

**Special Council Meeting May 22, 2025, Town Hall (103 E. Hamilton St.) at 6:00 pm**

**Guests:** Patricia Wang, Michael Douglas, Kaylie Theis, Kalie Hardy, Ridgley Elser

Council Members in attendance were Curtis Green, Diane Kaatz, and Jan Bowey. Tammy Todd was absent. Also in attendance was Mayor Robert Stump and Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse.

Mayor Stump opened the meeting at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment on Non-agenda items:** None

**Approval of Tree Grants:** Sheridan Community Charitable Foundation is taking on the reestablishment of the Towns Tree Program. SCCF has completed two tree grants for submittal to the Department of Natural Resources (DNRC) Montana Urban and Community Forestry Program. The program is funded by DNRC. The first grant is to for a tree inventory of the trees the Town's owns and it is for \$2,500. This includes the parks and the trees in front of the school. The second grant is for tree maintenance in the amount of \$12,300. This grant has a \$700 match from the Town and assistance from the Town providing labor and materials. Both grants are due next week. Discussion occurred.

Jan made a motion to approve grant proposals for tree inventory and the continuum of tree care. Diane seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Fireworks display at the baseball field:** Mayor Stump reported that a gentleman in Town is looking at doing a fireworks display at the ballfield instead of individuals going to Virginia City. He wanted the Town to contribute \$1,000 and get additional donations from others. He would like to get vendors involved. Mayor Stump commented that it is not a good idea for the Town to be involved with the funding.

Patrica Wang commented that she does not necessarily like the idea of the location because it is too close to homes, animals, and individuals that may have PTSD. There is nowhere for anyone to get away from the noise.

Kalie asked about whether the fire department would need to be involved. Yes, they would be.

Discussion occurred regarding controlling others from bringing their fireworks and shooting them off. The Town does have an ordinance regarding fireworks. More information is needed. Patricia commented that she is ok with the smaller fireworks.

Diane made a motion to table the fireworks display decision until the regular council meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Curtis seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Potential Land Swap between the Town and School:** Mayor Sump explained that the school is looking at doing work on the football field this summer and starting excavation on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will be moving the football field east and leveling it with the idea of building a track in the future. The land behind the football field and the playground is owned by the School and the Town. The Town owns a piece of land that was given to them with the Passamari Subdivision. The Town owns a triangular piece approximately where the school is wanting to build. Mayor Stump has been discussing the project with Jason Hardy. The Town would be willing to exchange the piece the Town owns with the piece of land behind the playground equipment. Both parties would then have a square piece of ground. The Town is interested in doing this because we have designated that piece for the County for affordable housing in the future. The school is also asking if it is ok if the contractor parks equipment on the piece of ground the Town owns. Excavation is to start on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion occurred.

Jan made a motion to authorize the school's contractor to use the Town's property for storage of equipment while they are leveling the football field. Diane seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Jan made a motion that we authorize the mayor to coordinate with a member of the school board to look into the feasibility of the land swap with the school. Curtis seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discussion occurred. Ridgley commented that she thinks it is a good idea. Concerned with what would be going in as housing as the ground is right behind the school. She would like to see the Town give all of it to the school and keep it in green space. Mayor Stump stated that the Town does not want to be landlords, the Town would end up turning the houses over to the school or the hospital to manage. Nothing will happen until there is money available.

School Superintendent Rodney Stout brought a letter over to the Town office requesting the road closure on East Poppleton stay in place during construction. Jan commented that last year the council decided that there would be times during the summer that the road would need to be closed. The Town did not want to permanently close it because of the Town’s right-of-way. It was decided that because the Council had made the decision at a previous meeting that the school could close the road as needed there was no need to make a motion at this time to approve the road closure during construction. Keeping the road closed during construction will help keep everyone safe.

Curtis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diane seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm

ATTEST:

Signatures on File

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Kristi Millhouse, Clerk/Treasurer

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Robert Stump, Mayor