

WHITEFISH CITY COUNCIL

February 3, 2020

7:10 P.M.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Muhlfeld called the meeting to order. Councilors present were Qunell, Feury, Hennen, Hartman, Sweeney, and Norton. City Staff present were, City Clerk Howke, City Manager Smith, City Attorney Jacobs, Planning and Building Director Taylor, Public Works Director Workman, Parks and Recreation Director Butts, Police Chief Dial and Fire Chief Page. Approximately five people were in the audience.

Mayor Muhlfeld moved agenda item 10a) to after agenda item 3) Communications from The Public.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Muhlfeld asked Mike Jopek to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – (This time is set aside for the public to comment on items that are either on the agenda, but not a public hearing or on items not on the agenda. City officials do not respond during these comments but may respond or follow-up later on the agenda or at another time. The Mayor has the option of limiting such communications to three minutes depending on the number of citizens who want to comment and the length of the meeting agenda)

Bradley Tutsch, 6430 Hwy 93 S, reported he is not being treated fairly and equally with the Police Department and he is looking for direction to deal with this issue.

10) COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

- a) **Resolution No. 20-03: A Resolution approving the terms of three Public Recreational Trail Easements over private land for the Whitefish Trail (p.39)**

City Attorney Jacobs gave her staff report that is provided in the packet on the website. Mike Jopek and Heidi Van Everen with the Whitefish Legacy Partners (WLP) addressed the Council.

Mike Jopek Chairperson of the Whitefish Legacy Partners, reviewed the history of the Whitefish Legacy Partners and their partnership with the City of Whitefish.

Heidi Van Everen, Whitefish Legacy Partners Executive Director, asked for Council's support to continue the partnership and have the City hold three trail easements off of Big Mountain Road. This will be connecting the Holbrook parcel towards Hell Roaring Basin and will be another step closer to "Closing the Loop" of the Whitefish Trail. She thanked the City for their support for making this a reality in the community. These easements are donated, and the private property owners are allowing WLP to design, construct, maintain and manage the trail.

Councilor Hartman made a motion, seconded by Councilor Qunell to approve Resolution No. 20-03: A Resolution approving the terms of three Public Recreational Trail Easements over private land for the Whitefish Trail. The motion passed unanimously.

4) COMMUNICATIONS FROM VOLUNTEER BOARDS

None

5) CONSENT AGENDA

- a) [Minutes](#) from January 21, 2020 Regular Session (p.13)
- b) [Ordinance No. 20-02](#); An Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Architectural Review Committee, of Title 2 of the Whitefish City Code to change its membership qualifications (Second Reading) (p.23)
- c) [Resolution No. 20-04](#); A Resolution denying a conditional use permit to develop two 18-unit apartment buildings at 1013 East 7th Street and 1022 East 8th Street (WCUP 19-24) (p.25)

Councilor Norton made a correction to the January 21, 2020 minutes on page 6, paragraph 7, change “A comment was made”. Councilor Sweeney made a motion, seconded by Councilor Hennen to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

- 6) **PUBLIC HEARINGS** (Items will be considered for action after public hearings) (Resolution No. 07-33 establishes a 30-minute time limit for applicant’s land use presentations. Ordinances require 4 votes for passage – Section 1-6-2 (E)(3) WCC)

None

8) COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

- a) [Consideration](#) of appointing a Rating and Selection Panel for the 2020 Transportation Plan Update (p.28)

Director Workman gave his staff report that is provided in the packet on the website. Councilor Feury made a motion, seconded by Councilor Sweeney to appoint Director Workman and Senior Engineer Hilding to the Rating Panel, and Director Workman, Senior Engineer Hilding and Mayor Muhlfeld to the Selection Panel for the 2020 Transportation Plan Update. The motion passed unanimously.

9) COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

- a) [Consideration](#) of appointing a Rating Panel and a Selection Committee for the Irrigation and Landscape Design RFP Process (p.31)

Director Butts gave her staff report that is provided in the packet on the website. Councilor Qunell made a motion, seconded by Councilor Hennen to appoint Director Butts, Parks Foreman Bullemer and Councilor Sweeney to the Rating and Selection Panel for the Irrigation and Landscape Design RFP process. The motion passed unanimously.

10) COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY CLERK

- a) [Resolution No. 20-05](#); A Resolution establishing the Parking Permit Implementation Committee (p.34)

City Clerk Howke gave her staff report that is provided in the packet on the website and made a correction to the agenda to remove “Employee” from the Committee title. Councilor Hartman made a motion, seconded by Councilor Feury to approve [Resolution No. 20-05](#); A Resolution establishing the Parking Permit Implementation Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

11) COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

- a) [Written report](#) enclosed with the packet. Questions from Mayor or Council? (p.71)

None

- b) Other items arising between January 26th and February 3rd

Manager Smith met with the City Managers from Kalispell, Columbia Falls and the County Administrator. They talked about the 9-1-1 Funding Committees' recommendation to the 9-1-1 Administrative Board. The County has started discussing the recommendation to hold an election to create a district that would fund the 9-1-1 Center. The County has requested the City support the election and the process to move forward. That amount would no longer be paid by the city. There are discussions that will have to take place. This would be on the ballot in November.

Councilor Norton asked and Manager Smith stated the Viaduct Improvement goal pending the Downtown Whitefish Highway Study Plan. It is something we should probably consider. Director Workman mentioned there is potential budget allocation through the state for that project.

12) COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILORS

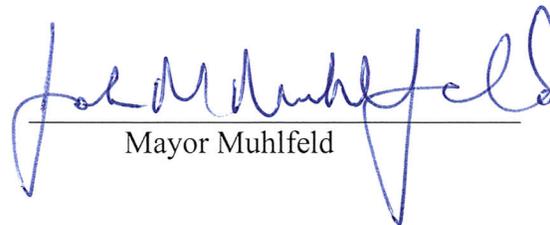
Council Comment

Councilor Norton reported she is still hoping to follow up on transportation with the city and the schools. She said the river has been looking pretty with the breakup of the snow and ice. Councilor Feury congratulated Mayor Muhlfeld for being selected the Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year. The Sustainable Tourism Management Committee discussed moving the work session to March 16th. Everybody be safe and sane during Winter Carnival Weekend.

Mayor Muhlfeld asked staff the progress regarding E-Scooters. Attorney Jacobs stated she is reviewing the code as a whole, and looking to see if the current ordinances are adequate. She hopes to have a work session soon.

13) ADJOURNMENT (Resolution 08-10 establishes 11:00 p.m. as end of meeting unless extended to 11:30 by majority)

Mayor Muhlfeld adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.



Mayor Muhlfeld

Attest:



Michelle Howke, Whitefish City Clerk