

**Troy City Council
Work Meeting
Council Chambers
March 16, 2010**

The meeting came to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Mayor Don Banning, Council: Phil Fisher, Fran McCully, and Loretta Jones, and City Clerk Sandra Johnson. Gary Rose excused absent.

GUESTS: Danette Fisher, Josie Fisher, Don Ross, Sue Grabinski, Tom Grabinski, Paul Parsons, Carolyn Parsons, Canda Harbaugh, Clint Taylor- Power manager, Ryan Mitchell, and Mike Fraser.

Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Mayor Banning.

WATER PROJECT: Mike Fraser- Fraser did project inspection and three employee interviews. The contractor needs to post wage rates, inform the employees of what they are making, and he needs to pay weekly. Fraser discussed this with Ryan Mitchell, as he is the liaison with the contractor, and he will follow up with them. As part of the TSEP grant, the employee interviews are is part of the process. Fraser will write them up and get them back to the city clerk. Fraser passed out handouts on the \$500,000 direct appropriation for Phase II and that requires a 25% match. Also, Fraser stated that there was talk about submitting an application for a RRGL Grant for this project. Passed around Maps is Phase I, Green is Phase II and what is under construction now. And the blue is work proposed for Phase III. Fraser is here as part of project management. Ryan Mitchell will bring a pay estimate for the contractor. It is on the March 17' 2009 addenda. Fraser suggests approving that conditional upon S & L Underground posting the wage rates. And, don't release the funds until this is done.

Fran McCully asked if we are looking at the City paying \$25,000 for project. Fraser answered, If everything comes together, and if the City gets what it asks for, Yes. The City was successful before, so it is hard to say, this time 60-70% chance of success. The \$625,000 would cover the work in blue for Phase III. A realistic number was used and the construction may not be as low as before. The deadline is May 15' 2010.

WALKING PATH: Ryan Mitchell informed council that RPA has been hired by Lincoln County to engineer the CTEP walking path that is planned to run from the county museum across the railroad tracks and down to Roosevelt Park. The County would also like to do work on 3rd Street with some Montana Department of Transportation funds. That work would consist of utility relocations, power for underground and decorative street lights. Other County funds will be able to put in a five foot wide sidewalk. So the project has two parts to it. One being the eight foot asphalt walking path from the museum down to the park, which will be done in two different phases; and the other being the street lights from the highway down Third Street. This would be on BNSF right of way. The City did receive a preliminary easement agreement from BNSF. Gary Rose asked if it included a fence along the railroad tracks. Mitchell answered; yes, and added that it was part of the request that BNSF sent.

Clint Taylor said the fence would only be on BNSF right-of-way; then putting a ditch between Mill Road and the walking path for water runoff, and some sub-surface drains in front of the fire hall for standing water. The ditch would also prevent people from driving on the walking path. Changes were sent to Montana Department of Transportation so we expect a return this week from them. Phil Fisher asked if there will be a separate pedestrian crossing. Mitchell stated that they would like to see that too. They are still working on that.

FOOD PANTRY: **Sue Grabinski** – has a few comments on articles in the paper. When Mayor Banning told them they had to vacate the property because it was only supposed to be on a temporary basis, and that was six years ago. She wasn't a volunteer six years ago so she went back and talked to the volunteers that were part of it six years ago, and they said they did not

remember any temporary basis. No one was under the impression that it was temporary. They felt that the City was granting that space because it is a community pantry. It's in a good location for public and for delivery. This past summer they needed more electrical outlets that they had installed at their own cost of over \$400. They have also invested several hundred dollars in shelving. They thought it was a permanent base. Tom Grabinski estimated the power usage. The electricity with bay door and freezer; literature on freezer is \$48.00 per year at ten cents per kilowatt hour. Since Troy is five cents, then it goes down to \$24.00 per year for each of them. The older freezers may take up to twice that much. Grabinski estimated the power usage to be about \$200.00 a year for six freezers. He added that they do have some portable heaters, because there is no heating in there. In the summer there are electric fans. So, by Grabinski's total estimate on power consumption should amount to about \$240 per year. Loretta Jones stated that the County Detention pay's half the complex's electricity. Sue Grabinski stated that they had never been asked to contribute to the power bill, but they can if it is a concern. The day we were told to look for another place it was because the conference room would take up their space. Since that time, we've heard that their space would not be part of this. Grabinski stated that they looked for another place to relocate and there isn't anything in town that is free. If they have to pay rent, water, and electricity, they can't continue. There are 176 families served monthly. Grabinski stated that she didn't agree with the quote from the paper stating that the food pantry shouldn't be at tax payer's expense. Part of the food is coming from federal funds, Non-profits, and Donations. Don Ross lives in Troy, but works in Libby, he spoke about what people in Libby say. They wonder what Troy is doing that Libby can't. This is a community project. So his thought is that we (Troy) should continue to do what's now being done. Churches are limited with food and volunteering. Baptist Church asked if they could do something, but they do not have the 1000 sq. ft. to put to this use. Last years, they gave out 47,000 lbs of food to the community. They have an insurance policy through Glacier Insurance in Libby that is \$250 per year. If they have to move to another building, it would quadruple. They are doing a good job giving the service to Troy. Don Ross stated that the Troy Food Pantry services about 176 families and Libby does only a little bit more than that. Fran McCully stated that that is what part of the Energy Grant is for. So, this could be done anyway. McCully stated that her concern is; if this is a permanent location, then a contract should be signed. Temporary could be one year or twenty years, but McCully stated that she has never thought of it as a permanent location. McCully did get a printout on the electricity usage. McCully doesn't feel the City needs a big conference room. Discussion followed regarding the cost it would take to relocate. Phil Fisher stated that there are Energy Grants available. The two bay doors should be replaced. The grant would be to make the building more energy efficient. He doesn't think that the food pantry should go. Loretta Jones stated that Troy can be proud of their volunteerism. It is what makes Troy what it is. There are 18 people that rotate in a volunteer capacity. Gary Rose commends all the people that do the work. Rose stated that he doesn't have a problem with the food pantry staying. Helping the people out-weighs the conference room. Mayor Don Banning stated; for the record, I want to clarify something that was in the newspaper that was false. That it would be six months to a year to find a place. When Banning met with the volunteers, the City was still in the thinking stages of planning meeting rooms. Because of the newspaper articles, it was blown out of proportion. Loretta Jones said that the "OK" to let the food pantry use the space came from the Mayor at the time. The council was not a part of it. Banning continued by saying he was on the council at the time, and the Mayor at the time gave the "OK" on a temporary basis. He stated that he is not trying to do away with the food pantry. To be kicked out at the time was not the case, and it was not for a conference hall. Sue Grabinski said that after the meeting she wasn't under the impression they had to find something right away, but they needed to start looking for something so the City could put in their meeting room. Canda Harbaugh asked Mayor Banning specifically what was wrong in the article. Regarding the conference center; I said it was a meeting room. We could use a meeting room every day. Banning continued; City Hall is for city functions; we shouldn't have to pack everything up to take it someplace else. We have a lot of meetings and people want to use the space quite often. Tom Grabinski asked; isn't it right that you have a room at the City Shop and you have the fire hall to meet in? Sue Grabinski stated; even the Judge's chambers are only used three days a week. She is in many times a week to do many things. She is in and out and tries to be as quiet as possible. The judge says it is not a problem for him. More discussion on replacing the bay doors followed. Mayor Banning said; no

one wants to close down the food pantry, but if there had been more people here tonight, then we would have to cancel this meeting because we all wouldn't fit in this small space. This is the building for the City of Troy and the citizens of Troy are a part of the City. Grabinski said the community is in support of the food pantry if you count how many people have phoned. Fran McCully agreed.

PAUL PARSONS: Water Line - Paul Parsons gave council handouts. He went on to give some history. They are paying for water that they don't ever get. Phil Fisher asked Parsons if this was just to hook him up or will he be subdividing. Parsons said there are two potential lots that can be subdivided at some point. We want to be able to hookup without having to drill into the main. Phil Fisher stated that as far as he knew this was an abandoned street. Parsons stated; no, that had been cleared up last year. Fisher said he wanted to see the paperwork on that. Clint Taylor said, wasn't the street going to be abandoned but never was recorded? Parsons corrected Taylor and said; actually it was recorded as abandoned incorrectly by the County, but they admitted their mistake, because the original resolution from the City that goes way back stated, "roadway not suitable for construction". That road has been there since 1967 and has always been a city street and never intended on being abandoned. When Parsons was approached by the County about abandoning the lower half that has no water system or roads, they didn't have a problem with it. If you have any questions about it you can call the Clerk and Records office. Fran McCully asked if it was listed on the sprinkling and oiling. Johnson replied; no, it's not a paved road. Phil Fisher asked; how much right of way does it have. Parsons answered that he thought it is 50 foot. Fisher said it should be 60 foot. Taylor made mention that it varies throughout the town. Twilight is only 30 foot. Fisher stated that his concern is that if the City puts a water line in and then you subdivide, they will expect the City to put in the line to the house. It would put a burden on the City because if you do it for one person, you have to do it for everyone. Carolyn Parsons said that their home is only 900 feet from the main, and they pay for water they don't even get. Fisher asked them if they agreed to have the meter put in. Paul Parsons stated; yes in good faith. But, because of the confusion on the road, the meter should have been put in at least 700 feet in, so they could hook to it. But since it was proposed during the water project; it wasn't engineered. So, we hired our own engineer and it is all approved by the City and the State. It's all done but it only has one year left on the permit. Fran McCully asked questions on the process of abandonment. Parsons said they had to follow a certain process when the lower road was abandoned. McCully wondered how the County could record something without the proper documentation. Phil Fisher asked who filed it at the County. Parsons said they don't know but it is a resolution from the City. This was signed by former Mayor Rod Johnson in 1995 for the sewer project. Phil Fisher feels that it is an unconstructed street and falls under the abandonment definition. Carolyn Parsons stated that it is as much constructed as other streets in the City. Paul Parsons said that the State agrees with the County offices. Parsons continued; this has already been done. The purpose of resolution No. 451 legally doesn't match what it really is. More discussion followed regarding the abandoned street issue.

Don Banning asked; what is your proposal? Parsons just want it to be known that the street was not abandoned, and they be included in any further projects. A water main would probably have to be installed at the City's expense. Public Works Director Dave Norman had previously advised them that a 3/4 inch to one inch line wouldn't have much pressure because of the distance it would have to travel. Parsons Engineer could give a cost on what the pipe rate was at one time; it would be \$8,500. Parsons stated that he would be willing to pay that for inspection. Discussion followed. There was no decision made in the past or present.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Banning- Reminder that at 6:30pm tomorrow is a training workshop by Kristen Smith from County Planning regarding subdivisions prior to the regular council meeting. **Loretta Jones** – The gravel at the detention at City Hall needs to be redone at the entire area. Further discussion followed on meeting rooms. Fran McCully asked Clint Taylor questions regarding the equipment needed by that department. Clint Taylor stated that in a past work meeting, about six months ago, council was advised and they had said, Okay. Bring us what may be the equipment wanted. Discussion on use of the excavator and how it would be

beneficial followed. Gary Rose asked about the consensus on water project billing for customers on the project. Discussion followed.

No Motion to Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm

Donald C. Banning, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sandra Johnson, Clerk