

**Town of Sheridan Regular Town Council Meeting, January 12, 2026 at Sheridan Senior Center (210 Crofoot) at 6 pm**

Council members in attendance were Tamara Todd via Zoom, Jan Bowey, Russ Hamilton, and Diane Kaatz. Mayor Brandy Tudor, Public Works Director, Curtis Green, Zoning Administrator, Cody Marxer, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Jennifer Scott were also in attendance. Guests present were Anne Wentz, Kaylie Theis, Corey Theis, Del Bieroth, Doris Fischer, Jeff Gerth, and Ben Sitter.

Mayor Brandy called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Non-Agenda Items:** Brandy requested public comment on non-agenda items and received none.

**Consent Agenda:** Brandy presented the minutes from 12/8/2025 Regular Town Council Meeting, 12/12/2025 Special Town Council Meeting, and the claims for December 8, 2025 – January 12, 2026. Council reviewed the minutes. Russ moved to approve December 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> minutes as submitted. Jan seconded the motion. The mayor called a vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously. Jan moved to accept claims as submitted. Diane questioned misc. revenue in the financial report and a discussion was had. Russ seconded the motion for claims as submitted. Brandy called for a vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously.

**Unfinished Business-** Diane asked about the school. The mayor received a letter from the School Superintendent, Mr. Stout, asking to put the school situation on the agenda for the February meeting. Jan discussed the Pool board and the need for it to be on the agenda as well.

**New Business:**

**Approve Town Liaison to attend Rural Fire District Trustee Meetings:** Brandy proposed appointing someone as the Town Liaison to attend Rural Fire District Trustee Meetings in accordance with Resolution 2025-12 Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Sheridan and Sheridan Rural Fire Dist.4 for fire protection and emergency services. Jan approached Louana Dowling about becoming the liaison. Louana showed interest but was concerned about the amount of time she would have to give in this position as Town liaison. Del Bieroth explained that the Rural Fire District tries to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month, but the schedule varies. Del asked Jan to give liaison's info to him, and he would let her know. Jan moved to appoint Louana Dowling as liaison if she is willing. The mayor

requested any public comment and received none. Diane seconded the motion. Russ voted aye. Jan voted aye. Diane voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve the construction contract agreement with TKM Contracting LLC for barbed wire fence on the North and South boundaries of lagoon: Brandy proposed approving the construction contract agreement with TKM Contracting LLC to install a barbed wire fence on the north and south boundaries of the lagoon. Mayor Brandy explained that this project was already budgeted for and inquired about the request from the attorney for more information. Jennifer explained the request by Ed Guza to show proof of insurance and indemnification provisions by TKM Contracting before it goes to council. She has not received those documents yet but should get them soon. Council discussed specifics of what was being approved at this time and location of the fencing project. Mayor Brandy thought it would be best to start at the south boundary first as there are no private property boundaries to deal with. Curtis inquired about having the entire fencing project on the bid, to which Jan read the bid and determined that it was. Diane made a motion to accept the contract with TKM Contracting for the 2800 ft of barbed wire fence in his proposal, with the caveat that TKM Contracting cannot start the project until he provides the Town with proof of insurance and indemnification provisions as requested by the attorney. Jan seconded the motion. Council discussed the specifics. The mayor requested any public comment and received none. Brandy called for the vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Resolution 2025-21 to establish a Consolidated Land Use Board: Brandy proposed approving Resolution 2025-21 for the Sheridan Zoning Commission and the Sheridan Board of Adjustment to create a Consolidated Land Use Board. Brandy requested a motion to correct 2025 to 2026 on the resolution for numeric purposes. Tammy moved to amend Resolution 2025-21 to read Resolution 2026-21 to establish a Consolidated Land Use Board. Russ seconded the motion. The mayor requested any public comment and received none. Brandy called for a vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously. The Council continued discussing the origin of the numeric system used for the resolutions in the past. Jan wanted to discuss the second “whereas” statement, reads as follows, “has not been able to obtain enough members for the Board of Adjustment,” as she does not believe that the Board of Adjustment has yet been established. Also stating that the council or town did not ask or be successful in obtaining any members for the Board of Adjustment. The mayor wants to try to fill the Board of Adjustment first. Jan would like to strike down the second “whereas” statement to reflect “allowing us to consolidate the boards.” Cody Marxer suggested that the Town create a “whereas” statement, justifying the need to establish the Consolidated Land Use Board because the town has adopted the zoning ordinance that requires those boards. Cody also

encouraged the Town to establish a Board of Adjustment and then consolidate the Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment. Brandy asked for a motion. Jan made a motion to table a decision on Resolution 2026-21 until the February meeting. Russ seconded the motion. The mayor requested any public comment and received none. Council had a discussion. Diane suggested to table it to advertise to establish the Board of Adjustment. Jan moved to amend her motion to include the justification for the reasoning to table it to advertise for members of the Board of Adjustment and add additional justification due to the passage of the zoning ordinance in November. Russ seconded the motion. Brandy called for the vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously.

*Approve Resolution 2025-22 to authorize participation in the Montana Board of Investments Short-Term Investment Pool (STIP):* Brandy requested a motion to correct 2025 to 2026 on the resolution for numeric purposes. Tammy moved to amend Resolution 2025-22 to read Resolution 2026-22. Jan seconded the motion. The mayor requested any public comment and received none. Brandy called for a vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously. Brandy proposed authorizing the Town's participation in STIP to designate Charise Elser as the authorized representative for the Town. The mayor stated that after talking with Jodie from the Montana League of cities and towns, and the Montana Board of Investments (STIP), a resolution to make the change is a requirement by STIP. The council discussed specifics on the matter as the resolution was incomplete. Diane wondered if the Town could ask STIP to provide a previous resolution or if the Town was able to look back on a previous resolution to be able to complete the resolution. Tammy suggested having former mayor, Bob Stump, provide instructions regarding STIP. Diane moved to table until the February meeting, Resolution 2026-22 Short-Term Investment Pool participation agreement until we know what boxes, and blanks are allowed and not allowed in the previous agreement so we are consistent moving forward, or if we would like to change anything on the resolution. Jan seconded the motion. Brandy called for the vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jan voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously.

**Boards and Committees:** ***Park District Board-*** Corey Theis reported he was closing out books and employee records, as they have no employees anymore. Jan and Corey had a discussion regarding how to get members to fill the Pool Board. Corey reported that it is always hard to find people to run the pool in the summer.

**Sheridan Community Charitable Foundation (SCCF)-** Kaylie Theis reported that SCCF is doing bingo on the first Monday of every month through May as a fundraiser at the Stockman bar at 6pm. SCCF is also working on stuff for next Sheridan Days.

**Zoning Committee**-Jan reported that the Zoning Committee did not meet for their January meeting. They did not have any business to conduct until the council had decided on the Consolidated Land Use board resolution. Jan will ask the Chair if there is a need to meet in February. She also discussed the Zoning Commission's members and terms. She recommends that they query current members' willingness to continue serving.

**Local Government Study Commission**- Tammy reported they closed the commission. The Commission's recommendation is for no change to our local government type. There is no need for Local Government Study Commission to be on the council meeting agenda moving forward.

**Reports: Sheriff**- Dan Gil reported six traffic stops in Sheridan, six medical calls, four community police events, and civil papers served. The hospital reported a violent and aggressive patient with dementia resulting in officers giving assistance to the hospital staff until the situation was safe. They responded to a traffic complaint, an animal bite, which was referred to the Madison County Health department, responded to a VIN verification, had a report of a stalking violation, resulting in an arrest warrant, and a livestock incident in which the owner retrieved the livestock. We responded to a welfare check involving a traveler who was traveling from Denver to Sheridan. The Deputy was able to track down the individual and all was ok. Officers responded to a driver who struck a deer. We had a report of theft of stolen antlers. The suspects have been identified and arrested.

**Library**- Doris Fischer reported celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> year as the library, in the town of Sheridan! They are now conducting a community survey that is ready for adults and children. It will help to update their strategic plan moving forward. The information will help the Board to decide what their priorities are, what to focus on, what to change, and make better. The surveys are available at the Sheridan Library, as well as at various locations around town. The survey is not available on the library website currently. The mayor and council discussed where the survey is available, and distribution options. There was a brief discussion regarding funding from the Town and funding from the County for the library. The library always encourages anyone that wants to serve on the Library Board to please join. They are also open to welcoming more "Friends of the Library," and people who have a particular skill, interest, artistry, or program that they would like to share with the community.

**Attorney**- no report

**Fire Department**-Assistant Fire Chief, Ben Sitter, reported they had a total of four incidents. One incident, within the town limits, for a public assist for a water heater. Three

incidents outside of the town and county, included a dumpster fire out at the dump, down power lines, and a motor vehicle accident near Alder. They are working on multiple training opportunities for the department. The annual wildland refresher training is coming up. As well as two multi-day basic wildland, and wildland urban interface trainings they are putting together.

**Public Works-** Curtis reported public works have been repairing potholes, cutting, and cleaning trees and brush on Flick Lane, and general town cleanup. He reports Well #7 is nearing completion. He is hoping next week, the MET guy will be down to put the dialer and alarms in the pumphouse. He had to replace two tires on the backhoe which cost nearly \$600.00. Brad from Triple Tree is coming next week to discuss looping Water St to the pump house as a second way to pump water into town. He is getting information regarding a chlorination system and installation for emergency situations only. Curtis also inquired about installing a security fence or fencing around the pump house. The mayor believes this could be a future project. Curtis would like to get a quote on that part of the project. Curtis reported that he has just started the process of getting Robert Walter his water certifications starting Jan.27<sup>th</sup>,2026. A rural water instructor will be coming to train. Curtis reported the mayor expressed interest in doing certifications as well. Jan inquired about having a tour of the infrastructure of the water system with the full council. Curtis is willing whenever everyone is ready.

**Pool-** Jennifer mentioned the flyer and the need for finding Pool board members. Jan suggested contacting the Madisonian to publish a special piece on the pool to reach anyone interested in serving on the Pool Board.

**Clerk and Treasurer Report-** Jennifer reports over the last 6 weeks, she has overseen the Town website, bank reconciliation, and payroll while learning about reports, and wrapping up all the end of year tasks. She also reported all the training has been helpful and she is looking forward to their training with Jodie from MLCT this week.

**Council Report-** Jan wanted to apologize for her comment which was published in the December 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Madisonian if readers thought she was speaking for the council. The article identified her as a member of the council but did not identify the comments as those of the council.

**Mayor Report-** Brandy reports everything is as clear as mud, but everyone has been very helpful. Charise and Jennifer are very excited about the MLCT training with Jodie this week. The new mayor is glad to be here and having fun.

**Council Review:** Next Regular Council Meeting is February 9,2026 at the Sheridan Senior Center at 6:00pm. The mayor hopes that when the updates to the town hall are complete, we can resume council meetings at the town hall.

Jan moved to adjourn the meeting. Russ seconded the motion. Brandy called for the vote. Russ voted aye. Diane voted aye. Jane voted aye. Tammy voted aye. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

Attest:

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Jennifer Scott, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

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Tamara Todd, Council President