

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for January 7, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for December 17, 2019. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Greer made the motion to approve the Committee minutes as written for December 18, 2019. Motion seconded by Ramsey. The motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
December, 2019	25321 - 25349	
	25371 - 25374	
	25380 - 25401	
	25404 - 25409	\$ 341,557.07
January, 2020	25350 - 25370	
	25375 - 25379	
	25402, 25403	\$ 3,538.92
Transfer funds	CL25323	\$ (224,585.19)
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 120,510.80
transfer		<u>\$ 224,585.19</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 345,095.99

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jessica Mussetter provided information about a walking application Big Horn Valley Health Center and GOALS (Generation of Aspiring Leaders) have been working on to help in creating walking groups. She added Rebecca Mussetter is the program professional.

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reviewed the 2019 Animal and Code Enforcement Summary.

Mayor Purcell announced a Special Meeting with Judge Lee Cornell, law enforcement consultant, is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the Maintenance Worker II position has been filled; the General Laborer, Assistant Mechanic/MWII, and Finance Officer positions are open. Interviews for the Finance Officer position are scheduled for this week.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey reported towing and curfew were discussed at the meeting with Big Horn County.

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman asked about flowable backfill being a requirement if someone were to dig in the streets. Massine reported he has been researching City ordinances. Massine and Knudsen will continue to look into it.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported the City crew has begun to remove the fence around the ice skating rink.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received a newsletter from the Montana Department of Transportation, Chapters 1-3 of the Third Edition of the Montana Municipal Officials Handbook are available, and a memorandum was received from Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT) reaching out to Elected or appointed officials who may have interest in serving on the Board of Directors.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Steve Simonson, Beartooth RC&D Economic Development Director, extended a "Thank You" to Greer for serving on the board. Joel Bertolino, Executive Director, reviewed projects in the Big Horn County and Hardin area.

Krebs motioned to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Beartooth RC&D. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported Stahly submitted a Task Order Amendment #1 USDA Rural Development Water & Environmental Engineering and Grant Writing for Funding Application in Support of Wastewater System Upgrades. Greer motioned to accept the proposed amendment. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reviewed the proposed Council Committee Appointments.

Kautzman motioned to approve the Little Horn State Bank Pledge. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported George Metzger, Hydrometrics, Inc., contacted him noting that Talen would like to pursue an agreement to haul fly ash to the landfill. Council agreed for Massine to work with Knudsen on a draft agreement.

Finance:

Dyckman reported the Annual Financial Report (AFR) is complete. She reviewed the Management's Discussion and Analysis, a review of the AFR.

Legal:

Knudsen is reviewing the current agreement with Stillwater Mining Company regarding the disposal of gypsum at the landfill.

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

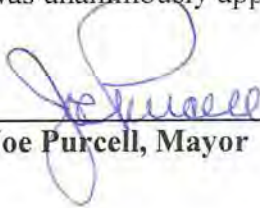
Resolution NO. 2224: Establishing a Wage for a Non-Union Employee for the Remainder of FY 2019-2020. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2225: Approving the Contract for Professional Services to Develop a Hardin Police Department. Knudsen noted minor changes that will be made to Exhibit A. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution to include the corrections noted by Knudsen. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

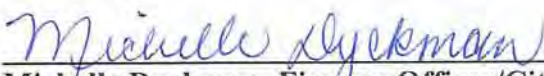
A Special Meeting with Law Enforcement consultant Judge Lee Cornell is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m. The Law Enforcement meeting with Big Horn County is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15th at 10:00 a.m., the City has job openings for an Assistant Mechanic/Maintenance Worker II, Finance Officer, and General Laborer.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michelle Dyckman, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING: The Special Council Meeting for January 14, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Purcell introduced Law Enforcement Consultant Lee A. Cornell and announced he will present a proposal for the development of a police department for the City of Hardin.

Cornell began with the primary goals to provide professional law enforcement services to the residents of Hardin.

- Provide better coverage of the city of Hardin
- Ensure the department is being effective, efficient and productive
- City has greater control as to the direction of its Department; including staffing and budget
- Communication to Police from Mayor and Council is achieved faster and more direct
- More effective enforcement of City Code violations
- Allow better coverage of the County by the County
- Improve the reputation of the City to help promote economic development and growth

Comparisons of the Sheriff's Department and a City Police Department were provided.

Cornell expressed the City would need to hire a Police Chief that has the experience to hire, fire, purchase equipment, work within a budget and most importantly understand your City and your goals. He added the right person for the position is the key to the success of your department.

Cornell reported a starting wage of \$30.00 per hour for a Police Chief would have a total employee cost, to include liabilities, health benefits, and retirement, of about \$100,681.92 per year. Starting wage for a full-time Police Officer was calculated at \$26.10 per hour, with the total employee cost of about \$90,832.33 per year. Cornell reviewed the benefits of hiring part-time officers. The starting wage of \$25.00 per hour, without benefits, for a part-time officer would have a total employee cost of about \$31,569.20 per year.

Cornell reviewed two proposed scenarios:

Scenario #1: Chief of Police and four Full-time Officers would have an estimated total employee cost of about \$464,011.24 per year.

Scenario #2: Chief of Police, three Full time, and two part-time Officers would have an estimate total employee cost of about \$436,317.31 per year.

The proposed budget for supplies, fuel, repairs, maintenance services, etc. was estimated at about \$78,000 per year. This combined with Scenario #1 is estimated at \$542,011.24 per year and with Scenario #2 is estimated at \$514,317.31 per year.

Cornell reviewed how a weekly eight hour work schedule would look for five full-time employees. He also reviewed how it would look with four full-time employees and two part-time employees.

The conclusion of the proposal provided a timeline to be implemented in order to achieve success.

The presentation concluded at 7:01 p.m. and Cornell opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Larry Vandersloot, County Commissioner, asked about having one officer on duty per day and who would cover the area if the officer is busy. It was noted the County has two deputies on shift at a time.

Molina reported investigations take a lot of time and asked who covers when an officer is working on an investigation. Vandersloot noted that an agreement could be made between the County and the City. Molina asked about a secretary for the department. Cornell reported there is a part-time position needed at the City and they could work for the Chief of Police.

Krebs asked what other start-up costs are predicted to be. Remodeling costs and vehicles were some examples noted. It was reported it would take about \$300,000. Krebs asked what other additional yearly costs could be. It was reported officers are required to maintain POST Certification by attending forty hours of training every two years.

Kenny Kepp asked about dispatch and jail services. Mayor Purcell reported they will be utilized through the County.

Sharpe asked about having additional vehicles on stand-by as a back-up for vehicles that are broke down. It was reported the county would help in the beginning by providing two vehicles.

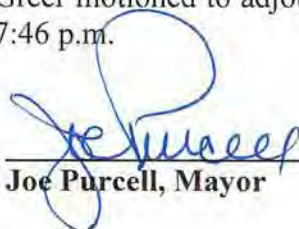
Vandersloot asked what law enforcement can do with juveniles that are violating curfew. Cornell voiced for the juvenile probation officer to be contacted.

Brooke Ostahowski asked what advancements and raises for officers would look like. Cornell noted it would be what the City decides. Mayor Purcell reported City employees will receive a 3% wage increase for the next few years per the union contract.

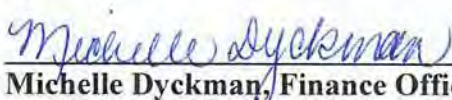
Frank Krebs asked if the City could prosecute for curfew offenses. It was noted the juvenile probation officer can be contacted.

Mayor Purcell reported a resolution of intent to move forward with the development of a City Police Department will be on the Council agenda for the January 21st meeting. Molina suggested for Council members to request a "ride along" with County deputies so they can see what is out there. Mayor Purcell announced the proposal will be emailed to Council Members and copies will be available at City Hall for anyone interested.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kautzman seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.


Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:


Michelle Dyckman, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for January 21, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for January 7, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Ramsey made the motion to approve the Special Council minutes as written for January 14, 2020. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Kautzman made the motion to approve the Committee minutes for January 15, 2020. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
December, 2019	25410, 25412, 25417 25420 – 25422, 25426	\$ 23,268.56
January, 2020	25411, 25418, 25419 25423 – 25425, 25427	\$ 1,503.68
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 24,772.24
December, 2019 Payroll		\$ 127,113.93
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 151,886.17

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cory Kenney voiced concern that the City would have a million dollars into starting a police force and it would be doubling costs to police the streets. He added Hardin is a very safe little town. He suggested to hire an additional code enforcement employee.

Debbie Winburn noted the proposed budget did not include holiday pay, overtime, vacation, sick, court time or sitting on an inmate at a hospital. She added she looked into costs for equipment and it would blow the budget out of the water. She noted that she is not for or against it, just looking at reality.

Shawn Riley, resident, voiced something needs to be done. The City tried a police department before. He added the big problem is most of the current law enforcement doesn't live here.

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell announced Trevor Lauth has been promoted to the Lead at the Water Treatment Plant.

Mayor Purcell reported the City-County Planning Board was awarded a CDBG grant in the amount of \$24,750.00 for the Downtown Revitalization Plan, the Detention Center is currently housing about seventy inmates, and it is possible the server farm may be moving forward.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell announced the City has openings for a General Laborer and an Assistant Mechanic/MWII. A proposal was made for the Finance Officer position and it was accepted, pending pre-employment screening. Kautzman asked if they would be paid hourly. Mayor Purcell noted it will be salary at \$55,000 per year.

Sewer & Water:

Sharpe asked about the water leak on Center Avenue. Massine reported they will be working to locate where the leak is coming from.

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey voiced he appreciated community members bringing their concerns to Council regarding a City Police Department.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported Coal Country Little League has asked about putting a storage shed at Heimat Park to store equipment. Molina asked who would be responsible for it if it was broken into. Krebs noted the league would be. Greer motioned to allow a small storage shed at Heimat Park to exclude legal liability. Molina seconded. Knudsen noted the item is not on the agenda and suggested it to be addressed at the next meeting to allow the public the right to participate.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received a newsletter from Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA), an invite to attend a webinar from Farmers Financial Solutions, and an email reporting Part I of the Third Edition of the Montana Municipal Officials Handbook is complete.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lee Cornell, City Law Enforcement Consultant, provided an updated proposal of figures and costs that include adding more part-time officers to overlap shifts. He noted the State hasn't paid overtime, it was given as compensatory time. Equipment expenses were not calculated into the budget proposal, the proposal is an operating budget proposal. Capital expenses will be used for start-up costs that would include equipment. He added he would like to see the City hire local and keep it local. Ramsey voiced that lowering the starting wage would make the City less marketable. Cornell noted the City offers a health benefit package that provides family medical. Krebs noted the benefit package is worth about \$15 per hour for someone who needs a family health plan and retirement.

Mayor Purcell asked Dyckman for funding information. Molina voiced the last public safety levy was voted down. Dyckman outlined potential options/considerations for budgeting for a police department. Molina noted that instead of raising taxes, it would be raising fees.

Carole Fox asked where people that are arrested would be put and will the City pay the County to hold them. It was noted they will be jailed at the County and city code offenses are a small percentage of the arrests. Molina added the medical levy will go up every year. Knudsen reported the current contract is locked in until June 30, 2021.

Knudsen voiced the concern that the County has no obligation to re-enter into a contract and by state law, a City is required to have a police chief.

Abel Baker, resident, voiced he has lived in Hardin for five years. He suggested to have cameras installed and have a professional research based study done. He added it could

help crime go down and it would be a step toward easing the burden on the current police by maximizing their time.

Michael Opie, Big Horn County Accountant, noted the cost is about \$137,000 for each deputy per year. That cost does not include jail, dispatch, or a school resource officer. He noted developing a city department would give City Council control over the budget. Dispatch, jail access, and victim witness advocate(s) would be provided by the county.

Winburn asked if the county was going to keep the current level of staffing. Larry Vandersloot, County Commissioner, noted it hasn't come up.

It was reported that deputy and officer trainings are an additional cost. Molina voiced they do not have to go to other states for training, it is costly. Cornell noted the training can be done in house and can be done with the County to reduce cost.

Knudsen reported the Sheriff's office and the County have big jobs. He would like to see more officers in Hardin. He displayed misdemeanor cases that are dated from 2015 to 2019. They cannot be prosecuted, because his requests have gone unanswered. These are crimes with victims that can be solved, but he cannot get responses. He thinks the deputies are spread too thin. He added city residents shouldn't have to take up arms. Corrina Kuntz voiced that is where it is getting to, she has called the sheriff's department many times and no one shows up. Knudsen reported that the contract will be expiring and the City will have to do something and it needs to be done well.

Terrill Bracken, Crow Tribal Police Chief, asked if the current call volume doesn't give officers enough time to complete reports and follow up or if it was a supervision problem. He added that if the City is going to develop a police department, he encourages it to be done to the best of its ability.

Ramsey noted that he is not in favor of a giant tax hike.

Laurie Tschetter voiced that she is having a hard time with this all around. The deputy does not follow up. She added the fees have been raised so high and she cannot afford more.

Riley voiced safety, education, and healthcare are the keys to develop economically. He added Hardin is getting to the point it is not safe and the greatest thing the Sheriff's Department has done is hire Eric Winburn. Riley voiced he is for a City police department, but how are we going to afford it.

Baker reviewed the technology capabilities of a camera surveillance system. He noted he had reviewed a video surveillance with a parent and was able to resolve the issue without police.

NEW BUSINESS:

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported he hasn't received any information from George Metzger, Hydrometrics, Inc., about Talen pursuing an agreement to haul fly ash to the landfill. Massine noted he has been reviewing and working on the ordinance regarding flowable backfill.

Finance:

Dyckman reported the City received the Bridge and Road Safety Accountability Act (BaRSAA) Allocation in the amount of \$83,211.64. Krebs asked if it had to be allocated right away. Dyckman noted the funds are not required to be used right away but they need to be allocated to a project by resolution by November 1st.

Dyckman reviewed MMIA changes in Net Position.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the CCPB has matching funds for the CDBG grant they received.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2226: Intent of the City of Hardin, to Develop a Hardin Police Department.

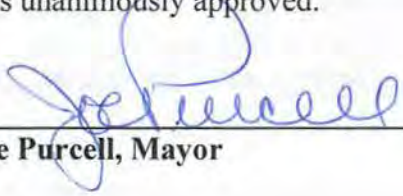
Krebs asked if approving the resolution would lock the City into developing a department. Mayor Purcell reported it is only an intent to look more into the development and to seek grants. Information will be brought to Council for approval. Greer motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. Mayor Purcell asked for a Roll Call vote that was conducted by Zimmer. On a voice vote the motion was approved (5/1). Molina voted Nay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Law Enforcement meeting with Big Horn County is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19th at 10:00 a.m. The City has job openings for an Assistant Mechanic/Maintenance Worker II and General Laborer.

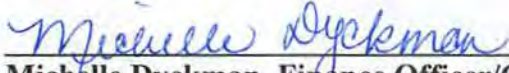
The meeting closed at 8:43 p.m.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michelle Dyckman, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for February 4, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs. Chris Sharpe and Karen Molina were excused.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Greer made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for January 21, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Ramsey made the motion to approve the Closed meeting minutes as written for January 21, 2020. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
January, 2020	25428 - 25437 25464 - 25491	\$ 456,733.00
February , 2020	25438 - 25462 25463 (cancelled)	\$ 3,415.94
Expenditures	JV2426	\$ 408,716.26
Transfer funds	25480	\$ <u>(16,424.17)</u>
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 852,441.03
Transfer		\$ 16,424.17
January, 2020 Payroll		\$ <u>126,587.38</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 995,452.58

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell announced a Law Enforcement Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. He will be meeting with Lee Cornell on Friday, February 7th at 9:00 a.m. and invited Council to schedule appointments to meet with him.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell congratulated Ross Miller for passing the Landfill Operations Exam. He announced the City has openings for a General Laborer and an Assistant Mechanic/MWII. Kautzman voiced he would like to be part of the interview process. Mayor Purcell reported Andrew Lehr will start on Monday, February 10th and Dyckman will remain with the City through the transition.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman asked if the Knudsen had written something to address flowable fill when excavating in streets and alleys. Knudsen reported Ordinance NO. 4-4-1, gives the authority to the Public Works Director. Kenney voiced that if the City would have required flowable backfill, it would double the cost. Massine noted the specifications are in the Public Works standard.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

An invitation was received to attend the Big Horn Hospital Association Foundation Showcase that is scheduled for February 21, 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported Coal Country Little League would like to put up a storage shed at Heimat Park to store equipment. Krebs noted it would be good to have one there. Kautzman expressed that his only concern is that if someone else wants a shed, more and more people will want them. Krebs made a motion to allow a shed no larger than a 5x5. Greer seconded and added that they would be required to sign a liability waiver. After further discussion, Krebs amended his motion to remove the size restriction and to require them to sign a liability waiver. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported Jessica Mussetter submitted a request asking the City to install 220 electrical plugs in the plaza area so food trucks wouldn't need to use generators during events. Massine reported he spoke with an electrician and the estimated cost is around \$2,500. Greer noted the food trucks are in the street and the concern is that cords would be pulled over the sidewalks in the plaza area and become a safety hazard. Carole Fox noted that she doesn't think we should pay for food truck electricity. Ramsey motioned to deny the request. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Knudsen reviewed the Water Rights Stipulation to Resolve Objections. He noted the amendments on page 2 of the document regarding the flow rate and the maximum volume. Kautzman motioned to approve the agreement as presented by Knudsen. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Dyckman requested to increase the minimum daily balances of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Flexible Spending Account (FLEX) bank accounts to \$600.00 at First Interstate Bank. Greer motioned to accept the request. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Dyckman requested approval of the Pledge Report. Kautzman motioned to approve the request. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Dyckman reviewed the additional contribution for the CDBG for the Big Horn Hospital Association. Kautzman motioned to allow the City Finance Officer to accept the donation of \$8,716.26 by Big Horn Hospital Association and allow the City Finance Officer to adjust appropriations authorized by Resolution NO. 2210. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Finance:

Dyckman reviewed Financials for December 2019.

Legal:

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

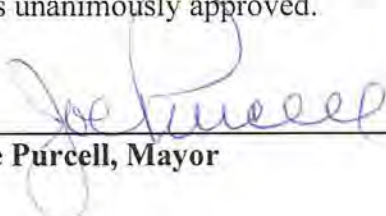
Resolution NO. 2227: Establishing Wages of a Non-Union Employee for the Remainder of FY 2019/2020. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Ordinance NO. 2020-01: To Expand Accessory Building Uses. Cory Kenney asked if 200 square foot was big enough for an accessory building and noted it should allow more square footage. Krebs asked if the building would have to be in a commercial area. Knudsen noted it could be wherever it is allowed by zoning. Greer motioned to approve the request. Ramsey seconded. It was noted that Council should be aware of what buildings are being put up in the City. On a voice vote the motion failed (4/0). Krebs reported he would like for the applications to be brought to Council for approval and asked if they had to go through the City-County Planning Board first. Knudsen reported he will look into it and modify the draft ordinance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

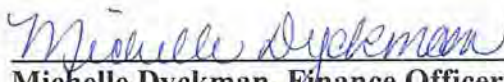
Mayor Purcell announced Council anniversaries: Clayton Greer, 6 years; Jeremy Krebs, 4 years; Karen Molina, 6 years; and Mayor Purcell, 2 years. A Law Enforcement Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30 p.m.; a Law Enforcement meeting with Big Horn County is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19th at 10:00 a.m.; and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Recruitment event is scheduled from February 11th – February 13th. The City has job openings for an Assistant Mechanic/Maintenance Worker II and General Laborer; there will be follow-ups with interviews.

Ramsey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michelle Dyckman, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

SPECIAL COUNCIL – LAW ENFORCEMENT MEETING: The Special Council – Law Enforcement Meeting for February 11, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding.

The following Aldermen were present: Karen Molina, Harry Kautzman, Jeremy Krebs, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, and Riley Ramsey.

Also present: Finance Officers/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman and Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, and City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and several members of the public.

The Mayor reviewed a plan for the proposed Hardin Police Department identifying estimated revenues, expenses and operating budget. He went through different scenarios through a 5-year start-up. Although the proposal is intended to show how the City could implement a police department, grants were included that could assist the City with the process. One of the major one's would be a COPS grant that would cover up to 75% of an officer's wages over three years. Molina indicated when she was under-sheriff; she was responsible for reporting on a COPS grant for the county. She also had various questions on the implementation details.

Ramsey asked if there were plans for a clerk. The Mayor indicated there are currently plans for a part-time administrative clerk that could possibly help there as well.

Krebs asked if we could be to 2 officers on a shift like the County provides now? He indicated that he thought it would take 8.4 people in addition to a chief. He also projected that as increasing the total budget to \$880,000. There would be the \$470,000 that we are currently paying the County for Law Enforcement plus an additional \$410,000 for personnel and operating.

Sharpe noted that state law indicates that we only need to have a police chief for compliance. Then there would be anything else we could afford to do. Deb Winburn and Molina both raised staffing concerns.

Krebs noted he has heard concerns about maintaining two people on shift like the County currently does. Greer commented that they would have to go to the voters to raise additional revenues. Laurie Tschetter voiced concerns raised after Saturday's incident. The Mayor indicated that it is a very basic schedule to start with. He added the County offered offsetting some of the Law Enforcement agreement when the City does implement a police department. Knudsen noted that phasing in a department could be accomplished by amending the contract.

Kenny Kepp commented on the Law Enforcement that we are paying for along with other funding such as 9-1-1 money is also going to the County, adding there are some services the County is required to provide anyway.

Cornell responded to staffing and scheduling concerns, noting that part-time are calculated at 24 hours per week, and the City still is in the County. Winburn asked if they would be required to live here. The Mayor said that it is the intention for the chief and full-time officers to be within a limited response time. Cornell responded that various cities were reviewed to obtain averages on costs and staffing.

Cory Kenney asked about the lessons learned from the previous attempt at a police department. The Mayor noted he would like to have the police commission established before a police department to help with checks and balances along with budgeting.

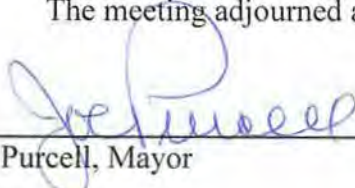
Winburn indicated that the County and School are both looking at ways of increasing revenues from user fees for solid waste, ambulance, pool, etc. Tschetter commented that a seasonal business has a limited time to generate the revenue needed for taxes and fees. The Mayor

agreed that any business has to look at increasing costs. He added that increased public safety could bring back economic development.

Kenney asked if the planned offices would be large enough to accommodate the police department. The Mayor reviewed those plans, noting that it would be adequate. Further discussion raised concerns on funding, officer and public safety, staff recruitment and retention, and reduced coal revenues.

The Mayor indicated the official vote on a resolution to establish a police department would be next Tuesday if there is enough interest to proceed. An informal tally showed that five are willing to proceed to an official vote with one nay (Molina).

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for February 18, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs, Chris Sharpe, and Karen Molina.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, out-going Finance Officer/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman, Public Works Director Rock Massine, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Greer made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for February 4, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Ramsey made the motion to approve the Law Enforcement meeting minutes as written for February 11, 2020. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
January, 2020	25492 - 25503	
	25506 – 25509, 25511	
	25513 - 25516	\$ 46,953.11
February , 2020	25463, 25504 - 25505	
	25510 - 25512	\$ 1,306.91
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 48,260.02

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cory Kenney asked about the state contributions for the Wastewater project. The Mayor pointed him to the current breakdown also included. He also wondered if the Police Department would double the work load for some city employees.

Breanne Uffelman asked if the City would be willing to support a Montana Historic Preservation Grant opportunity on behalf of two local businesses. This is not on the agenda, so Council cannot act on it at this time. It could be scheduled for the next meeting.

Bill Hodges noted that there will be a CDBG site visit next week for the hospital project. He thanked the City for helping with this grant.

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell proclaimed February 23 as St. Joseph Catholic Church Day in honor of 100 years since they held mass in the new church building on December 25, 1919. He also noted that Rural Development has initially offered \$2,121,000 for an RD loan and \$5,201,000 for a grant to help with the Wastewater project. Big Horn County received a \$750,000 Delivering Local Assistance grant. He will be making a presentation to the band at Saturday’s game for contributions from the City and other Montana cities and towns.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City has extended offers to two individuals to fill openings.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

Ellsworth Air Force Base will be holding an informational meeting on February 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the Big Horn County Fairgrounds regarding B-21s. There is a rabies quarantine order for Big Horn County.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Pete Molina, retired deputy, raised concerns with the City's proposal for a Police Department. His concerns were with staff coverage and presence, and cost. Rod Molina added concerns about the County money spent by deputies driving back and forth to Billings. Jason Stephenson, contractor, also raised concerns about Hardin being economically challenged and renters affording increased costs. Rhett Gibson asked about jail services. Mayor Purcell noted the County has that obligation. Joseph Funke raised concerns over how the Sheriff's Department currently handles situations. Cory Kenney commented on paperwork being taken over to the County by the police and getting Cyber-trucks.

Mike Martinsen asked about revenue being taken in by the courts. Dyckman responded it is currently about \$70-80,000 per year. Martinsen also asked about communication with other agencies like the sheriff's office and BIA. Rob Bryson noted some businesses use a response time agreement with their employees. Laurie Tschetter said that time would be better spent on the identified problems rather than Law Enforcement.

The Mayor asked to have comments directed towards whether or not to establish a Police Department. Kenney asked if they would be finding people who live in town to fill the positions. The Mayor answered that was the goal. Martinsen went back to communications and using the Detention Center. Carole Fox noted that the Detention Center would have been used if they could.

Krebs noted that the current contract expires June 30, 2021. We could have the staff set or go back to the County. Sharpe asked if the County would be cutting employees. Larry Vandersloot, County Commissioner, answered that they had not discussed it yet.

Rob Bryson asked with the contract up in 2021, how do we come up with the \$600,000? The Mayor responded that the County will reduce the contract cost for City employees hired. It's a process that will be five years out. The Sheriff's department is not going away. Greer added that Big Horn County is huge. If the City takes on the police department, the county will be able to patrol outside city limits more. Discussion continued along the same concerns previously mentioned. Mayor Purcell indicated that learning from the prior attempt at a Police Department, the City will have the Mayor and Council over the Chief, we will have a Police Commission before hiring a Police Chief, and the Council will have checks and balances. The goal is to have no increases in the first 3 years and to apply for grants to help with funding. Kautzman added that the sewer fund can't be used for anything else in response to proposed increases there.

Bryson asked who would be on the Police Commission. The Mayor will ask for letters of interest. He will look for people with a background that can help with different aspects of the Police Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Healthy Hardin Community Development Committee requested a temporary road closure for the River Valley Farmers Market. This will be for the hours of 3:30pm to 8:30pm every Thursday in August and the first two Thursdays in September. Massine noted it will work the same as last year. Kautzman made a motion to approve the request. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Massine requested \$7,281.68 to rebuild a bank of UV lamps at the Wastewater plant. Greer asked how this fits in with the proposed project. Massine responded that there will be two more banks built. Greer made a motion to approve the request. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Finance:

Legal:

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution No. 2228: Establishing a Hardin Police Department. Krebs noted that he is not a professional with budgets or accounting, just a plumber. He noted concerns he has with staffing and that he was coming up with numbers different from the scenarios presented. He did ask for and received additional information on the County's future projections for the Law Enforcement contract. But he does have confidence that the Mayor can make it happen. Sharpe asked about vehicle maintenance. Purcell noted that we would do what we can in-house. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. On a roll-call voice vote the motion passed 5/1 (Molina dissent).

Resolution No. 2229: Granting a Certain Official Authority to Sign for Bank Accounts, Warrants, Claims and Certificates of Deposit for the City of Hardin and Removing Other. Dyckman asked about bonding. Knudsen responded that it is required by City Ordinance, and is not necessary for the resolution. Kautzman made a motion to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

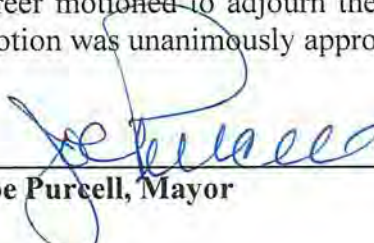
Ordinance NO. 2020-01: To Expand Accessory Building Uses. Greer made a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

Ordinance NO. 2020-02: Amending Hardin City Code Water Tapping Procedures. Kautzman made a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

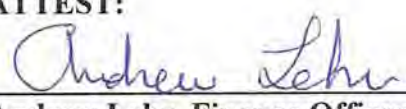
Mayor Purcell congratulated Trevor Laultt for 8 years of service as a City employee. Big Horn County is under a rabies quarantine. There is an Ellsworth AFB Informational Meeting at the Fairgrounds on February 25 from 6-8pm and a Law Enforcement meeting will be held with Big Horn County on February 26 at 10:30 am. The City has extended offers to individuals for the Mechanic/Maintenance Worker II and General Laborer positions.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:11pm. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

SPECIAL COUNCIL: The Special Council Meeting for February 25, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Karen Molina, Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, and Riley Ramsey. Jeremy Krebs was absent.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, past Finance Officer/City Clerk Michelle Dyckman, Public Works Director Rock Massine, and City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and several members of the public.

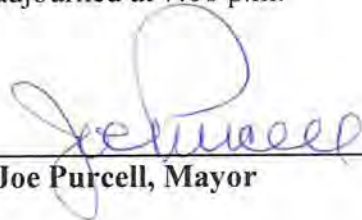
Mayor Purcell reviewed a funding offer from Rural Development (RD), which includes \$2,121,000 for a loan and \$5,201,000 for a grant. Robie Culver, Grant Specialist of Stahly Engineering, reviewed further details of the funding offer. She presented an outline of funding sources throughout the 3 phases of the project. Potential rate structure increases were also explained. By the end of the project in 2022, the rate increase could be \$17.03 more than what is currently being paid for sewer (\$42.15). The highest rate could be in the middle of the project at \$61.03.

Rural Development's funding would be "last in" for the project. The grant would be used after the loan. Any remainder of the grant goes back to RD. There will also be a state loan (either Coal Board or State Revolving Fund – SRF) as part of the project. An interim loan may also be needed. The City also submitted an application to the Coal Board for a grant. That meeting will be March 12. RD's loan repayment would be about \$6,024 per month for 40 years, and the State's would be around \$11,000 per month for 20 years. Ramsey asked about some of the loan repayments and Culver clarified how the different loans could work.

Laurie Tschetter commented that she has set rates for her business for this year already and was not sure how she could make a living. Ramsey asked about paying the loans. Purcell responded the rate increases would cover that.

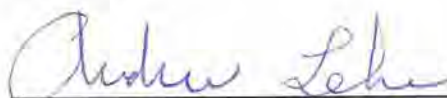
Kautzman made a motion to put RD's funding proposal on the agenda for the next meeting on March 3. Greer seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sharpe seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for March 3, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs. Karen Molina was excused.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for February 18, 2020. Motion seconded by Ramsey. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Greer made the motion to approve the Special Council meeting minutes as written for February 25, 2020. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
February, 2020	22517 - 25534	
	25536 - 25558	
	25584 - 25589	\$ 50,219.71
March, 2020	25535, 25559 - 25583	
	25588	\$ 449,301.74
Transfer funds	25535	\$ (3,739.79)
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 495,781.66
Transfer		\$ 3,739.79
February, 2020 Payroll		\$ 122,137.50
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 621,658.95

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cory Kenney noted that he heard there was some delay in turning in information to receive grant money for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project. He referenced the special meeting of the 25th and added it would be nice to have meetings on the routine 1st and 3rd Tuesday's of each month.

Kenney asked if it was the City's place to put \$10,000 into the trip for the Marching Band to go to Washington, D.C. Carole Fox asked where the money came from. Mayor Purcell noted the donation was budgeted.

Kenney voiced it would be nice to see an agenda for the City-County Planning meetings in the City Council packet.

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell provided a review of the timeline for the City Police Department. The City is currently waiting on estimates for remodeling the Ping Building and an ad has been placed requesting Letters of Interest for those interested in being on the Police Commission. Knudsen, Lehr, Lance Pedersen, and Michael Opie will meet to discuss the process with contract amendments and Memorandum of Understanding requests. The Police Chief job description is in

the draft process and will be reviewed by consultant Lee Cornell. Massine will have the City mechanic inspect two vehicles that will be received from the County. Mayor Purcell reported that grant applications for a police department are being completed for the March 11th deadline and other grants will be initiated.

Mayor Purcell reported that he and Greer met with Jillann Knutson and Steve Simonson, of Beartooth RC&D, to discuss the revolving loan fund and workforce housing options. The City will host an informational meeting for the public to let people know of the funding options that are available related to housing. Mayor Purcell noted that Greer has officially stepped down from the RC&D board and asked if any Council members were interested in replacing him.

Mayor Purcell announced there is a Coal Board meeting scheduled for March 12th in Billings, MT. The Waste Water Treatment Plant application was tabled at the last meeting and will be re-presented at the meeting. A request for Letters of Interest to be on the Two Rivers Authority Board will be published.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City does not have any current job openings. He announced Michelle Dyckman's official last day was today. She is on vacation and will continue to be available for questions and projects as needed. A retirement party will be scheduled.

Sewer & Water:

Sharpe noted that he has met with Lehr, Massine, and Dyckman to learn more about the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project and how the project will be funded.

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell asked if there were any questions regarding the Rural Development Funding package. He reported the City received the RD Grant in the amount of \$5,201,000. The City did not receive the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) in the amount of \$625,000, but will try to re-apply. Ramsey asked if less of the grant money is used, would the difference have to be used. Angela Cross, of USDA Rural Development, noted the RD Grant is to be used last, going into phase three. The City would try to obtain the \$625,000 TSEP. If there is remaining money, it can be addressed to be used on other needs at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Krebs noted that if the \$11 million project costs less, the City will not keep the money. It was confirmed that any excess money would be returned. Mayor Purcell noted the expected increase in sewer rates is about \$17.00, much less than the original estimate. Kautzman motioned to accept the RD Funding package as presented to secure grant funds in the amount of \$5,201,000. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Breanne Uffelman provided an update on the Montana Historic Preservation Grant. She reported applications have been received from The Farmer's Daughter General Store and Dan's Custom Design. Uffelman verified she was asking for the City to sponsor both grants. Krebs noted there would be no cost to the City and asked if anyone can apply. Uffelman verified that anyone can apply. Greer motioned to approve for the City to sponsor the grants. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported Barry Damschen, of Barry Damschen Consulting, LLC, submitted Amendment NO. 21 for Engineering Consulting Services for the City of Hardin

Landfill in the amount of \$5,800. Massine reported he and Damschen spoke about using more air space in the existing coal ash cell rather than creating a new cell. Greer motioned to approve the amendment. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Jill Wagner, of Big Horn Education Association, requested a Special Events Permit for the Big Horn Education Association Celebration to be held Friday, March 18, 2020. Kautzman motioned to approve the request. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Knudsen reported the Dorn Ag Parcel is located within a mile radius of the City, it needs approval by Council before it is recorded. The Certificate of Survey (COS) has been reviewed by Cal Cumin and Stahly Engineering. Knudsen noted the left side of the COS shows the Crow Indian Reservation Boundary, this is incorrect and will need to be edited. Kautzman motioned to approve the COS to include the necessary edit as explained by Knudsen. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Finance:

Lehr reviewed the Event Notice and continuing disclosures regarding the Tax Increment Industrial Infrastructure Development Revenue Bonds.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell asked for anyone interested in being on The TRA Board to please submit a Letter of Interest.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Ordinance NO. 2020-01: To Expand Accessory Building Uses. Ramsey motioned to approve the second reading of the ordinance. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Ordinance NO. 2020-02: Amending Hardin City Code Water Tapping Procedures. Greer motioned to approve the second reading of the ordinance. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

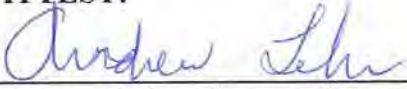
Mayor Purcell reported He and Greer met with RC&D earlier today and discussed workforce housing options; the City-County Planning Board is holding a Public Hearing on Monday, March 9th at 7:00 p.m.; and the Coal Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12th in Billings, MT.

Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting scheduled for March 17, 2020 was cancelled.

Notice of Cancelled Meeting

Due to COVID-19 and the advisement from State officials to social distance to slow the spread of the virus, the Regular Meeting of the Hardin City Council scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. has been cancelled.

The next City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MAYOR:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

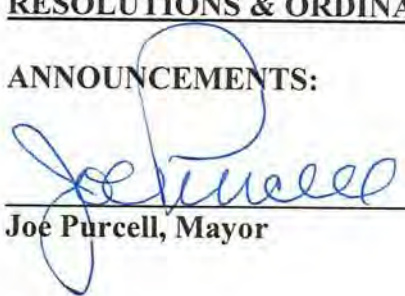
Finance:

Legal:

Economic Development:

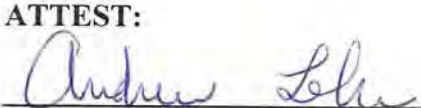
RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for April 7, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Sharpe made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for March 3, 2020. Motion seconded by Ramsey. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Ramsey made the motion to approve the Committee meeting minutes as written for February 26, 2020. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for March 17, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
February, 2020	25591 – 25597, 25599	
	25602 - 25606	
	25608 - 25611	
	25613 - 25616	
	25623 - 25625	
	25607 (Cancelled)	\$ 47,994.91
March, 2020	25590, 25598	
	25600 - 25601, 25612	
	25617 - 25622	\$ 3,559.45
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 51,554.36

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for April 7, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
March, 2020	25626 - 25648	
	25671 - 25686	
	25688, 25692 - 25702	\$ 96,657.25
April, 2020	25649 - 25670	
	25687, 25689 - 25691	\$ 7,809.60
Transfer funds	25626	\$ (47,987.61)
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 56,479.24
Transfer		\$ 47,987.61
March, 2020 Payroll		\$ 147,746.09
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 252,212.94

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell provided an update on the City of Hardin Police Department. He noted the process is moving slow with the Covid-19 pandemic. The remodel estimates have been received and will be reviewed with Massine before being presented to Council. Three Letters of Interest for the Police Commission have been received, they will be reviewed and recommendations will be presented to Council. The first draft of Police Department policies and job description are complete and ready for review. Massine and the City mechanic have chosen two vehicles from Big Horn County and they have been presented to the County Commissioner's for approval. Grant applications are in the process of being completed, but it is a slow process with the current shut downs. It was added that application deadlines have been extended.

Mayor Purcell announced the Coal Board awarded the City of Hardin \$250,000 for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project. He extended a "Thank You" for their support. Massine will be working with Stahly Engineering on the plans for Phase I of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project. Lehr has been working with Rural Development and Stahly in the grant process.

Mayor Purcell noted there has not been much of a response in the request for Letters of Interest to serve on the Two Rivers Authority Board. The positions remain open. New flooring will be installed soon at City Hall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell announced Michelle Dyckman's last day of employment was April 3rd. He extended a "Thank You" to Dyckman for her years of service and for the great support she gave to Lehr with orientation and training. A retirement party will be scheduled in the future.

Mayor Purcell reported there currently is not a positive case of COVID-19 in Big Horn County. There is a plan in place for City employees that will be implemented when that changes. The plan will help to maintain a healthy workforce while still providing crucial City services.

Sewer & Water:

Massine reported he will meet with Dax Simek, of Stahly Engineering, this week and he will meet with the surveyor next week to review the rehabilitation/replacement plan of deteriorated sanitary sewer manholes and/or pipe in 13th Street, 10th Street, and Lessard Avenue right-of-ways. Kautzman asked if the plan was to have the project done in the winter. Massine reported it is currently scheduled for late Spring or early Summer. Kautzman asked if the water table would be too high. Massine will address his concern with Simek.

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman noted it would be a good time to start patching holes in the streets. Massine reported the City crew started patching holes today.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and a newsletter was received from the Montana Department of Transportation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported the Healthy Hardin Community Development Committee is requesting for the City to provide a portable handicap accessible restroom, a handwashing station, and picnic tables for the River Valley Farmers Market that is scheduled for every Thursday in August and the first two Thursdays in September. Massine noted the cost will be \$900 for the

duration of the market. Krebs motioned to approve the requests. Greer seconded. On a voice the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported the City received a recommendation from the City-County Planning Board (CCPB) to approve a Conditional Use from Craig and Jennifer Mehling for new construction of a mini-mall at 202 14th Street, property adjacent to and east of the Flying J Truck Stop. Sharpe asked if they knew what business(es) they would be putting in the mall initially. C. Mehling noted that with the COVID-19 it will be a slow process, but initially a water and ice house for now. Molina asked if they would have to go back to the CCPB when they add on. Cal Cumin, CCPB Planning Advisor, noted they will not be required to as long as they meet the landscaping and off-street parking requirements. Krebs asked if there will be one business to start. C. Mehling noted there may be two businesses at first. Ramsey asked if the intent is to build as described or add on later. C. Mehling noted the building will be added onto as needed. Sharpe motioned to approve the recommendation as submitted by the CCPB. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion passed. (5/1) Krebs abstained.

Cal Cumin reported the CCPB has a \$45,000 budget to update the Growth Management Plan and for the Downtown Revitalization Plan. The CCPB is requesting approval of the Draft Request to conduct a Request For Proposals For Planning Services. Krebs asked for clarification that this would be paid through grant money and that there would be no cost to the City. Cumin noted that the CCPB has contributed \$5,000 and the rest is from grant money. Greer motioned to approve the draft as written. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Massine reported the life expectancy of the ash cell at the landfill is approximately four years. It would cost approximately \$2 million to build a new cell. Expanding the cell vertically could provide an estimated life expectancy of fourteen to twenty years. Barry Damschen, Engineering Consultant Services, submitted Amendment NO. 22 in the amount of \$8,500 for the vertical expansion. Greer motioned to approve the amendment. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reviewed the Legal Services Contract proposal submitted by Knudsen & Knudsen, PLLC. Ramsey motioned to approve the contract. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported he and Krebs will review information about grant money that is available for the parks. The City crew has been trimming trees, performing alley clean up, and filling pot holes. Greer asked if the playgrounds have been closed. Massine reported they are not at this time.

Finance:

Lehr reported the new healthcare rates from Joint Powers Trust will be submitted at the next meeting. Massine will be working with Stahly Engineering and Lehr has been working with Rural Development and Stahly in the Waste Water Treatment Plant grant process.

Legal:

Knudsen reported a closed meeting will be scheduled for the next Council meeting to discuss a current civil case.

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell asked Council if one of them would be interested in serving on the Beartooth RC&D board. There was no comment.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

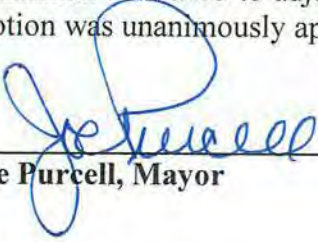
Resolution NO. 2230: Approving the Appointment of the City Attorney. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell reported the Governor extended the order for social distancing and housing in place to the 24th of April. The Council meeting of Tuesday, April 21st will be conducted by virtual meeting.

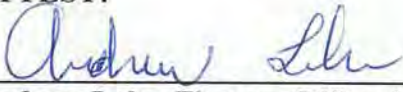
Mayor Purcell announced the following employee anniversaries for March: Antonio Abril, 1 year; Merle Johns, 3 years; Ross Miller, 1 year; and Michael Stimpson, 22 years.

Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for April 21, 2020 was called to order at 6:37 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for April 7, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for April 21, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
March, 2020	25702 - 25704	
	25706 - 25709	
	25711 - 25716	
	25718 - 25720	\$ 21,280.72
April, 2020	25705, 25710, 25717	
	25721 - 25729	\$ 11,838.21
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 33,118.93

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell provided an update on the City of Hardin Police Department. He is working to create a Commission for the Police Department, the first draft of the Police Department policies is in the review process, and the expenses for the Law Enforcement Consultant are at \$3,200. Grant Applications are in the process of being completed. The City will apply for a Coal Board Grant to help with equipment needs. The County is working on a plan for the City to receive two vehicles. Mayor Purcell reported he has been in contact with the School District Superintendent Chad Johnson to discuss the School Resource Officer position.

Mayor Purcell reported now would be a good time to hold Committee meetings to review City Codes.

Mayor Purcell reported a meeting was held regarding grants and loans for the Waste Water Treatment Plant project. A finance package will be presented.

Mayor Purcell announced the state of Montana is expected to received \$1.25 billion in federal dollars for a Coronavirus Relief Fund. He and Lehr submitted current expenses estimated at about \$6,500 to the state. Kautzman asked if the fund would pick up wages for the employees that are at home. It was noted that it is hopeful.

Mayor Purcell reported the flooring replacement at City Hall will be delayed for now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City has been accepting applications for a General Laborer position at the Landfill. The position will be placed on hold due to COVID-19. The applicants have been notified that their applications will remain on file.

Mayor Purcell announced that there are three positive COVID cases in the County. If there are not any new cases reported beyond this week, it will be considered for the City to begin operating at full staff.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey reported the importance to be proactive by reviewing City codes for when the City has officers in place. A committee meeting was scheduled for May 5, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman reported the City Crew has been patching holes and sweeping the streets, he added the streets look good.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Kautzman asked if the park restrooms were going to be opened up. Mayor Purcell reported he and Massine have discussed it and the decision is for them to not be opened at this time. Greer asked about a walk way around Heimat Park. Massine reported it hasn't been started, but it is a planned project.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and a newsletter was received from Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Lehr reviewed the Health Insurance proposal submitted by Joint Powers Trust (JPT) Health Insurance. He provided comparisons between Renewal Option 1 and Option 2 of the proposal. Krebs asked if the employees are happy with their current coverage. Lehr reported they are. Ramsey motioned to approve Option 1 of the proposal. Molina seconded. Kautzman voiced that City contribution amount should be looked into, it was noted the 80% contribution to be made by the City is in the Union Agreement. Knudsen referred to Renewal Option 1 requiring a three year agreement. Lehr reported it would add one year to the remaining two years left of the current agreement. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported the Letters of Interest from the three candidates he is nominating to be on the City of Hardin Police Commission were provided to Council for review. He added they will provide a good combination of resources and knowledge. Molina asked if there would be a conflict with one of the candidates being a victims' witness advocate. Knudsen noted he didn't think it will be a conflict. Krebs asked how many applicants there were. Mayor Purcell reported he received five Letters of Interest and three of them qualify. Sharpe questioned why the others did not qualify. Mayor Purcell reported per Montana Code Annotated it is required for each candidate to meet qualifications of elected officials. Mayor Purcell added that each candidate will have to complete a criminal background check in order to serve. Kautzman motioned to approve the appointments made by Mayor Purcell. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Ramsey asked what the scope of the commission would be. Mayor Purcell reviewed what their job would entail. Krebs asked if the Chief of Police position would need Council approval. Knudsen voiced it will and then the Mayor and Chief of Police would hire the police officers. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr requested approval of a records disposal request. Krebs motioned for approval. Kautzman Seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the second UV system at the Waste Water Treatment Plant has been rebuilt, the parks have been fertilized, Dick Salyer will be spraying weeds for the season, and the settling basins have been cleaned at the Water Treatment Plant. Molina voiced her daughter was impressed with the City for replacing a broken garbage can at the hospital the same day she called about it.

Finance:

Legal:

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is continuing to seek members for the Two Rivers Authority Board.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

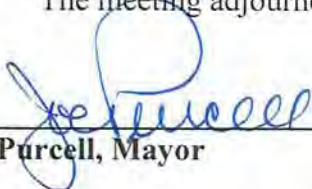
Mayor Purcell announced the following employee anniversaries for April: Steve Hopes, 30 years; Rock Massine, 24 years; and Kristi Wedel, 14 years.

Mayor Purcell reported the City-County Planning Board (CCPB) has Public Hearings scheduled for Weaver at 7:00 p.m. and Clampitt at 7:10 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020.

The deadline to submit Request for Proposals for Professional Planning Services to update the City's Growth Management Plan and to prepare a Downtown Revitalization Plan is 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 22, 2020.

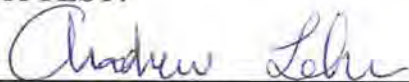
Greer motioned to close the meeting for a Closed Session legal update. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting closed at 7:11 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for May 5, 2020 was called to order at 6:47 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for April 21, 2020. Motion seconded by Ramsey. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for May 5, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
April, 2020	25752 - 25777 25781 - 25782	\$ 26,815.13
May, 2020	25730 - 25751 25778 - 25780	\$ 3,655.94
April, 2020		<u>\$ 146,437.55</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 176,908.62

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell extended a “Thank You” to Debbie Winburn of the Original Briefs for writing the article about Big Horn County Sheriff’s saying “Thank You” to the Front Line workers.

Mayor Purcell reported the three individuals that were approved by Council to be on the Police Commission have passed their background checks. The job description for the Chief of Police is in review. Molina asked if a person had to be within the City limits to serve on the Police Commission, Dustin Will does not live within the City limits. Knudsen will look into it.

Mayor Purcell asked pet owners that are taking their pets to the park to please pick up after them.

Mayor Purcell reported the Montana Air National Guard will be flying over Hardin to salute Montana’s first responders on the front lines at 12:40 p.m. Wednesday, May 6th.

Mayor Purcell announced he plans to hold “Get Trashed with the Mayor” clean-up day on May 22nd. Public Health Guidelines will be followed and information will be advertised soon.

The City is receiving Letters of Interest to fill vacancies for the Two Rivers Authority Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City has returned to operating at full staff, interviews will be held this week for the General Laborer Landfill position, and the City will advertise for summer help in the parks.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

The committee reviewed City Codes for pedestrian interference, disturbing the peace, curfew, and community decay. Committee recommendations will be made under New Business.

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman reported the City Crew has been street sweeping and patching holes in the streets and blading alleys. Kautzman asked Massine about the stop sign at the hospital. Massine reported it was done today.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported the City crew has completed the walking track around Heimat Park, the restrooms will open later than the usual date due to COVID-19, the parks are being mowed, and the parks have been sprayed for weeds. Greer suggested for the walking track to be completed in a circular walking pattern rather than someone having to go onto Heimat Road.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Mayor Purcell reported a meeting will be scheduled to address Community Decay when Council can meet at Council Chambers.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census, a newsletter was received from Montana Department of Transportation, information was received from MDT about the 2020-2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and Council received the Epoch Times Newspaper.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

City codes *Title 6, Chapter 1, Section 6-1-12: Pedestrian Interference and Section 6-1-15: Disturbing the Peace*, will be revisited with the City Attorney and the Chief of Police. City Code *Title 6, Chapter 8, Section 6-8-2 Community Decay* was referred to the Ordinance Committee to meet when the City is able to hold meetings at the Council Chambers and Joe Connelly, Code Enforcement, will be asked to attend. Mayor Purcell noted the recommendation of the Law Enforcement Committee is to change *City Code Title 6, Chapter 5, 6-5-1 to 6-5-3: Curfew* as follows: A curfew of nine o'clock for children under the age of fifteen years old and a curfew of midnight for children fifteen years old to under eighteen years old. Ramsey approved for Knudsen to draft an Ordinance with the changes as described by Mayor Purcell. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell asked Council if there were any questions about the Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee (EJCDC). Ramsey asked if it establishes everything the City will need. Knudsen reported this contract is with Stahly Engineering to start Phase I of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project. This locks in the price with Stahly and not with the contractors. Massine reported he will be meeting with Dax Simek, of Stahly Engineering, tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. to address a series of questions he had previously emailed to Simek. Kautzman motioned to approve the EJCDC. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reviewed the Pledge Reports and First Quarter Financial Reports. Greer motioned to approve the Reports. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the stop sign was replaced at the hospital, a new sign was ordered today. Kautzman noted that the 4-way stop signs need to be changed. Massine reported he will work on it.

Finance:

Lehr reported he has reviewed standards for GASB.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is continuing to seek members for the Two Rivers Authority Board.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2231: Appointing Three Residents To The Hardin Police Commission. Knudsen reported Will is not eligible to be on the Police Commission. To be eligible they have to be a resident within one of the City Wards. Mayor Purcell reported the City will continue to seek an individual to fill the vacancy.

Resolution NO. 2232: Intent to Increase Rates and Charges for the Users of the Sewer System. The increase would be 5%, \$2.02 per month, on all users of the sanitary sewer system. Knudsen reported the increase is required to qualify for funding of grants and loans. Krebs asked if there will be more increases. Mayor Purcell noted there will be increases with each phase of the project. Krebs asked what the target increase rate was. Mayor Purcell noted about \$15. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

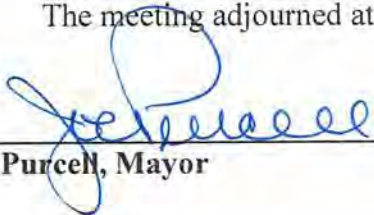
Mayor Purcell reported the City-County Planning Board (CCPB) has Public Hearings scheduled for Weaver at 7:00 p.m. and Clampitt at 7:10 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020.

Weed Mowing Bids are due by 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May 14, 2020.

The deadline to submit Request for Proposals for Professional Planning Services to update the City's Growth Management Plan and to prepare a Downtown Revitalization Plan is 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 22, 2020.

Ramsey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

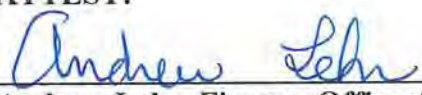
The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for May 19, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for May 5, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Ramsey motioned to approve the Committee minutes as written for May 5, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for May 5, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
April, 2020	25783 - 25798	
	25800 - 25805, 25814 - 25815	\$ 23,376.64
May, 2020	25799, 25806, 25808 - 25813	
	25816	\$ <u>19,654.85</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 43,031.49

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported that Weed Mowing Bids were due by May 14th and the City did not receive any. The work will be done by Code Enforcement and community service workers.

The request for Letters of Interest to be on the Police Commission has been re-advertised. There currently hasn't been any submitted. The City is continuing to work on the Job Description qualifications and Vacancy Announcement for a Police Chief.

Mayor Purcell announced "Get Trashed with The Mayor" community clean-up day is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 22nd. Public Health guidelines will be followed.

Kautzman asked about the benefit package for the advertised part-time position for a Court Clerk. It was noted health insurance is not a benefit for the part-time position.

Mayor Purcell noted the visual inspection of the new fire truck is expected to be done around mid-June and it is hopeful it will arrive in Hardin the first week of July.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is working at full staff and implementing social distancing and public health guidelines. The Landfill position has been filled and there are currently ads placed for a part -time Court Clerk I and for a part-time Seasonal employee for parks.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey reported he has had people ask about serving on the Police Commission and hopefully they will apply.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported the park restrooms will remain closed. Massine noted Public Health will be contacted before the decision to open them is made. Krebs asked if the City would be using the durapatcher. Massine reported the crew will work on potholes and then the durapatcher will be used.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Mayor Purcell reported a meeting will be scheduled to address Community Decay when Council can meet at Council Chambers.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and Council received the Epoch Times Newspaper.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported Ronald Shaw, who lives on Watson Drive, submitted a letter requesting approval to have animals within the City limits. Shaw noted he wants animals specifically for 4-H, four to five chickens and maybe a sheep and a pig. Molina expressed concern that more people would want to have animals within the City limits. Sharpe asked Shaw how close the nearest neighbor was and if he had spoken with them. He reported he has two neighbors and they are alright with it. Krebs motioned to approve the request for Shaw to have small animals with the condition that the animals would have to be registered in the fair. Greer seconded. Cal Cumin, Planning Advisor of the CCPB, suggested to let the CCPB work on it. Krebs noted it is in the City Ordinance that the request is subject to the review by and approval of the City Council so he will keep his motion. Mayor Purcell reported there is other programs like FFA in addition to 4-H. Krebs added he is requesting smaller animals. Mayor Purcell reported there was a motion and a second to approve with the limit of medium to small animals. The City Attorney and Mayor Purcell will meet with Shaw to draft an agreement. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported the City received a request from the Hardin Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) in the amount of \$8,000. This has already been budgeted. Molina asked if the HVFD will be moving forward with summer events due to COVID. Kevin Cannon, Secretary/Treasurer of HVFD, noted the fireworks will be done this year at the Fair Grounds as they were last year, without anyone in the grand stands. Ramsey motioned to approve the request. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion passed 5/1. (Krebs dissent)

Cal Cumin reviewed the recommendation from the CCPB for the Weaver Preliminary Plat Application to split a lot in an existing subdivision. He asked for approval of the recommendation subject to the three conditions listed in the recommendation. Sharpe motioned to approve the recommendation as described by Cumin. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Eshan King submitted a request to host a post-graduation ceremony parade through Hardin on Sunday, May 24th at approximately 4:00 p.m. Molina voiced that she had just spoke with Undersheriff Eric Winburn adding it would be safer to not have the route go through residential areas and an alternate route was provided. Molina noted there is not enough officers

to block the roads so the request is to not have horses and to not allow “snaking” (swerving out of the vehicles own lane). Molina noted that an announcement should be made that if there is “snaking” the parade will be stopped. King reported she has received approval from the Big Horn County Department of Public Health and reviewed the guidelines they set for the parade. Greer motioned to approve the request conditional upon the route as directed by the Sheriff’s Department and that Public Health Guidelines are followed for public safety. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Dax Simek, Stahly Engineering, provided a summary of the TSEP Application Notice to Proceed for the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Project. He added the City lost the \$625,000 TSEP (Treasure State Endowment Program) funding, but upon receiving comments after the first application, Stahly is confident the City will be successful in being awarded the grant. The notice to proceed will allow Stahly to prepare documents for the DLA TSEP application to be resubmitted with the updated PER (Preliminary Engineering Report). Greer motioned to approve the notice to proceed. Kautzman seconded. Krebs asked Simek if any of the funding made available by Governor Steve Bullock was available for infrastructure. Simek noted he is not sure, but he will look into it. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reported he received quotes from Actuaries Northwest (ANW), Healthcare Actuaries, LLC and Wendy Stuker for OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) Valuation Quotes for GASB 75 Valuation. Lehr provided a review of the proposed fees for each of them. Lehr reported ANW provides a full valuation and report in the amount of \$2,700 for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 and a Roll-forward Valuation in the amount of \$1,200 for 2020/2021. Kautzman motioned to approve the quote submitted by ANW. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reported he received fiber quotes from Century Link and quotes to upgrade the City phone system from Century Link and DIS Technologies. The Century Link quote includes the phone upgrade capital cost in the amount of \$2,616 and a 36-month plan with total monthly charges of \$1,030.69. The quote from DIS Technologies to upgrade the phone system is \$23,560 with an option lease for 60 months of \$445.11 per month. Ramsey motioned to approve the 36-month plan quote from Century Link. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City crew will do asphalt work and then they will durapatch. Massine reported the pump failed on the lift station on Parker Lane. Massine requested for the authorization to purchase a new pump in the amount of \$10,888 to have as a replacement. Kautzman asked if it could be repaired. Massine noted the pump is no longer made and cannot be repaired. Massine noted the City has one in stock to replace the failed pump, but the City does need to have one as a backup. Ramsey motioned to approve the purchase. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Massine reported Stahly provided an estimated cost of \$360,000 to extend water and sewer on Watson Drive and Gable Drive. More information will be provided to discuss during the budget process.

Finance:

Lehr reported it is possible to receive a 25% loan forgiveness through the SRF grant for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project.

Legal:

Knudsen reported he is close to finishing the Site Title Opinion for the WWTP Project.

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is continuing to seek members for the Two Rivers Authority Board.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

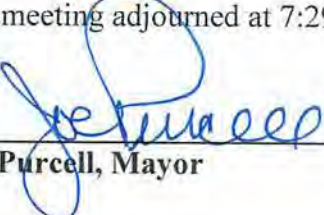
Resolution NO. 2233: Establishing the Hardin City Court As A Court of Record. Knudsen reported the Court of Record is included in the budget and he provided a review of how it will benefit the court. Krebs motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the following employee anniversaries for May: Jeremy Beckman, 25 years and Sherry Kirschenmann, 2 years; Letters of Interest to serve on the Two Rivers Port Authority Board are due by Thursday, May 21st; "Get Trashed with The Mayor" community clean-up event is scheduled for Friday, May 22nd starting at 10:00 a.m.; the deadline to submit Request for Proposals for Professional Planning Services to update the City's Growth Management Plan and to prepare a Downtown Revitalization Plan is 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 22nd; City of Hardin Offices will be closed Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day; Letters of Interest to serve on the Police Commission are due by Thursday, May 28th; and the City is accepting applications for a part-time Court Clerk I, the position is open until filled and applications for a part-time Seasonal employee are due May 29th at 4:00 p.m.

Ramsey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

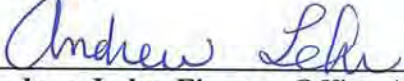
The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing To Increase Rates and Charges for The Users of the Sewer System was opened at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Purcell.

Present at the Hearing by virtual meeting were:

Council Members: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey and Jeremy Krebs.

City Staff: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and members of the public were also present.

There was not any Public Comment or discussion.

Mayor Purcell thanked Debbie Winburn for publishing the article about the USDA investing \$7.3 Million in Hardin Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements. Windburn returned thanks for the City working hard to get the grant.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for June 2, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Sharpe made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for May 19, 2020. Motion seconded by Ramsey. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for June 2, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
May, 2020	25817 - 25857	
	25882 - 25888	\$ 50,587.91
June, 2020	25858 - 25881	\$ 3,307.00
Expenditures		
Transfer funds	25817	\$ (613.62)
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 53,281.29
transfer		\$ 613.62
May, 2020 Payroll		\$ 155,166.92
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 209,061.83

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Landa Uffelman, local business owner, voiced there is a lot going on this year with the virus and asked if there was a possibility to hold a 4th of July Celebration. She added a bunch of people have expressed they would participate in and attend the event. She asked what her options were and what can and cannot be done. Mayor Purcell reported the Public Health Department and the County Commissioners set the guidelines. He suggested for her to submit a plan to the County Health Board and that she can be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported the job description for a Police Chief is complete; he anticipates making a recommendation for the third Police Commission appointment at the next Council meeting; and the City is working to get a breakdown of remodeling costs.

Mayor Purcell announced the fire truck is scheduled to be inspected by Fire Chief Joe Connelly on June 15th and the "Get Trashed with The Mayor" community clean up event went well. It is hopeful a community BBQ and other activities can be held with the event next year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is working at full staff and implementing social distancing and public health guidelines. The Seasonal position has been filled and the part-time Court Clerk I position is open until filled.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey asked if there had been letters submitted for the Police Commission. Mayor Purcell reported he has received one and he has two promised.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs voiced the park restrooms are closed and he would like for them to be open. He reviewed information about the City of Billings reopening plan along with State of MT recreation programs. He asked why Hardin couldn't also. It was noted the decision is up to the County Health Department. Krebs noted the cases are not any worse here than there. Massine noted Public Health will be contacted before the decision to open them is made. Kautzman noted having the bathrooms open puts employees at risk. Krebs asked why the baseball diamonds couldn't be open. Ramsey asked if that fell under the Governor's orders. Knudsen reported there are two sets of statutes giving governing authority to Counties and that Counties can enact stricter restrictions than the Governors order. Krebs voiced that answered his question.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Mayor Purcell reported a meeting will be scheduled to address Community Decay when Council can meet at Council Chambers.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and a letter from Core Engineering Solutions Consulting Services.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported Dax Simek, of Stahly Engineering, will provide a review of Phase I of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project that was approved in the EJCDC contract at a previous meeting. Simek reported the Infiltration and Inflow Investigation (I & I Study) report identified excessive amounts of water getting into the system. He added that additional storm water

infiltration decreases performance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant since stormwater costs the same to process as regular sewage. He reported Phase I of the project includes replacing 2,600 foot of new PVC pipe and the replacement of seventeen manholes on 10th Street, 13th Street, and Lessard Avenue. Greer asked if the price included installing riser pipes next to the manholes on Lessard Avenue so new service could attach to the system. Simek reported it would benefit to include them as a portion of the project. Massine added it has been discussed with Simek, Mayor Purcell, and Lehr to add that when going out to bid. Simek reported a couple of options will be prepared for Council review and comment. Ramsey asked if the replacement of the lines and manholes was included in the price previously proposed to council. Massine reported it is. Ramsey asked if adding things would make the price increase. Simek noted it would and the only additions would be the service connections. Simek reported the City qualifies for \$500K of the TSEP Grant. Ramsey asked if TSEP would be used for Phase I. Simek reported it would not. The City will contribute approximately \$77K, \$125K will come from RRGL, and the balance of approximately \$782K will come from SRF. Massine brought up the Geotech invoice to perform soil samples to determine water table depth. Simek reported it is part of the scope and fee of Stahly's contract with the City.

Lehr reviewed the USDA Loan Resolution. The funds will be implemented in Phase II of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. Knudsen reported this resolution is wanted by RD (Rural Development) to keep moving forward with the project. Ramsey noted the resolution has Water included. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution upon striking the words "Water and" in the description. Molina seconded. On a voice the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reviewed the USDA Grant Agreement. The \$5.201 Million would be the last funds to draw from for the WWTP Project. Molina asked if the word "water" should be struck out too. Knudsen noted it looks like the words could be crossed out or circled. Kautzman motioned to approve the agreement. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reported the Engagement Letter is consent of the City for Dorsey & Whitney LLP to serve as the bond counsel for the issuance of Notes and Bonds for the WWTP Project. Ramsey motioned to approve the engagement letter. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City crew just completed asphalt work, they have been cutting trees, and will begin using the durapatcher soon. The bypass pump has been set up.

Finance:

Lehr noted he would like to schedule Budget meetings for June 23rd, 24th, and 25th and July 14th, 15th, and 16th.

Lehr asked Council for authorization to pay the invoice for the new Fire Truck in the amount of \$336,558 and it will be brought to Council for approval at the next meeting. Greer motioned to approve the request. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Legal: N/A

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is continuing to seek members for the Two Rivers Authority Board and he has spoken with a few people that are interested.

Mayor Purcell announced the City will receive grant money from Beartooth RC&D for covid and economic development

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2234: To Increase Rates and Charges For The Users of The Sewer System. Mayor Purcell reported there was no public comment during the Public Hearing. Greer motioned to approve the resolution. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2235: Authorizing the Submission of TSEP Application In Support of City Of Hardin Wastewater Treatment System Upgrade. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

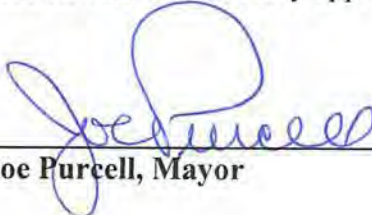
Resolution NO. 2236: Adopting the 2018 Residential Building Code. Greer motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2237: Authorizing the Final Execution of a USDA Rural Development Grant. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the City is accepting applications for a part-time Court Clerk I, the position is open until filled. It is hopeful the next Council Meeting will be held in person.

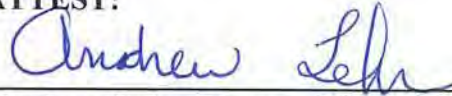
Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for June 16, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Greer made the motion to approve the Public Hearing and Council minutes as written for June 2, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for June 16, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
May, 2020	25889, 25893 - 25908 25910 – 25914, 25922 25926, 25929, 25932 25935	\$ 45,292.31
June, 2020	25892, 25909, 25915 - 25921 25923 - 25925, 25927 - 25928 25930, 25934, 25936 - 25943	\$ <u>753,211.59</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 798,503.90

Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported following the approval and appointment of the third recommended Commission member, orientation will be scheduled for the Police Commission and the position for a Police Chief will be advertised.

Mayor Purcell noted the flooring will be replaced at City Hall starting this week, Fire Chief Joe Connelly inspected the new firetruck and a delivery date will be scheduled, and at this time the Budget Meetings will be held in Council Chambers, social distancing will be implemented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the part - time Court Clerk I position is open until filled.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey asked if it would be a week or two before advertising for a Police Chief. Mayor Purcell reported the advertising will begin soon.

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman voiced there are vehicles sitting around, some are wrecked and some have flat tires. Mayor Purcell noted he will follow up with Code Enforcement.

Molina reported a woman who came into town, after being away fifteen years, expressed that at the triangle on Cheyenne and Third Street and the two body shops that are across the street from each other are unsightly.

Kautzman reported he was contacted by a resident that a yard North of him looks bad and there is a lot of stench coming from it. Mayor Purcell noted it will be checked into. Molina reported there are vicious dogs there.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs asked if the durapatcher machine was out yet. Hurff reported it is being used.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and Council received the 2020 Directory of Montana Municipal Officials.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported he received a Letter of Interest from Kevin Cannon to serve on the Police Commission and made a request for approval to appoint Cannon to the Commission. Kautzman motioned to approve the request. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Debbie Winburn, on behalf of The 500 Club, requested approval of the Beer/Wine permit to include extended hours, the event and permit fees to be waived, ADA Porta-a-potties, and street closure of the 200 and 300 blocks of Center Avenue, and to have the 200 block closed after the parade for a Little Big Horn Days Parade, food trucks, and an evening concert, pending the Big Horn County Department of Health guidelines, to begin at 12:00 p.m. on June 27th. Krebs motioned to approve the requests and for Winburn to coordinate with Massine and Hurff for the portable restrooms. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Winburn, on behalf of The 500 Club, requested approval of the Beer/Wine permit to include the event and permit fees to be waived for a 4th of July Community Event. Kautzman motioned to approve the requests. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Landa Uffelman, local business owner, requested use of the Plaza, portable restrooms, dumpsters to be provided, use of the flagpole, and street closure of the 200 block for the 4th of July Community Event from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Krebs motioned to approve the requests and asked for Uffelman to work with Massine and Hurff for the portable restrooms. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Brian Platz, of Rodeway Inn, submitted an Application for a Business Accessory Building. Platz reported the 10 X 16 accessory building would be located in front of the motel and it will be a cooking business serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Kautzman asked where they were going to run the gray water. Platz reported he has looked into hooking into City water. Jonathan Beartusk voiced that \$4,000 impact fees would be cost prohibitive. Beartusk noted it would have self-contained waste and water. Ramsey asked if the building would be placed right in front of the motel. Greer reported it will be straight south of the Roadway Motel sign. Krebs asked Knudsen if it was legal for them to hook into the motel water and sewer. Knudsen reviewed City Code 11-1-8-2 for accessory uses permitted. The language is written that all other ordinances apply regarding water and wastewater connections. He added that hauling water would probably be okay, but connecting to the motel may violate the ordinance. Ramsey asked what the plan was for dumping the water. Beartusk noted there are multiple

options, it can be dumped on his property or in the motel industrial drain. Knudsen noted how much could be dumped down the industrial drain could be deferred to Public Works of what they believe is acceptable. Beartusk voiced that if it is an issue dumping it in the motel and is viewed as “skirting” the fees, he can make an agreement with Platz to dump it at his house and added that \$4,000 seems unreasonable. Greer noted he thinks it would be minimal water. Ramsey voiced if it is self-contained and well maintained, he makes the motion to approve it. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion passed (5/1) Kautzman dissent.

Mayor Purcell reported he has spoken with Big Horn County Public Health regarding the park restrooms. They noted it is up to the City of when to open them. Mayor Purcell reported a quote was received from Premium Sanitation at the cost \$600 for a four week rental to have three portable toilets, one in Custer Park, one in Heimat Park, and one in South Park. Krebs reported that after talking with Steve Hopes he would like to hold off on opening the restrooms and discuss it at the next meeting. After more discussion, Krebs voiced he would like to hold off on renting portable restrooms. Mayor Purcell reported there is no action, the restrooms will remain closed and it will be reassessed at each meeting.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Hurff reported the City crew is using the durapatcher and the black top has been replaced by the old fire hall.

Finance:

Lehr reported he is preparing for Budget meetings and the claim has been paid for the fire truck.

Legal: N/A

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the City will look into creating a position for Economic Development and will continue to seek members for the Two Rivers Authority Board after advertising has begun for the Police Chief position.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2231: Appointing Three Residents To the Hardin Police Commission. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the following City employee anniversaries for June: Dean Baker, 6 years; Michael Hurff, 10 years; and Tammy Mendez, 1 year.

Mayor Purcell announced a Public Hearing for Amendments to the Budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.; the Notice of Availability Environmental Assessment and Public Hearing for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 6:15 p.m.; and Budget Meetings for FY 2020-2021 are scheduled for June 23rd, 24th, 25th, and July 14th, 15th, and 16th at 5:30 p.m. and continuing as needed.

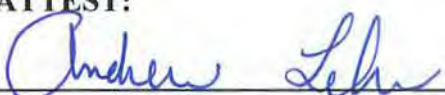
The City is accepting applications for a part-time Court Clerk I, the position is open until filled.

The meeting closed at 7:13 p.m.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:


Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing for **Amendments to the Budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year** was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Purcell.

Present at the Hearing by virtual meeting were:

Council Members: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey and Jeremy Krebs.

City Staff: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and members of the public were also present.

Lehr presented the proposed Budget Amendments for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

There was not any Public Comment or discussion.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing for **Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Public Hearing for the Wastewater System Improvement Project** was opened at 6:15 p.m. by Mayor Purcell.

Present at the Hearing by virtual meeting were:

Council Members: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey and Jeremy Krebs.

City Staff: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and members of the public were also present.

Dax Simek, Project Manager of Stahly, presented a slide presentation for the City of Hardin Wastewater Collection and Treatment system Upgrades. Simek reviewed the three phases of the project. Phase 1, Collection System, is expected to begin this Fall; the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) was prepared and submitted for Phase 2, Headworks and UV Treatment and is expected to begin in the Fall of 2021, and Phase 3, Mechanical Treatment, upgrades to the Wastewater treatment plant system is expected to begin Summer of 2023. Simek reviewed the steps for an Environmental Review. Simek reported the Environmental Review is available at City Hall and on the City of Hardin website for Public view.

Robie Culver, Grant Specialist of Stahly Engineering, reported the estimated cost of all phases is \$11,264,000. Culver reviewed the sources and types of funding for the project that include grants from TSEP (Treasure State Endowment Program), RRGL (Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program), Coal Board, and USDA RD (U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development); loans from USDA RD and SRF (State Revolving Fund); and cash reserve from the City of Hardin. She reported letters of support for the project, to present to TSEP for public input, can be submitted up to August 3rd.

There was not any Public Comment or discussion.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for July 7, 2020 was called to order at 6:31 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Greer made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for June 16, 2020. Motion seconded by Ramsey. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for July 7, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
June, 2020	25945-25956, 25958 - 25978 26006 - 26023	\$ 178,302.86
June, 2020	25957, 25979 - 26005 26024 - 26025	\$ 38,633.65
Expenditures		
Transfer funds		\$ (126,021.45)
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 90,915.06
transfer		\$ 126,021.45
June, 2020 Payroll		<u>\$ 149,312.86</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 366,249.37

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell thanked Al Sargent for broadcasting the meeting on television. It provided more exposure of the presentation done by Stahly for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Mayor Purcell reported the Police Commission is set and orientation will be scheduled. The Police Chief position will be advertised locally, across the state, and on law enforcement sites.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell read a letter submitted to Council by City employee Steve Hopes. The letter provided information about his time at the City and that he will be retiring in September. Mayor Purcell extended a "Thank You" to Mr. Hopes for his service to the City.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey asked if the job description for the Chief of Police will include a requirement for them to have to live within the City limits or if there will be a specific response time. Mayor Purcell reported it will be required for them to live within the zoning of the City and he will check for verification.

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman reported the City crew has been out with the durapatcher on the streets and clearing off fireworks with the street sweeper.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs voiced that the City Parks are one of the greatest assets of Hardin. He added he thinks the park restrooms should be open. He understands the Covid virus is scary, but they can't be closed forever. He noted he has taken into consideration the concerns of the Public Works Department and staff, but it is not his suggestion to keep them closed. Massine voiced he will call Carol Greimann at the Health Department for guidance. Mayor Purcell noted it was looked at last meeting of what the cost would be if it they were to be opened. The biggest concerns are the health of the City employees and public safety. Molina agreed to check with public health and Kautzman and Sharpe expressed that they need to remain closed.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City-County Planning Board (CCPB) Public Hearing and regular meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and the Epoch Times Newspaper.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Kautzman motioned to approve the Wastewater System Improvement Project, TSEP Public meeting as presented by Simek and Culver. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer motioned to approve the recommendation made by the CCPB to approve Interstate Engineering as the Planning Consulting Firm for Updating Hardin's Growth Management Plan and Preparing a Downtown Revitalization Plan. Kautzman seconded. Knudsen reported a proposed contract was submitted with the recommendation, but the CCPB does not have authority to sign a contract. He reported a contract will be presented at the next meeting. Ramsey asked for clarification of what was being approved. Mayor Purcell reported the vote is for approval of the recommendation with the contract to be presented at the next meeting. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported he received information from Barry Damschen, of Engineering Consultant Services, that expanding the ash cell vertically expanded the life expectancy of four years to nineteen years. Greer added that is good news.

Finance:

Legal: N/A

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is working on the finance piece for the Two Rivers Authority Board to be established.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2238: Amending the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2239: Establishing Wages of Non-Union Employees for Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Greer motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2240: Establishing Wages for Certain City Employees for Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2241: Accepting The Determination That An Environmental Assessment is Appropriate For the Wastewater System Improvements Project. Greer motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2242: Adopting the Updated Preliminary Engineering Report Evaluating the Wastewater Treatment Plant of the City of Hardin. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

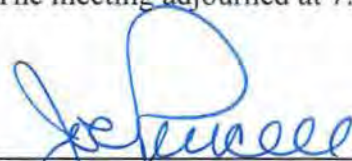
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the City-County Planning Board has a Public Hearing scheduled for the Enzminger variance at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2020 and Budget Meetings for FY 2020-2021 are scheduled for July 15th and 16th at 5:30 p.m. and continuing as needed.

Mayor Purcell noted that the City will try to have the next Council meeting in person at that a different facility may need to be utilized.

Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for July 21, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs. Chris Sharpe was present virtually by Zoom.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer and several members of the public. Assistant Public Works Director Michael Hurff, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public were present virtually by Zoom.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Greer made the motion to approve the Public Hearings and Council minutes as written for July 7, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Greer made the motion to approve the Closed meeting minutes as written for June 16, 2020. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Kautzman motioned to approve the Budget Meeting minutes for June 23rd – July 15th, 2020. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for July 21, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
June, 2020	26027 - 26036	
	26038 - 26040, 26042 - 26043	\$ 54,685.02
July, 2020	26026, 26037, 26041, 26045	\$ 128,833.06
Expenditures		
Transfer funds		\$ <u>(76,697.23)</u>
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 106,820.85
transfer		\$ 76,697.23
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 183,518.08

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported orientation for the Police Commission is scheduled for the first week of August. The City has currently received two applications for a Police Chief. The first review is August 7th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City will begin the process to hire a replacement for Steve Hopes.

Mayor Purcell extended a “Thank You” to City staff for being compliant by wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey asked if Council will be set up to meet with the Police Commission. Mayor Purcell reported he, the City Attorney, and the Commission will review applications. Council will participate in interviews by Zoom and the Commission will recommend a candidate for Council approval.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported the Heimat Road walking path has been painted. He asked what the Health Department's recommendation was for the opening of the park restrooms. Mayor Purcell reported the recommendation is to keep them closed due to the increase in positive cases. Krebs thanked Massine for using the durapatcher.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and a newsletter from Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported Jon Matovich submitted a letter reporting that he purchased a property on March 11, 2020, received a letter from the city on July 7, 2020 reporting a past due bill in the amount of \$134.93 that was left by the previous owner, and he doesn't believe he is responsible for the bill. Knudsen reported he sees two things that prohibit the City from forgiving the bills, MCA code 7-13-4309 and City Code 3-3A-19 Rule 1(b). The City would be violating Montana Code and City Code by forgiving them. Ramsey asked Knudsen when he referenced the codes, does the specific definition refer to the owner who incurred the bill. Knudsen noted it does not and he reviewed City Code 3-3A-19 rule 1(b), payment arrangements can be made, but not forgiveness of the bill. A letter was also submitted by Bethany Krinhop who purchased a property last year and received a letter on July 8th reporting a past due bill in the amount of \$104.86. Krinhop asked for the bill to be waived. Greer motioned to deny the requests for Matovich and Krinhop to adhere to City and State Codes. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The City-County Planning Board (CCPB) submitted a recommendation for approval of a Variance request from Janelle Enzminger for an additional commercial building on a property at 907 West 3rd Street. Enzminger read a letter of a timeline of events from the time she purchased the property in 1999. She reported the building is for her daughter, Shaina Grinsteiner, to operate a salon. Enzminger provided council with information for the proposed plans to run the water service line that was given to her by contractor Jamie Redger of Springlane Construction. Greer questioned if an additional sewer tap and fee would be required. Massine reported it would be tying into the existing sewer line. Krebs asked if the buildings can all be on one tap with one investment fee since there is one owner. Knudsen noted each building needs to have a water and sewer tap and pay investment fees. Ramsey motioned to approve the recommendation from the CCPB as written. Molina seconded. Greer asked for clarification that one new water meter will be installed in the proposed new building and another will be in the kennel business. Enzminger noted Redger's plan is to move it from the kennel building to the other building. Knudsen noted the building does qualify as an accessory building. The second part of the variance is if the City is waving the water and sewer investment fees. Knudsen noted there was another accessory building application that came before Council and they were told that they would be required to pay the investment fees. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Mayor Purcell reported Massine will work with Redger on the process for hookups per city code.

The CCPB submitted a recommendation to deny the conditional use permit application for Ed Clampitt to allow a wrecking yard operation to be located on land owned by Kevin Kenny at 1629 Van Zandt Road. Greer pointed out the land is zoned Agricultural (AO) only. Krebs motioned to deny the conditional use permit as recommended by the CCPB. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the crew has been repairing asphalt and alley clean up is next week.

Finance:

Lehr reported the City received the \$100,000 grant from the Coal Board for the fire truck.

Lehr reported the City has received the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and it reports five findings for Two Rivers Authority (TRA).

Krebs asked if the City will receive money from the Cares Act. Lehr reported he has submitted costs for supplies, but unfortunately he is unable to request salary reimbursement.

Legal:

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the following employee anniversaries for July: Nathan Enick, 5 years and Judge Jim Seykora, 5 years.

Mayor Purcell reported Alley Clean-up is scheduled for the week of July 27th and a Public Hearing for Street Maintenance District, and Street Maintenance levies and assessments for the 2020-2021 fiscal year is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th at 6:15 p.m.

Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

PUBLIC HEARING: The Public Hearing for **Street Maintenance District and Street Maintenance Levies and Assessments for fiscal year 2020-2021** was opened at 6:15 p.m. by Mayor Purcell.

Present at the Hearing by virtual meeting were:

Council Members: Harry Kautzman, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs.

City Staff: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and members of the public were also present.

Mayor Purcell opened the meeting for Public Comment or discussion for the Street Maintenance District and Street Maintenance Levies and Assessments for fiscal year 2020-2021.

There was not any Public Comment or discussion.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for August 4, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs. Chris Sharpe and Riley Ramsey were absent.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for July 21, 2020. Motion seconded by Greer. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for August 4, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
June, 2020	26044, 26047 - 26050 26060, 26064, 26118 26120, 26125	\$ 20,096.31
July, 2020	26051 - 26055, 26057 - 26059 26061 - 26063, 26065 - 26077 26103 - 26117, 26119 26121 - 26124	\$ 40,930.73
August, 2020	26078 - 26102	\$ 3,415.94
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 64,442.98
June, 2020 Payroll		\$ 149,312.86
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 213,755.84

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported a letter was received from Vision Zero notifying the City of construction and road closure on Old US Highway 87 to repair the bridge over Peritsa Creek. Mayor Purcell announced the first review of applications for the Police Chief is Friday, August 7th; orientation for the Police Commission will be held tomorrow, August 5th; and the City is expecting two more bids for the costs to remodel for the City Police Department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is taking precautions to protect employees and the public by holding the meeting through Zoom. He added the City of Billings has recently closed offices.

Sewer & Water:

Massine reported a few fire hydrants have been repaired.

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman noted the City crew did a wonderful job on the alleys and asked Massine to tell them "Thank You and we appreciate it".

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs noted the parks look good. Massine reported millings will be put down on the East end of Heimat Park.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

City Council approved the recommendation of The City-County Planning Board (CCPB) to approve Interstate Engineering as the Planning Consulting Firm for Updating Hardin's Growth Management Plan and Preparing a Downtown Revitalization Plan at the July 21st meeting. Interstate Engineering submitted a Short Form of Agreement Between Owner and Engineer For Professional Services. Knudsen reported Cal Cumin expressed concern about Section 5.01 Subsection F of the agreement that notes the engineer still owns the product. Knudsen noted it is up to Council if they want this section of the agreement to be addressed with Interstate Engineering. Krebs asked if it could be used for grants. Knudsen noted the intent of the section is for the work to not be sold or given away to other municipalities or engineering firms, and that it can be used for grants. Krebs motioned to approve the Short Form of Agreement For Professional Services. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reported the City received information from the Montana Department of Administration and the Local Government Services Bureau with guidance of recording CARES Act related revenues and expenditures. Lehr asked Council for permission to create fund number 2991 CARES Act Federal Funding. He reported the City recently received reimbursement through the CARES Act in the amount of \$3,917. Kautzman motioned to approve the request to create fund number 2991 for CARES Act Federal Funding. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr provided a review of updates to the budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. Kautzman motioned to approve the reports. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reviewed Pledge Reports and asked for Council approval. Kautzman motioned to approve the reports. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine asked for approval to purchase a rotating assembly for the 6th street Lift Station in the amount of \$11,306 that includes shipping and handling. Greer motioned to approve the request. Greer then asked if there was any instance waiting to get something was untimely. Massine reported Council had raised the amount to \$10,000 for emergency situations previously. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Massine reported the garbage truck was taken in for repair that was estimated at around \$9,800. He was notified more repairs are needed at the estimated total cost of around \$16,041. Kautzman motioned to approve for Massine to go forward with the repairs. Krebs seconded. On voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Finance:

Legal:

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

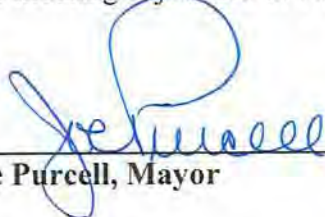
Resolution NO. 2243: Assessing the Cost of Street Maintenance in District Number 1, for Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the City-County Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 10th at 7:00 p.m. for a Proposed Medical Marijuana Dispensary.

Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

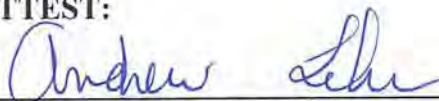
The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for August 18, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Public Hearing and Council minutes as written for August 4, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was approved 5/1 (Ramsey abstained).

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for August 18, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
July, 2020	26126-26142, 26145 26148, 26153-26162	\$ 54,311.33
August, 2020	26143-26144, 26146-26147 26149-26152	\$ <u>17,841.41</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 72,152.74

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported the City officially received two applications for the Chief of Police position. He will be in contact with the applicants to provide details for the interview process.

Mayor Purcell reported the power plant confirmed they are in the process of building a server farm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has positions open for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Mayor Purcell extended a “Thank You” to City employees for continuing to social distance and take safety precautions. He added Covid-19 cases are on the rise in Big Horn County.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman reported the City has been sweeping the streets. Massine reported the City crew recently painted the crosswalks.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported the walking path at Heimat Park looks really nice. He added the parks look great.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:
SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census. Mayor Purcell reported the original deadline to respond to the Census has been moved to September 30th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported there have been some issues with the old Boys and Girls Club, located at 731 3rd St. West. A notice was sent to the Crow Tribe, owners of the property, and there has been no response. Last night it was broken into again. The City is looking into demolition of the building. Sharpe asked if there were plans to repurpose the building. Mayor Purcell noted they have expressed that they are not doing anything with it. Molina asked if the property was tax exempt. Knudsen reported they do pay property taxes, but they are two and a half years behind. It was noted the demolition would cost around \$20,000 and it would cost less to have it abated to safely burn. Kautzman agreed that something needed to be done with it. Krebs asked if the City would be stuck with the cost of tearing it down with the property taxes being delinquent. It was noted that property taxes that are delinquent for three years are subject to the tax sale process. Krebs voiced he would rather see it go to tax sale than be stuck with the cost of demolition. Greer, Ramsey, Molina, and Sharpe agreed. Greer motioned to not proceed with demolition of the building at 731 3rd St. West. Ramsey seconded. Laurie Tschetter voiced that she thinks the City should "go for it" and that she thinks there will be a fire call there sooner or later. On a voice vote the motion passed 5/1 (Kautzman dissent).

Mayor Purcell reviewed bids from Springlane Construction Inc. and Braaton Construction & Home Repair, Inc. to remodel a part of the old fire hall to store records that will be moved from the Ping Building. A bid was received from Jeff Schindler, owner of Hardin Concrete & Construction LLC, to do the concrete flooring. It was suggested to have Schindler do the flooring and have Springlane Construction and Braaton Construction re-bid the projects excluding the flooring. Krebs motioned to have them resubmit bids excluding the flooring and to have Jeff Schindler perform the concrete work. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr submitted requests for records disposal. Ramsey motioned to approve the requests. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr provided a review of Budget Updates for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Greer motioned to approve the updates amending the Expenditure fund title Gas Apportionment Tax and replacing it with Police Training Pension Fund. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reviewed the proposed reserve for sewer that is required to meet conditions of the Rural Development Grant for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. Kautzman motioned to approve the reserve as proposed. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr presented a report of financials for the 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2020. Ramsey motioned to approve the report. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:
Public Works:

Massine reported he and Chris Schneider, Landfill Lead, have discussed going out to bid to move 10,000 yards of dirt at the Landfill. He added he will have prices available for the next Council meeting.

Finance:

Lehr reviewed Delinquent or Protested Taxes/Assessments as of June 30, 2020. He reported Rocky Mountain Power did pay taxes for 2019. Lehr Council agreed to leave the permissive medical levy at 15.5 mills.

Lehr reviewed Mill Levies & Permissive Medical Levy for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Sharpe motioned to maintain the Mill Levies and leave the Permissive Medical levy at 15.5 mills. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr provide a review of the Entitlement Distribution for Fiscal Year 2021. Ramsey motioned to approve the reallocation of \$3,500 from the Comprehensive Insurance Fund to the Health Insurance Fund. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr asked Council for permission to proceed with the Tipping Fee Transfer from Solid Waste to Landfill. Greer motioned to approve the transfer. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reported a list has been posted for checks that have not been redeemed. Claims that are not responded to by October 9th will be submitted to Council for approval before forwarding them to the State of Montana as Unclaimed Property.

Legal:

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the following employee anniversaries for August: Steffen Peters, 2 years and Chris Schneider, 15 years.

A Public Hearing for Amending the Budget for FY 2019-2020 is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 5:50 p.m. by virtual meeting and a Public Hearing for Adopting the Budget for FY 2020-2021 and setting levies and assessments is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1, 200 at 6:00 p.m. by virtual meeting.

The City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

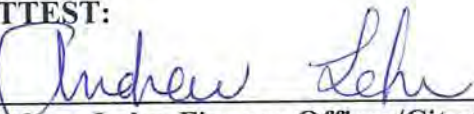
The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing for **Amendments to the Budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year** was opened at 5:50 p.m. by Mayor Purcell.

Present at the Hearing by virtual meeting were:
Council Members: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Riley Ramsey and Jeremy Krebs.
City Staff: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and members of the public were also present.

Lehr reviewed the proposed Budget Amendments for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

There was not any Public Comment or discussion.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing for **Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and setting levies and assessments** was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Purcell.

Present at the Hearing by virtual meeting were:
Council Members: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Riley Ramsey and Jeremy Krebs.
City Staff: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and members of the public were also present.

Lehr reviewed the Budget for FY 2020-2021 and levies and assessments.

There was not any Public Comment or discussion.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for September 1, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Riley Ramsey, and Jeremy Krebs. Karen Molina was absent.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for August 18, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for September 1, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
June, 2020	26187, 26207	\$ 7,996.00
July, 2020	26214	\$ 3,360.00

August, 2020	26163, 26188 - 26206 26208 - 26213 26215 - 26230, 26234	\$ 70,856.70
Expenditures		
Transfer funds		\$ 2,732.01
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 76,948.71
transfer		\$ (2,732.01)
August, 2020 Payroll		\$ 133,121.17
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 207,337.87

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported the City has received three applications for the Police Chief position. He has been in contact with each applicant and they are interested in moving forward with their applications. Mayor Purcell added he will have the information to Council by the end of the week. It was noted the City will continue to accept applications until the position is filled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has positions open for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey asked if information from all three applicants would be forwarded to Council. Mayor Purcell reported it will and a Zoom meeting will be set up with the applicants.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census and the Epoch Times Newspaper.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported Braaton Construction & Home Repair, Inc. and Springlane Construction Inc. were asked to re-submit their bids, for the remodel of the old fire hall, to exclude the flooring. Mayor Purcell recommended Braaton Construction, the lowest bid. Kautzman noted he only sees one bid. It was reported Springlane Construction Inc. did not resubmit a bid excluding the flooring. It was noted the bid from Springlane Construction is still being considered, just without the cost of the flooring. Greer noted to keep in mind the interior door to the file room should be 48" wide for wheel chair accessibility. Kautzman motioned to approve the bid from Braaton Construction in the amount of \$22,755 to include no additional cost for placing an interior door in the City Hall Building. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Massine reported the City received bids from J.M.G. Contracting, Inc. and Pink Hill, LLC to move 10,000 yards of dirt at the City Landfill. Greer noted the bid from Pink Hill, in the amount of \$21,900, is firm regardless if hard-pan-dirt is hit. Ramsey asked if there was any chance that J.M.G. Contracting, with the bid amount of \$19,200, would need to charge more if they hit hard-pan-dirt. Ramsey motioned to table the bids until the City hears back from both parties regarding the hard-pan-dirt. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Massine reported Hardin Concrete & Construction, LLC submitted an invoice in the amount of \$8,690 to replace the curb and gutter at Big Horn Hospital. He noted that under the Curb and Gutter program the City is responsible for paying 50% of a curb and gutter replacement. Krebs motioned for the City to pay the invoice in the amount of \$8,690 and to invoice Big Horn Hospital Association 50% of the cost in the amount of \$4,345. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Kautzman motioned to approve the submitted records disposal request. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported he has been researching grant options for the City of Hardin Police Department. He reviewed a grant proposal from PoliceGrantsHelp.com. in the amount of \$2,500. They would provide grant assistance and help secure grant funding for Motorola radios. Ramsey motioned to approve the proposal. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City parks will be sprayed for weeds, the durapatcher will be brought out again to fill potholes, and a crosswalk was painted on 4th Street.

Finance:

Lehr reported the current server warranty will expire this month. The cost of the warranty renewal for one year is \$860.00 and a two-year renewal is \$1,545. Ramsey asked what a new server would cost. Lehr noted about \$20,000. Kautzman noted it would be less expensive to have the two-year warranty than to have someone come to repair it. There was further discussion about not renewing the warranty. Greer questioned if the warranty would include the onsite expense for DIS to travel to City offices, as it would probably cost up to \$200 just to look at it. Ramsey motioned to not renew an extended warranty. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion passed 4/1 (Kautzman dissent).

Lehr reviewed the Audit report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019.

Lehr reported he received information from Brian Mischel, DES Director with Big Horn County, about low interest loans that are available for areas with adverse weather conditions. He will look into it for more information to provide to Council.

Legal:

Knudsen reported the water rights for the City of Hardin are complete.

Economic Development:

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2244: Budget Amendments FY 2019-2020. Greer motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2245: Assessing the Cost of Garbage Disposal to City Property Owners for FY 2020-2021. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2246: Approve Assessments Being Placed on The Real Property Tax Rolls as a Special Assessment. Sharpe motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2247: Assessing Lighting District NO. 1, FY 2020/2021. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2248: Assessing Lighting District NO. 54, FY 2020/2021. Sharpe motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2249: Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Kautzman motioned to approve the resolution. Ramsey seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution NO. 2250: Amount of Taxes to Be Levied on Taxable Property for the FY 2020/2021. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

City offices will be closed Monday, September 7, 2020 for Labor Day.

The City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Greer motioned to close the meeting for a Closed Session legal update. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting closed at 7:16 p.m.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

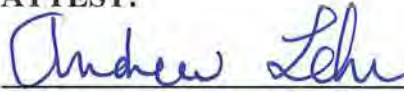
The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for September 15, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Riley Ramsey, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Public Hearings and Council minutes as written for September 1, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was approved. (5/1) Molina abstained.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for September 15, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
June, 2020	26243	\$ 886.36
July, 2020	26260	\$ 75.00
August, 2020	26236 - 26242, 26244 - 26246 26248 - 26251, 26254 - 26259 26261 - 26265, 26268	\$ <u>53,625.93</u>
September, 2020	26164 - 26186, 26231 - 26233 26235, 26252 - 26253 26266 - 26267, 26269	\$ <u>217,765.20</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 272,352.49

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported information about the applicants for the Police Chief position were forwarded to Council and the Police Commission. He will coordinate with the applicants to set up a Zoom meeting for the public and Council to meet the candidates.

Mayor Purcell noted the remodel for the storage room is expected to start around mid-November.

Mayor Purcell reported a letter was received from the Coal Board notifying the City that they do not have funds available at this time for the grant they awarded to the City for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. These funds have been pushed to the second phase of the project.

Mayor Purcell reported a contract proposal for local grant research and grant writing for the City and Police Department will be brought to Council at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has positions open for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey asked to clarify if the chief is fully responsible to hire the officers. Mayor Purcell reported the Chief of Police will make recommendations to the Police Commission and Mayor, the Commission will make recommendations to the Mayor and the Mayor will complete the approval process.

Krebs asked if the Zoom meeting would be the top two candidates and if the interviews would be held in person. Mayor Purcell noted it would be the top candidates, it would be open to the public, and the interviews would be in person.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census, the Epoch Times Newspaper, and information from Vision Zero.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Lehr reported Big Sky Linen & Uniform submitted a 36-month contract renewal. Lehr noted he confirmed with the salesman that there would not be an additional cost when services will be needed for the City Police Department. Krebs motioned to approve the contract. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported an estimate was received from Hardin Concrete & Const LLC in the amount of \$2,395 to prepare the floor for the remodel of the records storage room. Kautzman motioned to approve the estimate. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City received the ice slicer that will be mixed with sand and the park sprinklers will be winterized earlier this year.

Massine reported he, Michael Hurff, Assistant Public Works Director, and Chris Schneider, Landfill Lead, met with Barry Damschen, of Engineering Consultant Services, about moving dirt at the landfill.

Finance:

Lehr reviewed the Event Notice and continuing disclosures regarding the Tax Increment Industrial Infrastructure Development Revenue Bonds. Lehr reported he filed the tax Increment Finance District (TIFD) Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2020.

Lehr reported the fiber line has been installed at the PING Building and it is expected to be completely installed soon at City Departments. DIS Technologies will complete their process and then new phones will be installed.

Lehr reported he looked into the low interest loan information he previously received from Brian Mischel, DES Director with Big Horn County, that is available for areas with adverse weather conditions. The loans are for working capital needs, which the City does not currently have a need for.

Lehr noted Mayor Purcell had spoken earlier about contracting for grant consulting. There is also an option to purchase a software that updates every twenty-four hours with grants that are available. The setup cost is \$2,000 with an annual fee of \$5,000

and it allows unlimited users. Sharpe asked if the software would replace a grant writer. Lehr noted it would make it easier to research and it could supplement consulting. Krebs voiced he would rather have a grant writer than a program. Mayor Purcell noted it is an option that can be looked at later if needed and that the grant writer would be the better way to start.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell noted he will contact Cal Cumin, Planning Advisor of the City-County Planning Board, for an update on the Montana Main Street Project and Growth Management Plan.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

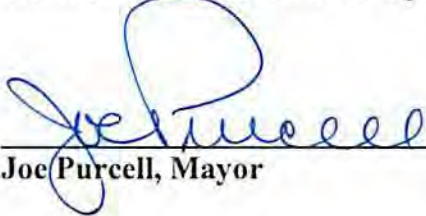
Resolution NO. 2251: Requesting Distribution of Bridge And Road Safety And Accountability Program Funds. Greer noted the 1st Street Restoration Project does not include chip seal. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Molina noted the wording needed to be changed. Ramsey amended the motion to include removing the words "Chip Seal". Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced employee Randy Melville has been with the City for 14 years; the City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief; and the City-County Planning Board held a Public Hearing on Monday, September 14th for a proposed medical marijuana dispensary. Greer reported the City-County Planning Board will recommend approval of the application for a medical marijuana dispensary on Park Road. Molina noted that if it goes against any federal, state, or local laws they cannot get a business license. She asked Knudsen if he could look into it.

Ramsey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

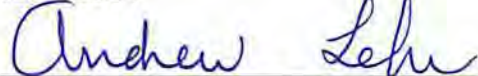
The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for October 6, 2020 was called to order at 6:36 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Riley Ramsey, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Sharpe made the motion to approve the Closed Meeting minutes as written for September 1, 2020. Motion seconded by Greer. On a voice vote the motion was approved. Sharpe made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for September 15, 2020. Motion seconded by Ramsey. On a voice vote the motion was approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for October 6, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
June, 2020	26346	\$ 1,450.00
July, 2020	26270	\$ 300.00
August, 2020	26273, 26276 - 26277	\$ 1,423.03
September, 2020	26271 - 26272, 26274 - 26275 26278 - 26288, 26315 - 26318 26320 - 26345, 26350	\$ 65,905.12
October, 2020	26289 - 26314, 26347 - 26349	\$ <u>9,620.82</u>
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 78,698.97
September, 2020 Payroll		\$ <u>149,051.26</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 227,750.23

Molina seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell extended a "Thank you" to the Police Chief candidates, Bruce Phipps and Daniel Gilles, for participating in the open question and answer session. Mayor Purcell will seek input from Council and the Police Commission before moving forward with the interview process.

Mayor Purcell reported the grant for police radios has been submitted and the Rural Development Grant for building supplies is expected to be submitted next week.

Mayor Purcell reported the concrete floor for the storage room will be poured this week and construction is anticipated to begin in about three weeks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has positions open for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Mayor Purcell thanked City employees for wearing masks and social distancing.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Ramsey reported he submitted a letter to officially resign from his position as Alderman, Ward 2 effective October 15, 2020. Ramsey reported he is moving out of Ward 2 and that he appreciates his experience.

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman extended a "Thank you" to the City crew for the great job they did during Alley Clean Up.

Kautzman expressed concern that with the virus and with the City being shorthanded that two people went to Billings to look at a special speed bump. Krebs reported that it is something he recommended doing. It was noted the speed limit was downgraded on Rangeview Drive and Heimat, but people still drive 40 mph through there. Massine reported he and another employee did go to look at the speed bumps. Krebs added he doesn't think it was a waste of time or money when dealing with public safety.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Massine reported the park sprinkler systems have been winterized and the picnic tables have been taken out of the parks.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received information about the 2020 Montana Census; information about an Environmental Impact Statement Public Review from the Department of the Air Force; a Notice of Publication of Categorical Exclusion for the Wastewater Collection System Improvements from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality; and a newsletter from Vision Zero.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Massine reported the City went back out to bid for moving dirt at the Landfill. Nelson Glick of Pink Hill is the only bid that was submitted. Massine added he looked into renting the equipment needed to move the dirt and that Glick can do it cheaper. Kautzman motioned to accept the bid in the amount of \$21,900. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported the City received a recommendation from the City-County Planning Board (CCPB) to approve the application for a medical marijuana dispensary at 7 Park Road in Hardin. Molina noted it is against Federal law, Billings got rid of all dispensaries within the City of Billings, and expressed concern that it could jeopardize the City in receiving federal dollars. Karl Hartmann, of Bloom Montana, noted that no one has lost federal funding and if that would be an issue, they would leave. He added they would never do anything to jeopardize federal funding. Knudsen reported it is unclear if it would affect federal funding and that Federal law prohibits use of marijuana. The City does have an ordinance approving this behavior in accordance with City Code. He added there is no clear answer. Hartmann noted it is against Federal law, but three times the people of Montana voted and said it was what they want. Ramsey asked what the main goal of the business was. Hartmann noted that the patient has to see a doctor. Krebs asked if the business did open and the bill that is currently on the ballot of November 3rd is passed, does that mean that they can sell recreational marijuana. Hartmann voiced that yes it does, they would have to hold a State ID, and anyone over legal age could stop and make a purchase. Krebs asked if the ordinance states for medical marijuana dispensary can it still sell recreational marijuana. Knudsen noted that Federal law is supreme. Krebs asked if the application says medical marijuana dispensary wouldn't it have to stay a medical marijuana dispensary. The question is if a City could

regulate as medical if the law says recreational. Knudsen noted the law would have to be analyzed. Ramsey made the motion to deny the CCPB recommendation for a medical marijuana dispensary. Molina seconded. Cody Meeks, of Bloom Montana, reported that they are operating in front of Blacky's Pawn Shop and they are getting a lot of business. He added the new location would allow them to serve the people of Hardin in a more professional manner. Greer agreed. Mayor Purcell read the letter of recommendation from the CCPB. On a Roll Call vote conducted by Mayor Purcell, Kautzman, Molina, Ramsey, and Krebs are against the application and Greer and Sharpe are for the application. On a voice vote the application was denied 4/2.

Mayor Purcell reported Resource Center LLC would cost \$35 per hour for grant research and grant writing. A contract proposal will be presented to Council. Molina asked if there was an estimate of how many hours the grant writer would be needed. Mayor Purcell reported it would be a one-year contract, only as needed and the services would not only be used for the Police Department, but also for the City. Krebs motioned to approve Resource Center LLC for grant writing/research services. Ramsey seconded. Mayor Purcell noted the contract is not being approved at this time, he is looking for Council approval to move forward with a contract. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Purcell reported Election Day is November 3rd and asked Council if they would want to reschedule the Council Meeting of November 3rd or keep it as scheduled. Krebs suggested to reschedule the Council Meeting to Monday, November 2, 2020. Council Members expressed they are fine with either date. The meeting was rescheduled for November 2, 2020.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City had Alley Clean up last week and the parks are taken care of.

Finance:

Lehr reported the City received \$83,211 of BaRSAA Program Funds for the 1st Street Restoration Project.

Lehr noted the FY 2020 audit is tentatively scheduled for the week of December 7th.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Interstate Engineering is conducting a survey for the City of Hardin Growth Management Plan. The link, <https://interstateeng.com/hardin>, can be found on your Utility Bill and on the City website.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2252: Authorizing The Submission of USDA RBDG Application in Support of The City Of Hardin Police Department. Ramsey motioned to approve the resolution. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell reported City Offices will be closed Monday, October 12, 2020 for Columbus Day and the City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

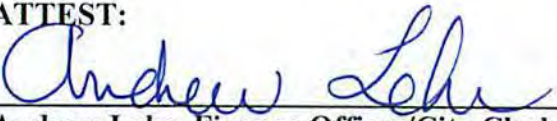
Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.


Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for October 20, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Sharpe made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for October 6, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Greer made the motion to approve the Committee minutes as written for October 6, 2020. Motion seconded by Krebs. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for October 20, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
September, 2020	26355 - 26356, 26389 - 26392 26398	\$ 38,122.64
October, 2020	26319, 26351 - 26354 26357 - 26388, 26393 - 26397	\$ <u>27,009.72</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 65,132.36

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported two grant applications, one for the construction of the Police Department and the other for equipment for the Police Department are anticipated to be finalized this week.

Mayor Purcell reported the concrete floor for the storage room has been poured and construction is expected to begin around mid - November.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell announced the Police Chief Candidates will be in Hardin for a “meet and greet”, for interviews, and to view the squad room for the police department. Bruce Phipps is scheduled to be here on October 26th and Daniel Gilles is scheduled to be here November 5th.

The City currently has positions open for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received a newsletter from Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority and a news release from the Department of Defense.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported the grant writer contract with Breanna Uffelman, Resource Center LLC, will cost \$35 per hour for grant research and grant writing. Knudsen reported he has not heard from Breanna Uffelman on the contract yet. Knudsen noted there is a typo that will need correcting. Greer motioned to approve the contract to include the corrections. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sharpe motioned to submit the Unclaimed Property to the State of Montana. Molina seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City is in the process of repairing a fire hydrant and a lighting control cabinet that was damaged in Industrial Park.

Massine reported the City and Stahly Engineering will perform an inspection on the concrete water tank.

Finance:

Lehr reported transfers for the Fire Department, Capital Improvements, and the Parks have been processed.

Lehr reported he will be submitting the third claim for the CARES Act Federal Funding in the amount of \$620.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Interstate Engineering is conducting a survey for the City of Hardin Growth Management Plan. The link, <https://interstateeng.com/hardin>, can be found on the City website.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced the following employee anniversaries for October: Judge Richard Bowler, 3 years; Joe Connelly, 9 years; Moses Gonzales, 42 years; Markus Takes The Horse, 5 years; and Angela Zimmer, 5 years

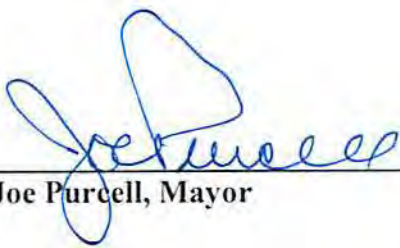
The Regular Council Meeting and/or Committee Meeting(s) of Tuesday, November 3, 2020 will be held on Monday, November 2, 2020.

City offices will be closed Tuesday, November 3, 2020 for Election Day.

The City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

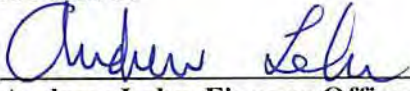
Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:


Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for November 2, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, and Karen Molina. Jeremy Krebs entered the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for October 20, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for November 2, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
September, 2020	26399 - 26400	\$ 3,126.78
October, 2020	cancelled - 26452 26401 - 26410, 26436 - 26454	\$ 56,790.68
November, 2020	26411 - 26435	\$ 3,415.94
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 63,333.40
October, 2020 Payroll		\$ 169,984.27
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 233,317.67

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported Police Chief candidate Bruce Phipps was here last week. He and Mr. Phipps did a “meet and greet” around town, Mr. Phipps met with City Court and was given a formal interview. Daniel Gilles is expected to be in Hardin this Friday and he will be taken around town and also be given a formal interview.

Mayor Purcell reported he did an interview with the Bloomberg Newspaper that wrote an article about Covid issues that are faced in the healthcare system and the community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has positions open for a part time Court Clerk I, Maintenance Worker II, and a Police Chief.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City will start sweeping up the leaves on the streets and picking up leaves in the parks on Wednesday.

Massine reported that Stahly Engineering will be here Wednesday to inspect the concrete water tank.

Finance:

Lehr reviewed the First Quarter Financial Reports and the Pledge Reports. Lehr reported a change in the amount the City received from the CARES act was \$514 and not the reported amount of \$466. Molina motioned to approve the reports with the correction reported by Lehr. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Interstate Engineering is conducting a survey for the City of Hardin Growth Management Plan. To take the online survey, visit <https://interstateeng.com/hardin> or visit their Facebook page for the survey and for virtual meeting information at <https://www.facebook.com/hardingrowthplan/>.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

City offices will be closed Tuesday, November 3, 2020 for Election Day.

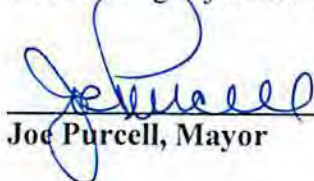
A City-County Planning Board Public Hearing for Shipton's Big R is scheduled for Monday, November 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

City offices will be closed Wednesday, November 11, 2020 in Honor of Veterans Day.

The City currently has job openings for a part-time Court Clerk I, Maintenance Worker II, and a Police Chief.

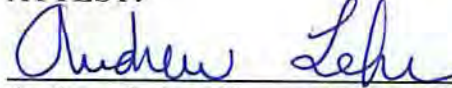
Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.


Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:


Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING: The Special Council Meeting for November 17, 2020 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

Mayor Purcell announced the Alderman Candidates for Ward 2 are Antonio Espinoza, Randen Schoppe, Corrina L. Kuntz, and Randy Mercier.

Each candidate was introduced and given time to address Council and the Public on why they are the best candidate for Ward 2 Alderman.

Antonio Espinoza reported he has lived in Hardin most of his life. He is employed with Big Horn County Road/Fire Department and currently holds the Fire Chief Assistant position. Espinoza expressed that he is interested because he would like to know more about what is going on in the City and how to be more involved. Krebs asked Espinoza to elaborate on his community involvement. Espinoza noted that he serves as the treasurer in the Parent Teacher Organization (P.T.O.), he has started an AAU basketball program, and he is a certified Montana Official Association (M.O.A.) referee for basketball. Chris Sharpe asked where Espinoza would like to see things go. Espinoza reported he would like to start with the safety and well-being of the community.

Randen Schoppe reported he has been a resident of Big Horn County for twenty-four years and a resident of Hardin for the past nine years. He is currently Deputy County Attorney. Schoppe reported he is active in many causes that include serving as Chairman of the Helping Hands of Hardin Food bank, he is the trustee of New Life Church, and is the President of the Rocky Mountain Hemophilia and Bleeding Disorder Association. He has always worked at making Hardin a place he is proud to live in and call home. Schoppe asked about the ad for the Alderman Vacancy noting the term would be held until 2023, and not until the next General Election. Knudsen reviewed MCA Code. Mayor Purcell asked Schoppe what his goals are. Schoppe noted he wants to make Hardin a place where we all can be and he would help especially with the Police Department. Knudsen noted that Schoppe is correct, the Alderman position will be up for re-election at the next General Election.

Randy Mercier reported he has lived in Hardin for thirty years and is employed with the School District as a maintenance technician. He added Hardin is their home and he wants to make it a better community. He wants to be involved with getting the police force going and wants to bring more businesses to Hardin. Krebs asked Mercier to elaborate on his community involvement. Mercier reported he had been involved with AAU Wrestling and Little League Baseball. His wife, Rose, has been involved in community parades and he would also help with them.

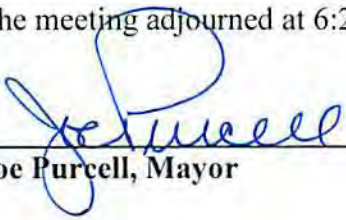
Corrina L. Kuntz reported she has lived in Big Horn County for fifty-one years. She has always had interest in the community regarding events, activities, and progress and prosperity. She added she has worked in family business, worked for businesses, and has had her own business. Krebs asked Kuntz to elaborate on her community involvement. Kuntz reported that she was involved with setting up a t-ball program for kids in the 1990's, she helps with church events, and she helps with town programs and events.

Mayor Purcell extended a "Thank you" to each candidate for submitting a Letter of Interest.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Purcell asked if there was any Public Comment or questions for the candidates. There was no response.

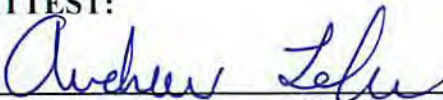
The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for November 17, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Kautzman made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for November 2, 2020. Motion seconded by Sharpe. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for November 2, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
September, 2020	26476	\$ 350.00
October, 2020	26455 - 26471, 26473 - 26475 26427 cancelled	\$ 37,013.58
November, 2020	26472	\$ <u>510.84</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 37,874.42

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Landa Uffelman, local business owner, reported that she is in the process of planning the Christmas Stroll for Saturday, December 5th. She added she is on the agenda for the next Council meeting. She will be requesting street closure for the stroll. The events will include the tree lighting and parade of lights.

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is moving forward with the Wastewater Treatment Plant project and will be going out to bid for Phase I of the project. The City is currently number five on the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) list to receive grant money for the project.

Mayor Purcell reported the Chief of Police candidates came to Hardin and were given formal interviews for the position. He added that both candidates have a great knowledge base for establishing a police department. He anticipates having a candidate to present to Council at the next meeting, pending approval of the Police Commission.

Mayor Purcell reported the goal for the completion of the storage room at City Hall is the end of this month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has positions open for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Mayor Purcell reported it has been a challenge at the City; the City has experienced positive Covid cases with employees. He extended a "Thank You" to the staff for stepping up and transitioning when needed and for continuing to practice safety measures.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman reported the City has been street sweeping for leaves and putting up Christmas banners.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs asked Mayor Purcell if he has set his mind on one candidate for the Chief of Police. Mayor Purcell reported he has and that the candidate is very much interested. A background check will be performed, the Police Commission will review his qualifications, and the candidate will be brought to Council for approval.

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Mayor Purcell noted when the City has a Chief of Police, he would like for Molina to work with them to review ordinances.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Mayor Purcell announced the City held a Special Meeting for the Ward 2 Alderman candidates to introduce themselves and give the public and Council the opportunity to ask questions.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

The City received minutes from the City-County Planning Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell re-appointed Cyndy Maxwell for a two-year term with the City-County Planning Board (CCPB). Greer motioned to approve the re-appointment. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Sharpe motioned to re-appoint Jeffrey McDowell for a two-year term with the City-County Planning Board. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Connelly, Fire Chief of the Hardin Volunteer Fire Department, requested approval to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) for the fire department. Connelly recommended the estimate from Big Sky Fire Equipment in the amount of \$49,368. It was noted the cost has been budgeted. Kautzman motioned to approve the purchase. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was approved. (4/0) Krebs abstained.

Mayor Purcell reported an application for a mobile home inspection was submitted by Laurie Tschetter for a 1996 Friendship Encore. Krebs asked if the hail damage on the windows and siding will be repaired. Tschetter noted the home came with replacement siding and there is nothing wrong with the windows, just chipping around the vinyl. Greer voiced the dishwasher drain and the water valve relief pipe on the water heater need to be addressed. Krebs voiced that he would like to have the windows fixed, but other than that it looks good. Tschetter reported she would have to replace every window. Greer asked if the holes would allow water in and Tschetter responded with a "no". Molina motioned to approve the trailer. Sharpe seconded. Greer and Krebs both expressed that they would approve it if the windows were to be fixed. On a Roll Call vote conducted by Mayor Purcell, Molina, Kautzman, and Sharpe are for approval of the application and Greer and Krebs are against the application. On a voice vote the application was approved 3/2.

Mayor Purcell reported the City received a recommendation from the City County Planning Board to approve a Conditional Use from Shipton's Big R to place a bulk propane dispenser on property located at 1001 N. Center Avenue. The dispenser meets

federal and state requirements. Greer motioned to approve the recommendation as submitted. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The candidates for Ward 2 Alderman are Antonio Espinoza, Randen Schoppe, Corrina L. Kuntz, and Randy Mercier. Sharpe motioned to appoint Antonio Espinoza as Ward 2 Alderman. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Mayor Purcell extended a "Thank You" to the candidates for their Letters of Interest and voiced that they can still be involved. Mayor Purcell congratulated Espinoza.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported that Stahly Engineering submitted a report on their inspection of the concrete water tank. Massine anticipates to have options to present to Council at the next meeting.

Finance:

Lehr reported he will be submitting the fourth claim to the CARES Act Federal Funding in the amount of \$1,246.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Interstate Engineering is conducting a survey for the City of Hardin Growth Management Plan. To take the online survey, visit <https://interstateeng.com/hardin> or visit their Facebook page for the survey and for virtual meeting information at <https://www.facebook.com/hardingrowthplan/>.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Purcell announced Jim Kuntz has been with the City for seven years.

City offices will be closed Thursday, November 26th for Thanksgiving.

The City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

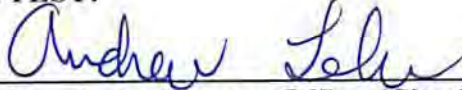
The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for December 1, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Antonio Espinoza, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Sharpe made the motion to approve the Special Council minutes as written for November 17, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved. Molina made the motion to approve the Council Meeting minutes as written for November 17, 2020. Motion seconded by Greer. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for November 17, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
September, 2020	26526	\$ 1,450.00
October, 2020	26477- 26479	\$ 4,261.67
November, 2020	26427, 26472, 26480 - 26485 26510, 26512 - 26525 26527 - 26542	\$ 40,140.94
December , 2020	26486 – 26509, 26511	<u>\$ 3,665.94</u>
Expenditures		
Transfer funds		\$ 1,349.42
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 50,867.97
transfer		<u>\$ (1,349.42)</u>
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 49,518.55

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is currently working through the hiring process for the Chief of Police candidate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

The City currently has an opening for a Maintenance Worker II. The City is currently reevaluating the position to get the position filled.

Sewer & Water:

Law Enforcement:

Streets & Alleys:

Kautzman reported someone has logs for sale in front of their home and asked if it was legal. He also reported there is a camper, at a different location, that looks like someone is living in it without electricity or water. Knudsen noted that he would need more facts. Kautzman noted he will visit with Joe Connelly.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Finance/Landfill:

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Mayor Purcell noted when the City has a Chief of Police, he would like for Molina to work with them to review ordinances.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Joel Bertolino and Steve Simonson, of Beartooth RC&D, provided a review of current projects in the Big Horn County and Hardin area. Bertolino recognized Greer for his dedication and time he has given to the board.

Bertolino reported the contract with the City of Hardin is due for renewal. Krebs motioned to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hardin and the Beartooth Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Landa Uffelman, local business owner, requested for the 200 Block of Center Avenue to be closed from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the Christmas Stroll that is scheduled for Saturday, December 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Kautzman motioned to approve the closure for the times requested. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was approved.

Mayor Purcell reviewed the Addendum To Professional Services Contract between the City of Hardin and Stahly Engineering Associates, Inc. The addendum would extend the current contract an additional five years; to December of 2025. Greer motioned to approve the contract. Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Dax Simek, Project Manager of Stahly Engineering, reviewed the phases of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. He reported Stahly will go out to bid for Phase 1, the Collection System, of the project by the third week in December. The project is expected to begin sometime at the end of January or the beginning of February when the ground water level is at its' lowest.

Robie Culver, Grant Specialist of Stahly Engineering, extended a "Thank You" to the City of Hardin and added that the City and Stahly make a great team. She reported the City is ranked fifth on the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) list to receive grant money, in the amount of \$500,000, for the project. The grant will be used for Phase II of the project.

Mayor Purcell reported there are committee vacancies that were previously filled by Alderman Riley Ramsey. Mayor Purcell asked Council if they had interest in changing their committee assignments. Council members expressed they were fine with their current assignments and Espinoza expressed that he is fine with filling the vacancies. Greer motioned for Espinoza to be appointed as Chairperson of the Law Enforcement Committee and to be appointed to the Resolution or Ordinance and City Policy Manual Committees. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reviewed the report for the inspection of the concrete water tank that was performed by Stahly Engineering. He reported the inspection notes that the City can expect five to ten years of service life without repair. Massine noted he is currently working to find a company that can provide estimates for repairing the existing tank and estimates for a new tank. Molina asked if there were grants available for the tanks. Mayor Purcell reported he will visit with the grant researcher.

Finance:

Lehr reported the auditor is expected to begin the audit Monday, December 7th.

Legal:

Knudsen reported the Judge motioned to dismiss a civil suit that was filed against the City.

Economic Development:

Interstate Engineering is conducting a survey for the City of Hardin Growth Management Plan. To take the online survey, visit <https://interstateeng.com/hardin> or visit their Facebook page for the survey and for virtual meeting information at <https://www.facebook.com/hardingrowthplan/>.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

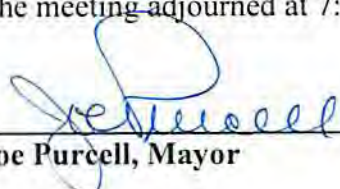
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The City currently has job openings for a Maintenance Worker II and a Police Chief.

Mayor Purcell reported that he will visit with the grant writer about two other grants that the City has applied for.

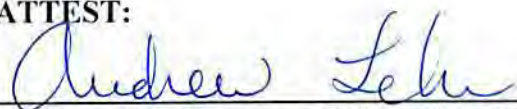
Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk



**THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA**

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for December 15, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Joe Purcell presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present by virtual meeting: Harry Kautzman, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, Karen Molina, Antonio Espinoza, and Jeremy Krebs.

Also present by virtual meeting: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Rock Massine, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, City Attorney Jordan Knudsen and several members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Greer made the motion to approve the Council minutes as written for December 1, 2020. Motion seconded by Kautzman. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for December 15, 2020:

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
October, 2020	26585, 26588	\$ 285.35
November, 2020	26543 – 26548, 26553 26575 – 26578, 26580 – 26584 26586, 26590, 26595, 26600	\$ 30,887.80
December, 2020	26549 – 26552, 26554 – 26574 26579, 26587, 26589 26591 – 26594, 26596 – 26599 26601 – 26610, 26612 – 26614 26616 – 26618	\$ 157,894.77
Claims Total (Expenditures)		\$ 189,067.92
November, 2020 Payroll		\$ 128,582.57
TOTAL Submitted		\$ 317,650.49

Kautzman seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MAYOR:

Mayor Purcell extended a “Thank You” to the Police Commission for the hard work they have done. Mayor Purcell reported Daniel Gilles was offered the Chief of Police position and has accepted. The official hire is pending all pre-employment requirements are met.

Mayor Purcell reported he has spoken with the new Crow Tribal Chairman Frank White Clay about vehicles and equipment from the Crow Police Department. The previous administration had shut it down.

Mayor Purcell reported the storage room remodel at City Hall is almost complete. The floor will be painted to provide a slip resistant surface.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Mayor Purcell reported the City is working toward returning to the Council Chambers for Council and Committee meetings. It will require video equipment so the public will have the option to attend the meetings online or in person with limitations.

Mayor Purcell reported interviews are scheduled for the Maintenance Worker II position.

Sewer & Water:

Sharpe reported he met with Massine regarding a curb stop ordinance. He requested a committee meeting to be scheduled before the next Council Meeting.

Law Enforcement:

Espinoza reported he has had many people express to him that they are wanting to see the cops do more about the street people and the trash they leave behind. Mayor Purcell reported the monthly law enforcement meetings with Big Horn County have been postponed and that this will be a topic of discussion with the new Chief of Police.

Streets & Alleys:

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs asked about the Crow Police Department. Mayor Purcell reported it is not clear if the new administration will be re-establishing the department or not.

Finance/Landfill:

Greer reported the City crew has been installing fencing at the Landfill.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Mayor Purcell noted committee meetings will be set up to address City ordinances after a Chief of Police is hired.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Purcell reported the Landfill Agreement with Northern Cheyenne is due for renewal. He added they have been notified. Lehr reported he has not received a comment from them. Greer motioned to approve the agreement. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Massine reported the City has been sanding streets and doing snow removal.

Finance:

Lehr reported the City received a third payment from the CARES Act. The next submission is due in January.

Lehr reported the City has received the final payment for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Big Horn Hospital Association. The payment will be forwarded to the hospital and the grant will be closed.

Legal:

Economic Development:

Mayor Purcell reported that Interstate Engineering is conducting a survey for the City of Hardin Growth Management Plan. To take the online survey, visit <https://interstateeng.com/hardin> or visit their Facebook page for the survey and for virtual meeting information at <https://www.facebook.com/hardingrowthplan/>. Lehr reported he will follow up with Cal Cumin this week for updates on the project.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2254: Approving Applications for License to Serve Beer, Beer and Wine, or Liquor. Molina noted that all the businesses were not listed. Molina motioned to approve the resolution. Greer seconded. Knudsen reported that Section C of the Resolution grants the City authority to approve any licenses that are received before noon December 31st. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

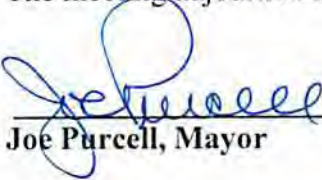
Mayor Purcell announced the City of Hardin will close at 12:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th and will be closed Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th.

The Maintenance Worker II position is open until filled. The Police Chief position is pending the verification process for Mr. Gilles.

The City of Hardin will be advertising for an Invitation to Bid for the Phase I Sewer Main Replacement Project. The Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for January 5, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. and the Public Opening of Bids is scheduled for January 13, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Kautzman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

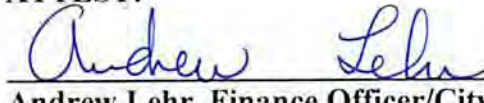
The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.



Joe Purcell, Mayor



ATTEST:



Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk