MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROUNDUP HELD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2018 AT 2:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jones. Clerk/Treasurer Lanter conducted roll call with council members Liggett, Perrella, Griffith III, Toombs and Fisher present. Also, present was Assistant Clerk Mann. Absent was Picchioni, Schladweiler, Weitzeil, Director Sibley, and Attorney Lundvall.

*Moved by Liggett, seconded by Toombs to approve agenda adding visitors Kathie Baily and Sara Hudson representing SMDC (Snowy Mountain Development Corporation). All in favor. Motion carried.*

Visitors: Kathie Bailey of SMDC (Snowy Mountain Development Corporation) explained in short how the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District works. The TIF (Tax Increment Financing) does not increase taxes. A board is created to review applications which is made up of residents who reside in the district. The TIF (Tax Increment Financing) tool is used in several communities. The parts chosen to be in the district are those with the most blight. The Council drove the streets and added to the district which is 40% of the City. This is a new day in Roundup. We are passionate to make a change and add growth. This is not an easy process and it doesn’t happen overnight.

**Public Comment:** Juleen Moore, owner of Maverick Bar asked what will the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District do to owners who don’t live here and don’t do anything with their property? She is part of the Tavern Association and asked if funds can be donated to the TIF(Tax Increment Financing)? Mayor Jones said the City Compliance Officer can begin to site owners for decay.

Paula Kicker feels that the City is jumping ahead of themselves and the taxes are too high. If the town wants to bring new business’ and people, they should get better water. She agrees that the City needs Improvements but doesn’t think this is the way. Mayor Jones stated that the water is and has always been the number one priority and the city is working on that and everyone is invited to the city’s regular council meetings to get updates on the water project, but this meeting is about the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District. Councilmember Liggett assured everyone that the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) will not detract from the water project.

Brian Wells is all for improvements but wants to know how it helps homeowners. Kathie Bailey responded that the TIF has bonding authority which can help pay for water lines, streets and storm drains. It’s community owned and community driven. Mr. Wells showed interest in being on the board for the TIF (Tax Increment Financing).

Elizabeth Wood asked if those who live in the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District are the only ones able to access funds and if this will take money away from the County and Schools?

Rich Durgin posed the question regarding absentee owners. Why should it fall on the public to complain to get the Ordinance Officer to do something? He feels that the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) will only help Main Street. He does agree that Economic Development is the number one driver to a successful community but the city needs to enforce the decay ordinance.

Vicki Hamilton stated that she noticed some homes having junk cars with weeds growing out of the engine and nothing is being done about that. Everywhere you go on both sides of Main Street you run into trash.

Commissioner Nicole Borner addressed the visitors. There is a cost to doing nothing. We have one economic driver which is Signal Peak. The funds go into the County not the City. This tool doesn’t cost us anything. This is a wonderful process and the people need to be a part of the process. We as citizens must create the future we want.

John Perrella asked what the downside is to the TIF (Tax Increment Financing)? Will the budget of the City be affected? Kathie Bailey responded. The downside would be that the County and School would be giving up new tax money, always a possibility that there would be no money to go into the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District but nothing will be lost, the City can dissolve the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) at any time.

Suzanne Churchill asked where the funds come from? Kathie Bailey responded. Comes from new development or Improvements which increase taxes and the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) would get the newly taxable value above the 2018 set base.

Troy Evans wanted to know why this has to get done before the end of the year? Is it because of the hail storm? How does the citizens get what projects they want done? Kathie Bailey stated that the old Central School project will be an increase on new taxes and we don’t want to lose the funds by waiting until 2019 or 2020. The Department of Revenue reassess’ every two years. The hail storm will have a positive impact but the creation of the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District began before the hail storm.

Jack Snider asked if the City can use the money for a project? Kathie Bailey said yes and no, the City can but, would have to go through the same process as a private owner. They will have to fill out an application, the advisory board (made up of people living in the TIF District) will approve or not approve the application then it will go to the City Council for review. Since it’s tax money, it has to go before the City Council.

Theresa Doumitt thanked the Council for working with RCP (Roundup Community Partners) on addressing the blight on Main Street. She also agreed that the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) was presented to the City Council before the hail storm. The Roundup Community Partners hosted a coffee to get residents educated on the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District and Councilmember Schladweiler asked people to consider being on the board for the TIF (Tax Increment Financing).

Councilmember Toombs stated that when the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) was first brought to the Council, he drug his feet. What sold him was that if it doesn’t work, we can abolish it.

*Moved by Fisher, seconded by Perrella, Approving the first reading of Ordinance #47. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROUNDUP IS ESTABLISHING THE DOWNTOWN ROUNDUP URBAN RENEWAL AREA, CREATING THE DOWNTOWN ROUNDUP URBAN RENEWAL DISTRICT, ESTABLISHING THE BOUNDARIES THEREOF AND ADOPTING THE DOWNTOWN ROUNDUP URBAN RENEWAL PLAN INCLUDING A TAX INCREMENT PROVISION PURSUANT TO MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 7, CHAPTER 15, PART 42 AND 43 MCA*

*A vote was taken. Fisher-AYE, Toombs-AYE, Griffith III-AYE, Liggett-AYE, Perrella-AYE. All in favor, Motion carried.*

*Moved by Liggett, seconded by Fisher to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, Motion carried.*

*The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.*

APPROVED BY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sandra Jones- Mayor Tanya Lanter- Clerk Treasurer

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Cassandra Mann-Assistant Clerk