

**ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
140 WEST PINE STREET  
MISSOULA MONTANA  
June 23, 2010. 1:05pm**

**Members present:** Pam Walzer, acting as Chair; Ed Childers; Renee Mitchell; Jason Wiener; Dick Haines; Roy Houseman; Dave Strohmaier; Bob Jaffe.

**Members absent:** Stacy Rye; Jon Wilkins; Lyn Hellegaard.

**Others present:** Mayor John Engen, Brentt Ramharter, Dee Andersen.

**I. Administrative Business**

**A.** Approve committee minutes dated: [June 9, 2010](#)-approved as submitted.

**B. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda-None**

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A.** Approve claims (accounts payable). -Consent Agenda (Brentt Ramharter)

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve [claims](#) totaling \$235,596.88 ([Detailed claims](#)) 6/29/10**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve [claims](#) totaling 1,672,577.14 ([Detailed claims](#)) 06/22/10 already acted on 6/21/10**

**B.** Reappoint Sheila Lund as a regular board member for a term starting June 26, 2010 and ending June 25, 2015 and Joseph Pietro as a Resident Commissioner to the Missoula Housing Authority for a term starting June 26, 2010 and ending June 25, 2012 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Mayor Engen) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

***INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY NO MOTION REQUIRED***

Mayor John Engen requested the reappointments of Sheila Lund and Joseph Pietro to the Missoula Housing Authority Board.

**C.** Confirm the re-appointments of Peter Lambros and Paul Filicetti to the Public Art Committee for a term commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2014 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Mayor Engen) (Referred to committee: 06/07/10) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council confirm the Mayor's reappointments of Peter Lambros and Paul Filicetti to the Public Art Committee for a term commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2014**

Mayor John Engen requested the reappointment of Peter Lambros and Paul Filicetti to the Public Art Committee.

Ed Childers moved to approve the reappointments.

Upon a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

**Regular Agenda**

**A.** Award the contract to update city's recently developed sewer rate model for flow based sewer billing to Red Oak Consulting, a division of Malcolm Pirnie ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 06/14/10) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Red Oak Consulting for Fiscal Year 2011 in the amount of \$19,000.**

Brentt Ramharter, Director of Finance said this proposal will assist his department to move forward toward residential flow based sewer rates. The new rates will be based on the winter water usage per household. Those households that use less water will be charged less for their sewer and those who use more water will be charged more. With Red Oak's assistance, we will be able to verify that the property addresses associated with the water meters match those on the sewer billing accounts.

Jason Wiener moved to approve the contract.

Rene Mitchell expressed concerns regarding the fact that many Mountain Water customers do not have water meters and the cost to install new meters for these customers may outweigh the benefits of the new rate.

Mr. Ramharter said any Mountain Water accounts that are currently not metered will stay as flat rate.

Roy Houseman commented that the first call he received as an Alderman, was from a retiree in his ward who wanted information on how to lower her sewer bill. He said this looks like a good way to do that and asked where the \$19,000 fee is coming from.

Mr. Ramharter replied that the contract fee will come out of the Sewer R&D fund.

Mr. Jaffe asked if the contract includes the list of deliverables or is that in addition to the \$19,000.

Mr. Ramharter said the contract is up to \$19,000 and includes the list of deliverables.

Pam Walzer supported this and said it may encourage people to conserve water.

Mr. Childers also thought it would be a better way to charge for sewer services.

Ms. Mitchell expressed concerns for those customers who are on a fixed income and a flat rate allows them to know exactly what their bill will be. She said she is not in favor of this change.

Dave Strohmaier said he was 100% in favor of this and said he didn't think anyone would tolerate Northwestern Energy charging a flat rate instead of usage. He said he thought it would encourage even further conservation of our utilities.

Mr. Ramharter added that the new toilets flush at a much lower volume and use much less water.

Ms. Mitchell expressed concerns for those who use brown water to irrigate and since its not flowing to the WWTP how will those folks be compensated.

Bob Jaffe pointed out there is a huge discrepancy of use.

The committee continued discussing the use of gray water systems and how that could be properly charged for.

Ms. Mitchell asked about the larger water users in the City, including the City of Missoula and if they are metered right now.

Mr. Ramharter said they are metered.

Mr. Houseman called the question.

Upon a voice vote, in favor of calling question, the vote passed with Mitchell voting nay.

Upon a voice vote to approve the contact, the motion passed with Mitchell voting nay.

### **Held in Committee**

- A. An ordinance amending the municipal code as it relates to bike licensing. ([A&F](#)) (Returned from council floor: 12/15/08)
- B. Implications of establishing maintenance districts. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 05/11/09)
- C. Clarify position of council member who also serves on the board of a non-profit agency that has dealings with the city. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 07/20/2009)
- D. [Resolution](#) of the Missoula City Council establishing a tourism business improvement district consisting of non-contiguous lands within the City of Missoula for the purpose of aiding tourism, promotion and marketing within the district. ([Exhibit A](#)) ([Exhibit B](#)) ([memo](#)) ([A&F](#)) (Returned from Council floor: 10/05/09)
- E. Review the FY 2011-15 capital improvement projects (CIP). ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 04/19/2010)
- F. Resolution approving the project and authorizing the bond issuance for Sussex School Economic Development Bonds in the approximate aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$900,000 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 05/24/10)
- G. Amend Council rules to change the Council's regular meeting schedule to two meetings per month ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Marty Rehbein) (Referred to committee: 06/07/10)
- H. Authorize the Mayor to sign a contract between the City of Missoula and Northwestern Energy to conduct Green Blocks Pilot Project home energy audits using Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Chase Jones) (Referred to committee: 06/07/10)

### **III. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Dee Andersen*  
Finance Department