

# CITY OF POLSON COUNCIL MEETING

Commission Chambers

April 21, 2014

7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Heather Knutson, City Commissioners: Todd Erickson, Dan Morrison, Ken Siler, Stephen Turner, Acting City Manager Karen Sargeant, and City Clerk Cora Pritt.

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Campbell and Southerland, City Manager Mark Shrives

**Others present (that voluntarily signed in):** Dave Cottington, Elsa Duford, Lita Fonda, City Streets Superintendent Terry Gembala, Rory Horning, Paul London, Bonnie Manicke, City Water/Sewer Superintendent Tony Porrazzo, Agnes Rinehart, Andrew Speer, and Diane Speer

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Knutson called the meeting to order. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

## 2. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Commissioner Erickson motioned to approve the Proposed Agenda. Commissioner Turner seconded. Commission Discussion: None Public Discussion: **VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried**

## 3. APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES MARCH 27, 2014-

Commissioner Siler motioned to approve the City Commission Workshop Minutes of March 27, 2014. Commissioner Erickson second. Commission Discussion: None Public Discussion: none  
**VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried**

## 4. APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 7, 2014-Commissioner Erickson motioned to approve the City Commission Public Hearing minutes of April 7, 2014.

Commissioner Siler Second. Commission Discussion: Mayor Knutson made a correction on the last page, it reads "Mayor Knutson asked" Mayor Knutson was not in attendance at the hearing, it should read Commissioner Chairman John Campbell asked. Public Discussion: none.  
**VOTE: 4 ayes, Mayor Knutson Abstained. Motion Carried.**

## 5. APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES APRIL 7, 2014-Commissioner Turner motioned to approve the City Commission Meeting Minutes April 7, 2014. Commissioner Morrison Second.

Commission Discussion: none Public Discussion: none.  
**VOTE: 4 ayes, Mayor Knutson Abstained. Motion Carried**

**6. CONSENT AGENDA-Claims April 1-16, 2014. Commissioner Turner motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Siler second.** Commission Discussion: None Public Discussion: none. **VOTE: Unanimous Motion Carried.**

**7. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS-**Acting City Manager Karen Sargeant reported that the N.I.M.S. training class for the City Commission would be on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, May 21, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The training will be NIMS 101 & 201. F.E.M.A. requires elected official to be trained in these two areas. Following each training session, the Commissioners will be required to take an on-line test. The certificates will be kept in the City Clerk's office. The training

session will be open to the public and City Employees. Work began on the final stage of the Walking Pathway. Brothers Construction donated the backhoe and employee to dig out the area. Crushed gravel will be put in place until asphalt can be put down. Karen also commented that she will be Acting City Manager until April 26<sup>th</sup>. Police Chief Wade Nash will be acting City Manager from April 26 until April 30<sup>th</sup> when City Manager Mark Shrives returns. Larry Ashcraft asked if the N.I.M.S. training was required for the boards. Karen answered no, just the elected officials.

**8. PRESENTATION OF MAYOR PLAQUE**-Bonnie Manicke gave the following presentation:

**Mayors Day of Recognition of National Service**

**North Lake County Public Library**

**April 1, 2014, 10 a.m.**

In conjunction with Recognition of National Service, the City of Polson held Mayors Day of Recognition April 1, 2014 at the Lake County Public Library.. Duane Lutke, Executive Director of the Area VI Agency on Aging and John Campbell , City Commissioner welcomed the mayors and guests. Former Mayor Pat DeVries read the Mayors Day Proclamation adopted by Resolution 1054. John Campbell and Bonnie Manicke presented a snapshot of Polson's history. Past mayors present were Earl Coriell, Dean Greiner, James Duford, interim mayor, Pat DeVries, Mike Lies, and Lou Marchello. The plaque lists 41 mayors 1910-2014. Sherlee Santorno, RSVP volunteer coordinator hosted the reception.

***The Way It Was – John Campbell, Polson City Commission Chairman***

The town of Polson was incorporated April 5, 1910. The residents caucused with three groups organized which later became two. The Citizens Ticket nominating W.H.B. Carter for mayor and six aldermen nominated to serve two from each of the three wards. The Peoples Ticket nominated C.M. Mansur for mayor with the same aldermen as the Citizens Ticket. The election was held May 23, 1910 at the three ward locations, F.C. Bailey's Office, F.H. Nash's Office, and J.F. Cook's Lumber Office. The voting was characterized "Vote and Vote Frequently." Voters were casting ballots at all three ward locations. C.M. Mansur was elected mayor by a 38 vote margin.

The first regular session of the council was held Friday, June 10, 1910 in the office of Silver and Stone. Officers who are now conducting the business of the city on conservative lines are Mayor, C- M. Mansur; aldermen, H. A. Kaiser, C. L. Wright, J. J. McDonald, W. W. Gabb and J. M. Dawson; city attorney, A. J. Lowroy, city clerk, J. Nash.

**Mayor C. M. Mansur** first Mayor of Polson was 36 years old when elected. Mayor Mansur was formerly a resident of Chillicothe, Missouri. He came to Polson in 1908 to homestead and establish an exclusive hardware store.. A unique and amusing situation existed in the municipal affairs of Polson. The council

declared the office of mayor vacant, as C. M. Mansur, the man who has been bearing that title, was no longer a resident of Polson, having established a residence west of town near Sunny Slope. Mr. Mansur declared his residence on the ranch at the time he filed upon the land in September, 1910 and it is said that as a result of this it has not been possible to enforce any ordinance passed by the council and signed by Mr. Mansur as mayor, the claim being made that such are null and void. It is stated upon excellent authority that the city council has repeatedly asked the mayor to resign in order that the actions of that body might be legalized, and that Mr. Mansur treated these requests with no reply. Mayor Mansur formally resigned January 20, 1911. He was later elected to the Montana State Legislature from Flathead County in 1915. Mr. Mansur eventually returned to Chillicothe, Missouri. He spent several years in the Chillicothe Savings Association, the bank of which his father was president.

**Mayor James Dawson** elected April, 1911 stated "I would like to forget foolishness and get together and boast for a better and bigger Polson."

**Due to time restraints the presentation is fast forward to the late 1950's.**

**The Growing Years – Bonnie M. Manicke, Polson City Treasurer, Retired**

**Growth requires additional services** Mayor Earl Coriell was elected in 1959 by a 17 vote margin. Mayor Coriell's campaign statement pledged a sincere interest in the future growth of Polson. During the two year term, 1959-1961, a joint city-county planning board, and a rural fire district was established. Several tracts of land were annexed to provide residential building lots. Sanitary sewer and water projects were completed to facilitate increased demands.

**Terms of elected officials change.** Mayor H. Dean Greiner term of a elected official changed from a two year term to a four year term. The legislature also changed the election calendar from May to November. The change in the election calendar extended the elected term an additional eight months. A sewer lagoon upgrade project was funded with a 75% EPA grant and 25% participation by the city. Dean also served the volunteer fire department for twenty years.

**Status Quo** Mayor John Dowdall stated in his opening remarks "If it ain't broke don't try to fix it." John completed the "Y" sanitary sewer project and the Community Development West Side Paving and Sidewalk Project. Mayor Dowdall vacated the office due to change of residence. John served January 1, 1982 to June 18, 1984.

**Mayor vacancies filled by council vote** Mayor Richard D. Seibert and Mayor Jules Clavadetscher were appointed mayor by council vote. Mayor Seibert appointment July 19, 1984 to December 31, 1985. Mayor Clavadetscher appointment November 2006 to November, 2007. Mr. Seibert and Mr. Clavadetscher also served as city council members.

**Expansion, utility services, and golf course expansion to 27 holes** Mayor John Glueckert served as mayor 1994-1997. A Golf Course Expansion project was completed to expand the course to 27 holes. Bayview Drive and Skyline Drive were major water and sewer projects.

**Challenges** Mayor Michael Lies in his opening remarks thanked everyone for their vote of confidence in electing him as mayor and said he hopes he will live up to their expectations. During the January 5, 1998 meeting, the council adopted a resolution to put a moratorium on subdivision approval until additional and adequate water supply is identified. Adequate water supply was a great concern. Mayor Lies was instrumental in obtaining over \$815,000 in grants for the City. Mr. Lies served as mayor 1998-2001 and a member of the council for over 13 years.

**City is energized** Mayor Randy Ingram, a Polson native, was elected mayor at age 27. Mayor Ingram holds the title of being the youngest mayor elected November, 2001. Randy was a progressive, energetic mayor caring about the affairs of the city and community.

**Polson form of government changes.** Mayor Jules Clavadetscher and Mayor Lou Marchello experienced administrative changes governing the city. The commissioner-executive form of government allowed the mayor with the guidance of the city council to run the show. The new charter manager form of government the city manager is in charge of the daily operations. Mayor Clavadetscher was appointed by the council to fulfill an unexpired term November, 2006 to the next scheduled election, November, 2007. Mayor Marchello began serving as mayor following the November, 2007 election with the resignation of Mayor Clavadetscher. Mayor Marchello's elected term, 2008-2009 was to fulfill the remainder of a previous term. Jules and Lou also served on the city council.

**Three women mayors serve the city.** Mayor Norene P. Mosley was the first woman mayor elected May, 1971. Noreen served three consecutive two year terms to May 1, 1977. She also served on the city council 1965-1971. Mayor Patricia A. DeVries first four year term January, 1986 to December, 1989 and elected again twenty years later to a four year term January, 2010 to December, 2013. Pat ran unique campaigns defeating two incumbent mayors. Mayor DeVries began a tradition in 1986 to present a plaque of appreciation to retiring council members, mayors, and employees. Mayor Heather Knutson, a Polson native, is the current mayor elected November, 2013. Heather believes in a positive, bright future for the community. Mayor Knutson plans to maintain positive inter-governmental relations, build a business friendly community, and fulfill the basic duties and responsibilities of the city in a positive manner.

Closing with remarks by Mayor H.S. Hanson retiring from the office of Mayor May 2, 1927 is a fitting passage as we look to the future.

The good accomplished for our city depends on the willingness of our citizens to work together, to uphold the hands of those who are entrusted with the direction of the City Administration, and to accept the principle that we, as citizens of Polson, are able to work together for the good of the community.

Mr. H.S. Hanson and Mr. J.A. Johnson founded the Security State Bank in 1910. The bank was instrumental in the early growth of Polson.

Dedication -

Mayor H. Dean Greiner researched and prepared the original list of mayors in 1977. The list has been a useful reference document over the years. Thank you Dean for the gift and foresight. The City of Polson Mayors plaque is dedicated to Mayor H. Dean Greiner serving May 1, 1977 to December 31, 1981.

Notation -

The City of Polson Mayors Plaque displays over 100 years of Polson history. Best wishes to the city and city clerk to maintain future entries and display the plaque in a location visible to the public. The research was fascinating, especially Polson's first Mayor Charles M. Mansur's sudden resignation. Thanks for the opportunity.

Mayor Knutson thanked Bonnie for all of her time she put into researching this project. The plaque will hang in City Hall in a prominent location that can be viewed by the public.

**9. POLSON COMMUNITY CLEAN UP GREEN UP ANNOUNCEMENT FOR POLSON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MAY 2, 2014-**

Agnes Rinehart presented this agenda item. The Clean Up Green Up will begin on Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. The meeting location will be the Polson Library area where the Polson Heart & Soul office was located. Following the Clean Up Green Up there will be a No Host gathering at the Glacier Brewery. The Commissioners are encouraged to participate. Karen Sargeant commented that the City of Polson Clean Up will be Friday, May 16 from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Yard debris will be collected. There will be teams from all of the City departments. On Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> Lake County Transfer Station will have their electronic recycle. Lita Fonda asked why the change from a Saturday to Friday for the Community Clean Up Green Up. Anges answered that the Committee thought there would be more assistance from the business community.

**10. APPROVAL OF SEASON GOLF PASS DONATIONS-**Golf Board President Dave Cottington presented this request to Council. Each year the Golf Board donates 6 season passes to local charities for raffles. This year, the Polson Rotary and the Montecahto Volunteer Firemen requested passes. Commissioner Siler, who is also a member of the Polson Rotary, commented on what the monies earned from the raffle donations go towards; in 2010 the Rotary raised \$15,000.00 for Riverside Park, in 2011 \$15,000.00 was donated to the Boys/Girls Club for the purchase of a new van for the Club. In 2012 Mr. Hanson left \$40,000.00 to the Rotary. This money was matched and donated to the Mission Valley Aquatic Center. 2013 donation of

\$16,500.00 was for the Boys/Girls Softball Youth Group. Commissioner Siler commented that if anyone knew of a local charity that needed assistance, the Rotary Club is currently taking applications. **Commissioner Turner motioned to approve the Season Golf Pass Donations. Commissioner Morrison second.** City Commission discussion: none Public Discussion: none. **VOTE: Unanimous Motion Carried.**

**11. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 1060 A RESOLUTION OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2014 WASTEWATER PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT FOR**

**WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT-**The agenda item was presented by Acting City Manager Karen Sargeant and Water/Sewer Superintendent Tony Porrazzo. The three resolutions on tonight's agenda are so that the City can move forward with grant applications. Mayor Knutson commented that these are what has been discussed at the past several meetings. These need to be approved so that the City may proceed with the grant application. Mayor Knutson asked the Council if they had any questions for Karen or Tony. Seeing no questions, the Mayor asked for a motion. **Commissioner Siler motioned to approve Resolution No. 1060, a Resolution of acceptance of the 2014 Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Report for Wastewater System Improvements. Commissioner Erickson second.** Commission Discussion: none Public Discussion: Andrew Speer asked is this the sewage system that will cost 18 million? Mayor Knutson answered yes specifically this is approving the Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Report. So, in order to apply for the grants we will be applying for we had to do the Engineering Report and had to have approval of that. Mr. Speer asked if that cost also includes the actual engineering design, the construction cost, and the buildings that go with it? Water/Sewer Superintendent Tony Porrazzo answered that in the final document it will have the cost. Karen Sargeant answered not in this one though. Tony agreed that it would not be in the preliminary but in the final document. Mayor Knutson commented that it will be line itemized. Mr. Speer commented that this is just the equivalent without the construction cost. Mayor Knutson answered that actually this is just approving the preliminary engineer report at this time. There will be a final report that will highlight all of the costs. Tony answered yes this is just step one to get us to the next phase of what we are doing. Elsa Duford asked if the grants do not go through, what will that do to the rate payers rate increases. Mayor Knutson replied that the information that was included in the previous meetings indicated what the rate increases would be should we not get any of the grants. That is the information that you have seen already, basing on if no grant money is received and only loan money is used to purchase. Elsa then asked would it not be approved if the grants are not coming forth. Mayor Knutson answered no, we would be moving forth with the information you have. Elsa commented that that will be a real heavy duty burden on the tax payers. Tony commented it will be on the rate payers. Mayor Knutson commented that we recognize that too. We are at a point where we have to do something on this. Elsa commented that she was sure it will be a big concern to people in the community. Mayor Knutson commented that yes it will be and it is a concern to the Council as well. **VOTE: Unanimous Motion Carried.**

**12. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 1061 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR WASTEWATER SYSTEM**

**IMPROVEMENTS-**Acting City Manager Karen Sargeant presented this agenda item. Mayor Knutson explained that this is the report on the wastewater system and needs to be approved in order to apply for the grant. **Commissioner Turner motioned to approve Resolution No.**

**1061, a resolution to accept Environmental Assessment for Wastewater System**

**Improvements. Commissioner Siler second.** Commission Discussion: Commissioner Erickson had a question about the checklist that was submitted. It was very helpful in explaining some of this information to the constituents and according to the key, on some of the things, the key indicates the items are neutral, no impact. Commissioner Erickson commented that in his opinion anything that we do will be potentially beneficial and would have a positive impact. There should be more a positive beneficial impact instead of a neutral impact. Mayor Knutson asked Commissioner Erickson if he was comfortable approving this resolution. Commissioner Erickson answered yes, he was comfortable approving the resolution. Commissioner Erickson commented that maybe his concerns would be better addressed to the grant writer. Tony Porrazzo answered that if Commissioner Erickson wanted to write out his concerns, he could then email them to Lori Benner at Nittany Grantworks. She would welcome his comments. Public Comment: none **VOTE: Unanimous Motion Carried.**

**13. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 1062, A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF MONTANA TREASURE STATE ENDOWMENT APPLICATION-** Mayor Knutson explained that this is the authorization to apply for that grant. **Commissioner Turner motioned to approve Resolution No. 1062, a Resolution to authorize Submission of Montana Treasure State Endowment Application. Commissioner Erickson second.**

Commission Discussion: none Public Comment: Water/Sewer Superintendent Tony Porrazzo thanked the Commission. He stated that this has been the best process he has gone through in many, many, many years. The thing that impressed him the most was that they did their homework. The Commission looked into things, had questions. Tony commented that he'd never dealt with that before. It's always been kind of a closed door thing and nailed at the meeting. So, it's a pretty big deal and a hard decision to make. Tony commented that he was glad to see that the Commission had actually cared enough to put the effort into doing the homework because 90% of the time it's not done. It is really appreciated of this new Council and Mayor and things are happening like this. So, it's been a neat experience to actually see this in motion. Mayor Knutson thanked Tony for his comments.

**VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried.**

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT ON SIGNIFICANT MATTERS TO THE PUBLIC NOT ON THE AGENDA-** Mayor Knutson invited anyone with something to comment on that's not on the agenda to do so. City Streets Superintendent Terry Gembala commented that this week the Streets Department will be going to Helena to pick up the new Sanders through the Air Quality program. The City paid \$6,000.00 for a \$50,000.00 worth of equipment. Through this program, in the years preceding we have gotten a couple of sweepers, and another sander unit. These new Sanders are combo units they will dispense sand and de-icer. It is quite a step up for the Streets Department. The oldest sanding unit is a 1984 unit and it's seen better days, but much appreciated by the Council for approving the program. Mayor Knutson thanked Terry for his comments.

Commissioner Erickson thanked the Streets Department for cleaning up the streets.

See no other comments, Mayor Knutson asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Morrison motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Siler second. **VOTE: Unanimous Motion carried.**

**ADJOURN: 7:46 P.M.**

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Mayor Heather Knutson

ATTEST:

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Cora E. Pritt, City Clerk