIEW – REVISE AGENDA: A change in the Public Hearing Fiscal Year from FY 21-22 to FY 22-23 was made.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Kopitzke presented the consent agenda for approval:

Council Member Raymond made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included claim numbers 22389- 22411 in the amount of \$100,197.84 and check numbers 21175-21210 in the amount of \$178,844.93 for prior approved claims. The motion to approve the consent agenda was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

City Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Donley, Public Works Director Richard Thompson, Water/Wastewater Director Andy Sullivan, Pool Manager Jason Forberg and Undersheriff Scott McDermott.

Water/Wastewater Director Andy Sullivan requested to purchase a back flow preventer for approximately \$4,119.00. Council Member Raymond made a motion to approve the back flow preventer purchase. The motion to approve the purchase was seconded by Council Member Purkett. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0

CITIZENS:

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Variance Request from Darrell and Steffani Grogan for Residential 2 side setback changes at 530 N. 5th Avenue. Mayor Kopitzke presented the variance for consideration.

Council Member Raymond made a motion to approve the variance for side set backs. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; motion carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Storage/Shipping Containers (Conex Bins): Additional review will be done to the ordinance and brought back to the council for consideration.

Adopt Fiscal Year 22-23 Preliminary Budget: Mayor Kopitzke presented the preliminary budget, noting this is not adoption of the final budget, which if approved would allow the city to receive revenues and pay expenses. The final budget will not be adopted until the second meeting in August.

Council Member Raymond made a motion to approve the preliminary budget, the motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0.

Levee (Dike) Update: Public works director Richard Thompson stated he had no updates for the levee project.

Building Inspector Update: Mayor Kopitzke reported there has been no interest in the position. The position will be readvertised.

Windfarm-Impact Funds: There was discussion on possible upgrades to City properties and funding for the front street project. This agenda item will be revisited at the July 11, 2022 council meeting.

Forsyth Country Club-Golf Course Lease: City Clerk Donley brought the lease back to the council and relayed from the country club board why the lease had been set at \$1.00/year and that the actual lease of the property is paid to the State of Montana as it is on state land.

Council Member Raymond made a motion to change the lease back to the original wording charging \$1.00/year for 25 years. The motion was seconded by Council Member Purkett. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Code-Open Burning: Council Members Purkett and Raymond will review codes and bring ideas for change back to the next council meeting.

Resolution No 2022-R09; Solid Waste-Garbage Pickup per Unit and Administration Fee Increase for FY 22-23: Mayor Kopitzke read Resolution No. 2022-R09, which if approved would increase the pickup fee \$7.00 per unit; generating approximately \$11,221.00 annually, which will be used to support operation and maintenance and the garbage truck replacement fund and would increase the administration fee \$5.00 per assessed fee; generating approximately \$4,470.00 annually, which will be used to support can replacement, maintenance and the garbage truck replacement fund. The increase will help keep the solid waste budget to stay balanced.

Council Member Purkett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-R09, the motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0.

Marijuana Ballot Proposal: There was discussion about the process of putting with issue to vote and some examples from other cities and towns were provided. Council Member Purkett stated he had done some research regarding the process. City Clerk Donley stated the council could ask for the matter to be put on the ballot. Attorney Weldon will have language for the ballot ready at the July 11, 2022 council meeting.

Matrix Adjustments for Union and Non Union Employees: There was discussion about the committee meeting on June 24, 2022. Adjusted union and non union matrixes with a 3% plus an additional \$1.00 raise for full time employees and a decrease in starting matrix wage for the Pool Manager positions was provided to council.

Council Member Bell made a motion to put the new union and nonunion matrixes into effect, the motion was seconded by Council Member Raymond. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0.

Street Addressing System: Amy Adler from Rosebud County spoke about rural addressing, the issues with addresses within the city limits of Forsyth and the changes that she would like to see done. Amy asked for council direction on the issues, Amy will send letters to residents that need to change their addresses and will provide the city with a list.

Council Member Purkett made a motion to allow Amy to move forward and make the changes that need to be made, the motion was seconded by Council Member Raymond. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS:

Mayor: Mayor Kopitzke presented his report and asked if there was any questions.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS: None

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 11, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Public Comment: Mayor Kopitzke asked for public comment after each topic, if comments are made; those comments are recorded as part of the official minutes.

Agenda Items for the Next Meeting: Fire Code, Windfarm-Impact Funds, Shipping Containers and Marijuana Ballot Language.

With no other business to discuss, Mayor Kopitzke adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke

City Clerk Sandra Donley