

**POLSON CITY COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010, 7:00 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE: City Commissioners: Judy Preston, Mike Lies, Elsa Duford, and Fred Funke present. Mayor DeVries present. City Manager Todd Crossett and City Attorney James Raymond present. Others present: Polson Chamber of Commerce President, Jeremy Morgret, Rick Smith, Pam Gibson, Suzanne Luepke, Bonnie Manicke, John Swenson, Tom Corse, Marilyn Trosper, Murat Kalinyaprak, Dan Yonkin.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA: Commissioner Funke moved to approve the agenda as proposed, seconded by Commissioner Mike Lies. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 25, 2010**
- B. CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES September 8, 2010**
- C. SEPT 1-15 CLAIMS**

Commissioner Lies moved to approve agenda items A-C with corrections, seconded by Commissioner Funke. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor DeVries had a Correction of Statement to the September 8, 2010 meeting.

1. The Library personal services budget for 2009-2010 was \$127,684. The actual amount spent was \$115,318; which is under spent by \$12,366.
2. The Parks personal services budget for 2009-2010 was \$80,058. The actual amount spent was \$70,035; which is under spent by \$10,023.

The motion to approve the budget with changes stated that the Library and Parks over spent their personal services budget by \$22,839. This should have stated that they under spent their budgets.

Mayor DeVries also corrected a statement that Police Chief Chase made during the September 8th Council meeting. General Fund was cut by \$24,000 from the previous year. What was said, or what he meant to say was, he returned \$24,000 to the General Fund from the previous year budget and that his fiscal year 2010-2011 budget for non-payroll line was cut by 5% across the board.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: City Manager Todd Crossett informed the council of his and the Mayor's attendance at a recent Economic Summit held in Butte, MT put on by Senator Max Baucus. There was a general consensus from all of the speakers of the confidence in the United States to rebound from the economic issues currently facing our country. There is a tremendous opportunity for communities that are able to collaborate and create vision and generate local solutions. He attended breakout sections on "Economic Gardening". This is creating fertile soil to grow local economies. Updates; on Tuesday, September 21st there will be

a TGER Grant meeting at the Baptist Church on Hwy. 35. Open house at 6:00 p.m. and the public meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, September 23rd is the Firefighters Appreciation BBQ at the Fair Ground Station, Station #4. The BBQ will begin at 6:00 p.m. Main St. is on schedule so far and within the budget. The final block should see work begin within the next week to two weeks. The goal is to try and get the utilities completed in the next two weeks. Paving will begin again when the weather clears. Safety is a serious concern – particularly in terms of keeping pedestrians out of the work area in order to prevent injury or death. If a business needs assistance with access please let us know. Polson Development Code Re-write final draft should be in by the middle of October. The committee will then begin meeting in November. Hats off to the Eagle Scouts for their work on the Dog Park. Some of the clay dug from the Main Street Project has been used as filler at the Dog Park.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE #659 – REPEAL ORDINANCES #622 & #344 STREET BOND REQUIREMENT \$2,500 CD FOR 3 YEARS – REPLACE WITH PERMIT FOR STREET & ALLEY ENCROACHMENT: City Attorney James Raymond advised that City currently requires a \$2,500 CD for cutting into pavement that is held in the contractor or residents name for 3 years. If after 3 years the repairs to the cut are sufficient the CD is released back to them with interest. In place of the bond, the City proposes a permit in the amount of \$250.00. The money from the permit goes into a street repair fund, and is kept until it is needed on that or another location for repairs. They were proposing a \$200 permit fee on gravel, \$400 on older asphalt, and \$1,500 on new development cuts. **Commissioner Funke moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance #659, seconded by Commissioner Preston.** Mayor DeVries asks if this could be created without putting in an amount. Attorney Raymond explains that the State of Montana mandates that if a City is going to charge a fee, then the fee has to be approved by the council. **The motion carried unanimously.**

LAKE COUNTY SPAY/NEUTER TASKFORCE: Pam Gibson, representing the Lake County Spay/Neuter Taskforce, asks council for funding of the Spay/Neuter Clinic that will held November 6 & 7, 2010. This is an annual request to ask Council for funding to conduct the clinic. Mayor DeVries informs Ms. Gibson that the City of Polson has set aside \$1,000 in the budget for this cause. The location of the November clinic has yet to be determined. **No vote was required.**

JUNE 2010 CASH REPORT: City of Polson Treasurer Bonnie Manicke give advises the Commissioners that June had no issues. There was one negative balance the Building Department had a negative amount of \$45,099.14. The report is clean and should pass audit. The ending cash balance is \$6,609,814.97. Most of the monies were in the agency accounts of the Water/Sewer, and Golf Departments. **Commissioner Preston moved to approve the June 2010 cash report, seconded by Commissioner Lies. The motion carried unanimously.**

JULY 2010 CASH REPORT: Bonnie Manicke then gave the July Cash Report. We were obligated to pay MMIA \$142,196.86. MMIA was contacted to see if a partial payment could be made. MMIA responded that no the payment must be made in full. Police vehicle debt service was also paid on July 1st in the amount of \$12,254.36. There is one more payment on the note, January 2011, then all cars will be paid for in full. The payroll disbursement throughout the summer and the all purpose General Fund was \$136,000. The ending Cash Balance of the all

purpose General Fund is \$92,292.14. Outstanding real estate delinquent taxes: 2008-2009 is \$130,500. Hopefully this number will turn around in the collections of November 2010. Golf Operating Fund is \$180, 00. This is comparative to July 2009. The restaurant revenue was about \$36,500. There is a question about the restaurant and how long the operation will be open. City Manager Crossett responded that the restaurant will not be open in the off season but that there is an opportunity during the winter to hold events there. The staff is being cut back as business declines. Commissioner Duford questions the ending cash balance and its effect on payroll. Bonnie explains that there will be a transfer from the Utility Department in the amount of \$53,000 this will enable us to squeak by in August. September we have already received house bill No. 24 revenue, which is 1st quarter \$140,000. Limiting day-to-day expenditures will be necessary and hopefully some of the delinquent taxes will be paid during that time. We receive approximately \$20-25,000 each month from Lake County to put into the General Fund. **Commissioner Funke moved to approve the July 2010 cash report, seconded by Commissioner Preston. The motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC NOT ON THE AGENDA: **Jeremy Morgret**, the President of the Polson Chamber of Commerce addressed the council regarding the budget. Mr. Morgret read a letter that had been written by the Board of Directors of the Polson Chamber of Commerce. In the letter there is concern voiced about the lack of communication. It has come to the attention of the chamber that morale among the city staff is low. The chamber requests an open, constructive, and transparent discussion of this information and it should be conducted in a unified manner.

Rick Smith spoke next regarding the common goal of moving the city forward with open, honest, frank, sometimes heated, passionate, sometimes ugly debate. Mr. Smith voices his concern about the way the City has been moving forward on some very important issues. The September 8, 2010 Council meeting account that was in the paper has caused Mr. Smith tremendous concern. Mr. Smith feels that the amendments that Commissioner Lies made to the budget and the commissioners that voted for the amendments had in fact had a discussion previous to the council meeting. In Mr. Smith's opinion the commissioners that voted against the amendments were not aware of the amendments prior to the meeting. In Mr. Smith's words there was an ambush. Will we have government by ambush? Mr. Smith goes on to remind the council that when they were first seated there was an agreement that there would be open and honest discussion. The time for ambush politics and back room deals is gone.

Murat Kalinyaprak expressed his concern about his request to be placed on the agenda. He had hoped that his request would have been approved since it was a short agenda this evening. Murat had placed his request a few months ago. There was an email that was sent to Murat that stated the council had been polled about putting the request on the agenda. Murat is questioning the appropriateness of council to make a decision outside of the chambers about whether to put something on the agenda or not. Todd Crossett states that he did poll the members of council and mayor. The mayor indicated that the staff should do research on the subject of the request, which is to form an ethics committee. So far, staff has discovered the City of Bozeman, MT is has such a committee. There will be a meeting of the Montana League of City/Towns that Mr. Crossett will be attending in October. There will be a City Manager meeting and during this meeting Mr. Crossett plans to speak with the City Manager of Bozeman about how this works. Once this discussion occurs and the information is given the Mayor DeVries then we should have enough information to put the item on the agenda, possibly the second meeting in October.

The next subject matter that Murat inquires about is whether or not **Roger Nobel** will be putting together an information packet and appear before this council to answer questions. Mr. Crossett answers that Mr. Nobel is indeed putting together an information packet that will be distributed to the council. Murat also makes a correction to his hearing date. It reads October 7, 2010, and the correct dates are October 27, 28, 29, 2010.

John Swenson asks Mr. Crossett attends the League of City/Towns on behalf of the City of Polson or if this is something he does on his own. Mayor DeVries answers that it is on behalf of the City of Polson. Mayor DeVries goes on to say that not only is Mr. Crossett going but Commissioner Lies, City Attorney James Raymond will be attending as well as the Mayor. Mr. Swenson asks if the City of Polson is a member of the League of City/Towns. Mayor DeVries replies that yes we are and have been for a while. Mr. Swenson asks if the members are aware that the League of Cities is connected to the United Nations and suggest they do research and see the direction the League takes municipalities into and how it influences the growth policy of cities and towns.

There is a brochure that is distributed on behalf of the Live Locally 5K Run/Walk that will be held October 23, 2010. Mayor DeVries encouraged everyone to get involved.

Suzanne Luepke asks if there is an artistic drawing of what Main Streetscape will look like when completed. Todd Crossett explains that unfortunately we do not have an artistic drawing. Suzanne explains that it would have helped to dispel rumors of what the project will be when finished.

A member of the audience, who is not identified, asks if there is still an interest in the building next door to City Hall. Mayor DeVries answers that it is still being looked at. Mr. Crossett answers that the council has asked for another level of analysis been done after the budget has been taken care of. This analysis will take staff time and we will proceed as time and project loads allow.

Mayor DeVries adjourns the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Mayor Pat DeVries

Attest: Cora Pritt, City Administrative Assistant