

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS,  
COLUMBUS, MONTANA HELD MARCH 18, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

<b>COUNCIL PRESENT OFFICERS PRESENT</b>	The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Mayor Webb Mandeville began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Council persons present were Rick White, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner, Bob Fitzgerald and Danen Johannes. Staff members present were Fire Chief Rich Cowger, Police Chief Gary Timm, Police Officer Aaron Uecker, City Attorney Ryan Addis, Animal Control Kayla Flemetis, and Clerk-Treasurer Cherrie McAlexander.
<b>SIDELINE IN PERSON</b>	Jeff Coplen and Shannon Moore
<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b>	Public Hearing was opened at 7:00 p.m. The mayor asked if there was any public comment on the ordinance revisions for Chicken and Animal Control Regulations. There was no public comment. The mayor closed the hearing at 7:01 p.m.
<b>REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED</b>	The mayor asked Council if they had reviewed the minutes of the March 5, 2024, regular meeting, and if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections. Rick White made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting, seconded by Danen Johannes; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Bob Fitzgerald, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>SHUT OFF LIST</b>	The shut-off list for the month of March 2024 was presented to the Council. Tim Mayo made a motion to approve the list as presented, seconded by Rick White; roll call for vote, Rick White, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner, Bob Fitzgerald, and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>APPROVAL OF CLAIMS</b>	The claims list for the 1st half of March was presented to the Council. Bob Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Tim Mayo; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Bob Fitzgerald, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>	NONE
<b>FIRE DEPT.</b>	The Fire Chief was present and provided a report. No questions from Council.
<b>POLICE</b>	The Police Chief was present and provided a report. No questions from Council.
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>	The Public Works Director was present and provided a report. Scott mentioned that the railroad crossing at Pike and Pratten will be closed for a few days to finish up the sewer line project. No questions from Council.
<b>ATTORNEY</b>	The City Attorney was present and provided a report. No questions from Council.
<b>CITY JUDGE</b>	The City Judge was not present and did not provide a report.
<b>CLERK-TREASURER</b>	The Clerk-Treasurer was present and provided a report. No questions from Council.
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS:</b>	NONE
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS-</b>	NONE

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<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b>	NONE
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	<p>Approval of Job Description and Announcement for a Public Works General Laborer for Parks. Tim Mayo asked when was Sean Strange’s last day of employment. Scott Canton replied March 20, 2024. Rick White made the motion to approve the Job Description and Announcement, seconded by Cole Waltner; roll call for vote, Rick White, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner, Bob Fitzgerald, and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>Approval of Special Use Permit – Easter Eve Egg Hunt – March 30, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Heritage Park. Tim Mayo made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit, seconded by Danen Johannes; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Bob Fitzgerald, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>First Reading of Ordinance 369-2024 amending section 17.96.015 of the Columbus Municipal Code to revise the Chicken Regulations. Bob Fitzgerald made a motion to waive the first reading of the Ordinance, seconded by Rick White; roll call for vote, Rick White, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner, Bob Fitzgerald, and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed. Tim Mayo made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Rick White; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Bob Fitzgerald, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>First Reading of Ordinance 370-2024 amending sections 6.08.010, 6.08.050, and 6.08.060 of the Columbus Municipal Code for Animal Control. Cole Waltner made a motion to waive the reading of the ordinance, seconded by Tim Mayo; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Bob Fitzgerald, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed. Tim Mayo made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Cole Waltner; roll call for vote, Rick White, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner, Bob Fitzgerald, and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p>
<b>COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA</b>	<p>Jeff Coplen asked to discuss Ordinance 13-08-080 Sewer Services. Jeff read a section of the ordinance out loud and requested the Council to amend the ordinance to remove a high usage water month if it was during the months used to determine the sewer average. Jeff discussed how great the public works employees have been in letting him know about a high usage so he could track down the leak. Cherrie McAlexander stated that it would be very easy for the city to look at the 4 months that are used for the sewer average and remove a high usage month from the average. Cherrie stated that with an ordinance amendment this could be changed moving forward. Ryan Addis suggested that Jeff meet with the water/sewer committee to work on an ordinance amendment to present to council.</p>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	<p>Webb Mandeville requested a Motion to Adjourn. Rick White made the motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. seconded by Tim Mayo, roll call all yea votes.</p>

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*Webb Mandeville*

WEBB MANDEVILLE, MAYOR

*Cherril McAlexander*

CHERRIL MCALEXANDER, CLERK-TREASURER

