MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROUNDUP HELD ON MARCH 15th, 2016 AT 7:00, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jones. Clerk Lanter called roll with Council members Weitzeil, Schladweiler, Liggett, Picchioni, Griffith, Yount, and Martin present. Toombs absent. Also present Public Works Director Sibley.

Moved by Picchioni, seconded by Yount to approve the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

Moved by Yount, seconded by Liggett to approve the minutes of the March 1st, 2016 meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Visitors Bette Ross gave the council information on the Clean-up days which is April 15 &16. They are going to officially call it Community Pride Days. This event is co-sponsored by the Roundup Chamber and Roundup Community Partners. They hope to have a great turnout of volunteers. Bette provided the council with a handout that recapped the clean-up days in 2015.

Clerk Lanter showed the council a presentation about the new website www.roundupmontana.net.

Mayor Jones wanted to discuss a per diem increase for the Council members. The last increase was 23 years ago. Currently the council receives $25 per meeting attended. Mayor Jones would like to see an increase of $25-50 dollars. This will be discussed and implemented in the upcoming budget.

Mayor Jones and County Commissioner Borner will be hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Day at the Ambulance Barn on April 2nd at 2:00 p.m.

Jones forwarded to the County Commissioners all correspondence with Mr. Reis regarding the property he would like to donate.

Jones would like the council members to sign a letter of support for the Signal Peak Coal Mine. Jones and Sibley will be attending a meeting at the mine on Thursday to listen to the challenges the coal industry is facing within the state.

Attorney Lundvall not present.

Compliance Personnel Bruce Hoiland gave an oral report. He received a request for a plat change on a property on the east side. The owner owns both lots and will get the required survey. Hoiland visited with Mrs. Medlock regarding the RV space. The old Hitchin’ Post had an issue with stacking items on the sidewalk. They have been getting the sidewalks cleaned up.

Clerk Lanter and Mayor Jones had a conference call with Dorsey & Whitney to discuss the SID. Martin asked if sidewalks will be included. The inclusion of sidewalks was not included in the bid for the SID. If the owners want sidewalks, they will have to put those in themselves. This will be discussed further with Chad Sealey. Martin also would like to see any new building permits brought before the council before approval. Martin would like to know the process of protesting the SID. He would like the council action on the SID to be brought back to the table. He would like the SID to include curb, gutter & sidewalks.

The survey for the needs assessment will be available on Survey Monkey on March 22nd. There will also be paper copies available for anyone who does not have internet access.

A Codes & Ordinance Committee meeting will be scheduled to discuss the rezoning of the flood area and including noxious weeds in the weed ordinance.

Schery Berthoud has agreed to be certified to spray for noxious weeds for the City.

There was discussion on the funding for Phase 4 of the water project. Martin has talked with several community members, and they are split 50/50 about increasing the rates to pay for the project. Yount commented that if we raise the bill too high and people cannot afford the water, they will move out of town. Many people are living on fixed incomes. Picchioni thinks a $25 increase is just too much for the community. Schladweiler commented that he believes the local economy is too questionable at this time to support that large an increase. Jones commented that receiving matching funds for grants is proving harder and harder to get. If and when the water from Utica gets to Roundup, there will be an automatic rate increase to pay for the distribution system. The water project is to replace cast iron pipes which have corroded and deteriorated over time. The City’s previous needs assessment results was the community would like to see an improvement in water. Schladweiler suggested moving forward with a small rate increase of $4-$5 after applying for all available grants. If there is a shortfall, then apply for a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan. There was no more discussion.

Schladweiler provided the clerk with a report from the library board. They estimated 4,000 patrons used the library in January and February. He also mentioned that Dale Alger will be retiring.

B.U.D. received a $10,000 grant with in-kind match available.

Director Sibley will have the patching machine here next month. He attended the Regional Water Authority meeting in Harlowton.

The treasurer’s report was mailed with the council packets. Lanter asked if any council members would like a more detailed report. Yount would like a detailed report. Lanter also asked if anyone would prefer to receive the council packets in an email. They would still prefer them to be mailed.

Council Action Items:

Infrastructure Committee to close the street as requested by hospital. Moved by Weitzeil, seconded by Liggett to approve the closure as long as the hospital advertises the dates the street will be closed. All in favor. Motion carried.

Moved by Yount, seconded by Weitzeil to allow the softball the use of the porta-pottys until the rest area is open. All in favor motion carried.

Moved by Yount, seconded by Weitzeil to continue the $200 donation to softball. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Parks Committee brings a recommendation to set lifeguard wages. They set wages for the head guard at $9.20, senior guards $8.95 and first year senior guards $8.75. There will be no junior guards this year. Moved by Yount, seconded by Martin to approve lifeguard wages. All in favor. Motion carried.

Moved by Schladweiler, seconded by Griffith to apply for all grants for Phase 4 of the water project. If needed apply for an SRF loan for the shortfall amount with a rate increase around $4.00 to $5.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public comment: Troy Evans would like to see a demand charge on water. He would like the City to hire a manager to market the stage to generate revenue for the City.

Moved by Schladweiler seconded by Picchioni to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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Tanya Lanter – Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED BY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sandra Jones - Mayor