

**Troy City Council Meeting
Council Chambers
August 20, 2008**

The meeting came to order at 7:00 pm. Present: Council President, Laura Schrader, Councilmen Larry Baker, Don Banning, and Larry Coryell, and City Clerk Sandra Johnson. Mayor Jim Hammons excused absence.

GUESTS: John Clogston, Clint Taylor- Power manager, Susie Taylor, Gene Rogers, Debbie Rogers, Russ Thompson, Billie Foster, Jayne Brown, John Konzen.

Council President Laura Schrader led the pledge of allegiance.

BASEBALL FIELDS: Russ Thompson- Thompson would like to build another field between the two baseball fields but closer to the railroad tracks. The proposed plan would be 125 feet each direction. This will take the place of the two fields that were to be used at the school. Thompson needs the City's approval to begin. This layout was done in Libby in a circular fashion. Thompson mentioned the addition of three or four more teams if Troy had the facilities. All the games can be held at Roosevelt Park besides T-ball. All summer tournaments would be allowed use of the fields. Discussion continued regarding regulation size and a portable mound for younger teams. Clint Taylor asked who is going to pay for fencing and bleachers. Thompson said that he had talked to the County and had been told they would put in a sprinkler system, and take care of the grass, fertilizer and fencing. The sod would be the school district's responsibility. The only thing that the city would need to do is the utility installation. Laura Schrader stated that she was under the impression that the school would be building two fields. Discussion followed. Larry Coryell stated that Mayor Hammons should be present before any decisions are made. Thompson agreed and said he just wanted to present it to start with. More discussion regarding water and power installations to the proposed fields continued. Thompson said it is part of the school agreement. Discussion followed.

POWER RATE INCREASE: Clint Taylor – Taylor advised that after the work meeting on August 18, 2008, he made more changes. Taylor referred to the worksheets comparing the differences between a 5% increase and a \$4.00 basic rate increase. Based on the percentage increase, the low-user's difference would be less than a higher user. With the basic rate increase of \$4.00 for everyone, the low user's increase would be an average of 12.9% while the high user's increase would only be about 1.9%. Taylor also addressed his second worksheet with a basic rate comparison from surrounding areas. Council's consensus: Don Banning – likes the 5% rate increase that shares the increase based on the kwh used. Larry Coryell - \$4.00 basic rate increase for reserve as the budget doesn't show the need for an increase, Larry Baker - \$4.00 basic rate, Laura Schrader - \$4.00 basic rate increase due to the comparison of other utility companies in the surrounding areas. Discussion continued regarding the end of the BPA contract in 2011. Taylor advised the council that we do not want to have to increase our rates 32% all at one time and the rate increase now will soften the blow. Also transmission rates will increase next year. Council asked the guests which option they would prefer for an increase. It was the audience's consensus that they would prefer the \$4.00 basic rate increase versus the 5% rate increase at this time. After discussion, council again stated: Don Banning – 5%, Larry Coryell – \$4.00 basic rate increase, Larry Baker – \$4.00 basic rate increase, and Laura Schrader \$4.00 basic rate

increase. A **motion** was made by Larry Baker to go ahead with the process to increase the basic rate by \$4.00, a second was made by Larry Coryell. Larry Baker-Yes, Larry Coryell –Yes, Don Banning – opposed. **Motion carried.**

SHOP RATE INCREASE: Clint Taylor – Taylor presented a new rate schedule to increase shop rates. Rates haven't been raised since 2002, and the price of poles and other supplies have increased heavily. The disconnect-reconnect fee will go from \$32.00 to \$38.00. Taylor stated that the new rates will take effect immediately for the new work orders. **Motion** was made by Larry Baker to increase shop rates with a second made by Larry Coryell. **Motion carried.**

DISPATCH CJIN UNIT: Gene Rogers (administrator of CJIN) – Rogers presented a worksheet with what the CJIN unit is used for. He stated that the CJIN is for the Police Department, not dispatch, and CJIN's fee has always been paid by the City. Rogers added that it is completely used by law enforcement and isn't part of dispatch at all. The police chief is the administrator of CJIN. Don Banning asked if there was anyway we can charge for other agencies use. For example the Forest Service sometimes uses CJIN. Laura Schrader stated that the citizens of Troy already pay for it in their taxes. CJIN is part of dispatch and if the City pays for it, the citizens are getting charged a second time. She added that the City has been trying to turn this over to dispatch. Rogers added; dispatch also keeps records for the City Judge as well. Larry Baker agrees with Schrader as does Larry Coryell. City attorney Mark Fennessy clarified that Dispatch is set by districts for funding. The District is the same boundary as the School district. Original mills were way less than they are now. Don Banning sees no difference and stated that we should keep it the way it is, but there will be E911 money that will be received. These will go to Lincoln County and then to dispatch. A question regarding cell service came up and Rogers said that cell service should be billed to the address not the number. The 911 money was split up between 911 and E911. There will be a 10:00am meeting in Libby on September 4, 2008 concerning the funds. It is council's consensus not to pay for the CJIN unit.

MILEAGE RATE INCREASE: From .36 to .45 per mile – A **motion** to approve the mileage rate increase was made by Don Banning and seconded by Larry Coryell. All council in favor. **Motion carried.**

STOP SIGN RESOLUTION NO. 605: A **motion** was made by Don Banning to have a stop sign placed at Kootenai Avenue and First Street, Larry Coryell seconded the motion. All council in favor. **Motion carried.**

APPROVE FY 08/09 FINAL BUDGET: Tax Levy Resolution No. 606, Wage and Salary Resolution No. 607, and Annual Appropriations Resolution No. 608 - a **motion** was made by Larry Baker to approve the above stated resolutions for final FY 08/09 budget. Larry Coryell seconded the motion. All council in favor. **Motion carried.**

MIKE FRASER CONSULTING: Contract – It is council's consensus to have Mike Fraser send a contract for consulting services to be reviewed by council. The annual fee would be \$3,000 per year.

MINUTES: Regular Council Meeting July 16, 2008, Council Work Meeting July 23, 2008, Hearing for HI Tax Levy and FY 08/09 Preliminary Budget Hearing August 6, 2008 - A

motion was made by Larry Coryell to approve the above stated meeting minutes, with a second by Larry Baker. All council in favor. **Motion carried.**

CLAIMS: a **motion** to approve the claims in the amount of \$187,978.09 was made by Larry Baker and seconded by Larry Coryell. **Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS LICENSE: First Rate Concrete – Owner Milo Rogers located at 269 Forest Drive, Troy, MT 59935. A **motion** made by Laura Schrader to approve First Rate Concrete as a new business in Troy, and seconded by Don Banning. **Motion Carried.**

TD & H INVOICE: Invoice No. 21655 for \$6,000. This invoice was previously denied. Council would like to see the contractor finish to work completely. Schrader stated that we cannot hold back payment if services were rendered. Don Banning made a **motion** to approve Invoice No. 21655 for \$6,000 to TD & H, and Larry Baker seconded the motion. Larry Coryell opposed. **Motion carried.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Banning- advised that the water department will be repairing a large leak near the Golden Lion Manor tomorrow. Coryell asked if the new water tank is on line. Banning said he didn't think so but will check. Dave Norman has been in contact with Wade DeBoo of TD & H regarding the problem. **Schrader** - asked if the apartments were advertised for rent. Yes, for \$450.00 and \$500.00. **Coryell**-brought up the situation with the Boy Scout Hut. He stated there was supposed to be out by July 1, 2008. **Taylor**-he has sent out the estimate for the power to the cell tower, and construction should be starting soon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm was made by Larry Baker and the second by Larry Coryell. **Motion Carried.**

Laura Schrader, Council President

ATTEST:

Sandra Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer