

**CITY OF BOULDER
P.O. BOX 68
BOULDER, MONTANA 59632
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Russell Giulio called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Elected officials present at City Hall: Gyle Nix, and Drew Dawson. Elected officials participating telephonically: Sherry Lepley and Mike Taylor. Others participating Ellen Harne (City Clerk), and Dennis Wortman (Public Works).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes from the September 20, 2021, council meeting was presented. Nix made a motion to approve the September 20, 2021, minutes as written. Dawson seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Dawson requested an amendment to the agenda by moving New Business item 10., (discussion on the ambulance contract and the ambulance direction), to New Business item 2. Dawson then made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

REQUESTS OF ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS FOR ABSENCES EXCEEDING 10 DAYS OR PARTICIPATION BY TELECOMMUNICATION: None

COMMUNICATION FOR PUBLIC RECORD (Ex parte): None

CONSTITUENT ISSUES-REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

None

CONSENT AGENDA TO INCLUDE:

1. Mayor Report - None
2. Ambulance Report – Received
3. Fire Report – Received.
4. Public Works Report – None
5. City Court Report – Received
6. City Attorney Report – Documentation of E.J. Guza & Associates received.
7. Reports from Clerk
 - Receipt of Cash/Bank Reconciliation, September 2021
 - Statement of Revenue Budget vs Actual, September 2021
 - Statement of Expenditure Budget vs Actual, September 2021
 - Receipt of Utility Billing Adjustments for September 2021
 - Ambulance Write-offs & collections for September 2021

Lepley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Dawson seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Planning Board:** LaDana Hintz reported the Planning Board met on October 4, 2021 and held the public hearing on the Fuller Major Subdivision. The Board has made a recommendation to approve the Subdivision. This recommendation will be presented to the Council later in this meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.
- **Chamber of Commerce:** Pat Lewis reported the holiday bizarre will be held on November 20, 2021. They are going to begin working on the new phone books and membership drive.
- **Cemetery Advisory Committee:** The Committee met at the cemetery and found sand and dirt piles they can use. They are moving to holding quarterly meetings and will be working on resources and planning during the winter.
- **BTAC:** None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Second reading of ordinance #2021-02 for adoption of the new City of Boulder Code Book:** Harne reported this will be the second reading and if passed, the new Code Book will become effective in 30 days. Dawson made a motion to approve ordinance #2021-02, adopting the City of Boulder Code Book. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.
2. **Discussion & Council determination on Chamber of Commerce's request to replace sign stand at Veteran's Park:** Pat Lewis & Betty Schlueter met with the American Legion and received permission to investigate replacing the existing sign with something that is more attractive. They will provide Council with updated information when available.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion & Council determination on the Planning Board recommendation for the Fuller Addition Major Subdivision Application:** Council was given the September 17, 2021, staff report prepared by Jerry Grebenc from Great West Engineering, and the draft Planning Board minutes from the October 4, 2021, public hearing. The draft minutes contained public comments and the Board's recommendation to approve the staff report as presented, adopting the conditions, findings, and conclusions. Mayor Giulio asked Marty Gagnon, (*Engineer, Morrison-Maierle*), if he had talked to Mr. McCauley about the ditch easement. Mr. Gagnon replied that he hadn't. Giulio asked the Bullock's and Gagnon if they would meet with him about the easement width? Harne explained that Jerry Grebenc informed her that the Council can amend the conditions contained within the staff report, as long as the amendment is included in the motion. Gagnon stated that he doesn't believe the Bullock's have any objection to having the ditch easement be a "no-build" zone. Dawson made a motion to adopt the Planning Board's report on the Fuller Addition Major Subdivision, File No. SD 2021-01, dated September 17, 2021, as presented, in its entirety. Nix asked Dawson if he wanted to include "no build" zone language on the easement? Hintz stated that condition 5.a. on page 15 of the staff report called out a 15 ft. wide irrigation easement, so if Council is going to amend something, this might be the condition they want to amend. Dawson added to his motion that on condition 5.a. on page 15 of the staff report, a "no build" zone be added to the easement. Nix seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Mr. Norbeck, (*Jefferson High School Superintendent*), encouraged the Council to approve the subdivision as it will benefit the community and the schools. Leonard Wortman, (*County Commissioner*), stated that everyone is aware of the shortage of housing in Boulder, and this is

a great opportunity, especially with the Highway Patrol coming in. He strongly recommends the approval of the subdivision. Amber Giulio, (*Real Estate Agent*), stated that with the high demand for housing in Boulder, she highly recommends the approval of the subdivision. With no more discussion the Mayor called for a vote. The motion carried with 4 aye votes.

2. **Discussion & Council determination on ambulance contract with the Department of Transportation and future ambulance direction:** Michele St. George, (*Boulder Ambulance Director*), stated the Montana Department of Transportation, (*MDOT*), grant to obtain a new ambulance had been approved. Dawson commented that the contract with MDOT will need to be signed by the City, and the City will have Harne be named as the grant contact person. Dawson congratulated the ambulance crew for getting a substantial contract for a new ambulance and made a motion that the City approve the contract with the Department of Transportation, with Ellen Harne being the contact person. Nix seconded the motion. The motion carried with 4 aye votes. Dawson gave another hearty congratulations to the crew.

Dawson stated the Council had allocated more money in matching funds than what is being required as match for the new ambulance grant. Harne apprised Council that during the budgeting process \$52,000 was allotted for equipment and \$8,000 was allocated for training, and the match for the new ambulance is \$22,000. Dawson asked St. George what the overall priorities are for where the ambulance service is going, and how this money might be used to improve the ambulance service? St. George replied that she is talking to Best Practice Medicine, (*BPM*), about teaching a hybrid EMT class and will be receiving costs shortly. Dawson stated that there needs to be a solid plan of how the ambulance is going to educate; who's going to do the initial and ongoing education; how we're going to keep people; how we're going to recruit and retain people; and, just giving a class is not a plan. St. George said this is a start. Discussion followed. St. George apprised Dawson that they meet the 1st Tuesday of each month so he can come then to help strategize.

Molly Carey said it's discouraging when there are only 4 people responding, and they all have full-time jobs. She stated she doesn't appreciate the insinuation that nothing has been done to try to recruit people. She said she has asked Dawson to help, and he said he's on too many boards and doesn't have time. Dawson disagreed. He said that if there are qualified people in the community, then one of our jobs is to recruit these people & figure out collectively why these people aren't volunteering.

Amanda Cochran said that last year 4 people ran 220 calls so even if they recruit 2 more people, no one is going to want to take on that much call volume; recruiting 1 or 2 people isn't the solution. She said finding the different niches in town is where they need to start recruiting.

Steve Carey said he talked to a medic from MT City that wants to move here, and but won't join an EMT unit because he has served as a medic and his back is bad. However, once he had told him Boulder will be getting a new ambulance and power load, he was interested. He said when we start nit picking at each other, "you have Whitehall 2.0". Discussion continued with Molly Carey saying she will respectively resign her position. Dawson apologized for coming off wrong, but he is frustrated because he has asked for a written plan for utilization of money and how we can build the service and haven't received anything. Taylor said the lack of volunteers isn't just an ambulance problem, there is no civic duty in the community in general. But the main thing is getting individuals to the hospital, and the 4 crew members in attendance are excellent at what they are doing. Dawson stated we just need to work together to see how

we can revitalize the service. Dawson and the Mayor will be attending the November 2nd meeting at the ambulance barn.

3. **Discussion & Council determination on resolution #2021-20 adopting amended city limits map & ward designations:** Harne explained that once the Bullock property was annexed, the map needed to be amended and updated. Nix made a motion to approve resolution #2021-20 amending the city limits and ward designations. Dawson seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.
4. **Discussion & Council determination on Vocational Rehabilitation work experience collaboration:** Esther Kirsch, who works with the special needs students at the high school, presented a daily living skill program the high school will be starting, in conjunction with Vocational Rehabilitation. The program is aimed at getting students job experiences. They are wanting to partner with Boulder businesses to provide this experience. Vocational Rehabilitation will pay the student's wage and provide worker's compensation coverage. Mr. Norbeck stated that this program is designed to provide students with life skills and requested the Council approve participation. Dawson made a motion to approve the City's participation in the vocational rehabilitation work experience program at the high school. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.
5. **Discussion & Council determination on options for future Morrison-Maierle City Engineering Services:** The general engineering services contract with Morrison-Maierle is set to expire on January 17, 2022. Alan Erickson recommended that since the initial contract had already been renewed for 5 years, it would be beneficial for the City to advertise for general services. Dawson made a motion to advertise for engineering services. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes. Harne will advertise in the Monitor, and the Helena and Butte papers.
6. **Discussion & Council determination on Northwest Pipe Fittings quote for utility system software:** Harne explained that this program will allow Public Works to locate leaks and is the program that will allow the City to move into implementing water meters. The first-year cost is \$9,708.32, with a tiered annual maintenance cost. Dawson made a motion to pay the Northwest Pipe Fittings invoice. Taylor seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.
7. **Discussion & Council determination on bulk water sales rates:** Mayor Giulio stated he thought a penny per gallon would be sufficient. Taylor said that he has talked to other cities, and a penny per gallon is fairly standard. Dawson made a motion to establish the bulk water rate at \$.01 per gallon at a minimum of 1,000 gallons. Taylor seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.
8. **Discussion & Council determination on 11/5/2020 Planning Board recommendation to update the 2018 Growth Policy:** Hintz stated the Planning Board went through the Policy and made recommendations for modifications. Dawson made a motion to table this discussion until the November meeting. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.
9. **Discussion & Council determination on the BTAC marketing committee 2021 status report & 2022 Work Plan:** Hintz reported the marketing committee doesn't have a funding source and have tried to work with the money they have. They would like to secure funds to update and distribute the brochure. The committee is suggesting new brochures be printed this year and distribution take place the following year. Dawson suggested Council look at including marketing funds in next year's budget.
10. **Discussion & Council determination on Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program:** Harne explained that DPHHS will be offering low-income utility assistance from October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2023. The state is providing the opportunity for public water system providers to participate in the program by becoming a contractor to receive utility payments directly from the state. Discussion followed. Dawson made a motion to participate in the low-income

water/wastewater assistance program. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

11. **Discussion & Council determination on destruction of records:** An RM88 Records Destruction Document outlining the records to be validated for destruction was presented. Taylor made a motion to approve the record destruction document. Dawson seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

12. **Discussion & Council determination on destruction of court records:** : An RM60 Request for Records Disposal of court records was presented. Nix made a motion to approve the request for records disposal. Dawson seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pat Lewis asked if the Highway Patrol is patrolling Main St.? The Mayor replied that they are. She then asked if the City could contract with another ambulance service since there seems to be volunteer issues? Dawson replied that we don't have a formal contract with another provider, but they do currently provide services.

Kathy Rux suggested offering EMT classes at the high school, to high school students.

Mayor Giulio reported the daycare building may be set on the foundation by the end of the month. He thanked the county for allocating ARPA funds. Cory Kirsch asked if the elementary school could use the building until the daycare is up and running? Dawson replied that this has been talked about with the elementary school superintendent and is definitely a possibility.

The City Clerk reported they had received a fairly promising application for the Code Enforcement Officer position.

Leonard Wortman encouraged people to think about getting the COVID vaccine. The public health nurse is available to administer vaccines.

Alan Erickson gave a reminder about the upcoming Jefferson High bond election.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: The bills were presented to Council for payment authorization. Dawson made a motion to authorize the payment of the bills as presented. Nix seconded the motion and the motion carried with 4 aye votes.

COUNCIL AGENDA SUGGESTIONS TO THE MAYOR FOR NEXT MEETING: None

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, November 15, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

DATE: 11-15-2021



Russell Giulio
Mayor

Attest: *Jellen Harne*
City Clerk