

## **Regular Town Council Meeting June 10, 2024, Senior Center**

Called to order at 6PM

Pledge was recited

**Attendees:** Curtis Green, Jan Bowey, Tammy Todd, Diane Kaatz, Mayor Jennifer Bailey, and Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer Meacham.

**Guests:** Ann Good, Anne Wentz, Susie Jarman, Sharon Berry, Michael Douglas, Bob Stump, Emilie Saylor, Rick Hecker, Jeff Gerth, Claire Leonard, Stephanie Kruer, Brad Koon, Stephanie Haag, and Dave Haag.

**Zoom Guests:** Ty Gerth, Chase, Dan M, and Fred Morgenthaler.

**Approval of Minutes:** Jan moved to accept the minutes for May 13, 2024, with corrections. Seconded by Diane. All in favor. Motion carried. Jan moved to approve the meeting minutes for May 17, 2024, with amendments. Tammy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Jan moved to approve minutes from May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as edited. Seconded by Curtis. All in favor. Motion carried. June 5 preliminary working minutes, Tammy moved to accept the June 5<sup>th</sup> preliminary meeting as edited. Jan seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Reports:**

**Sheriff's Report:** The Sheriff's report was read and there were 10 ambulance calls and 41 total CVS.

**Library Report:** Nothing at this time.

**Attorney Report:** Nothing at this time.

**Fire department:** Had a lift assist, dump burning, mutual aid with Ennis, and the fire dept was asked to burn a house down by a property owner and was performed as a training exercise. Looking into contracting the Rural Fire Dept. and Town Fire Dept. for Town of Sheridan fire protection.

**Public Works:** Have been mowing, keeping the parks clean, filling in potholes, working with WWC on the new well (well #7). The well was only pumping around 70 GPM (gallons per minute) there was expectation of getting closer to 200 GPM. The one-way signs will be dug by Banks when they are available within the next two weeks.

**Clerk/Treasurer:** Working on the audit with Jonathan from Denning and Downing. There was discussion concerning how to proceed with finishing the audit for FY 23 because the treasurer for the Friends of the Library is out of town through July 17, 2024, and they have the financials. The Town of Sheridan website was down for about a week, due to the domain name not being renewed. The payment method went to a previous clerk's credit card and not realizing what it was for they declined the transaction. There is a new domain name and will need to be renewed in 10 years. The new website is [www.townofsheridanmt.org](http://www.townofsheridanmt.org) Helped the public works dept. with sending out lead/copper survey forms and have received approximately 50 back so far.

**Financial:** Financials for expenditures vs. actuals and revenues vs. actuals for May were presented.

**Council Report:** Tammy had 3 complaints concerning the goats which are often seen free ranging. Scheduled a training on June 21, 2024, from 1 to 4PM with Dan Clark and Alan Hulse. Federal, State, and County ARPA reports are filed. Jan, went to municipality institute and specified that the lead/copper reports need to be turned in. Curtis believes sump pumps are going into sewer and thinks it needs to be addressed there could be a flow issue. Would like to discuss it further at one of the public/working meetings. Diane heard complaints concerning pet owners not picking up after dog's fecal matter and there is an ordinance for picking up after your pet.

**Mayor's Report:** After being here for three weeks is feeling very humbled.

### **Boards and Committees:**

**MSIT:** Did a clean-up day last Saturday which included power washing the concrete, cleaning up the weeds. Unsure what the next project is. They have grants for stores for improvements for the frontage of their store and will be giving those out either by the end of June or earlier July.

**Park District Board:** Nothing at this time

**SCCF:** MOU was presented by Tammy Todd and the only change on the MOU is the Town of Sheridan will be the beneficiary.

**Public comment for items on the Agenda:** There ~~was~~ were no comments.

### **Unfinished Business:**

**Financial Policies/Check Signees and Payment of Bills:** Tammy moves to table and review until July meeting. Curtis seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **New Business:**

1. Preliminary Budget Considerations: Wage/COLA increase of 4.1% for all town employees. Jan moves we are proposing a preliminary budget for a 4.1% increase of all town employees, except for the librarian to increase to \$25 an hour without the COLA raise. Seconded by Tammy. All in favor. Motion carried. Ty would like consideration for extra COLA raise because employees did not receive COLA last FY.
2. Study of Government type: The voters of Sheridan voted to do a study of government types. The funding will come from mills on the taxes. There will need to be three members of Sheridan to be elected. The study will be done over a two-year period. Jan moves that we include approximately \$18,000 in mill levy in our preliminary budget for 24-25. Seconded by Diane. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. Health Insurance Proposal: Jennifer Meacham proposed a \$600 stipend as an alternative to health insurance. There was discussion on how much the County does for a stipend. It was believed that the county pays half the amount. Jan moves to propose for the preliminary budget for a \$450 stipend in the absence of health insurance paid by the town for Jennifer Meacham. Seconded by Curtis. Discussion between council on the amount of the stipend. Jan moves to amend the motion as for the standard practice as recommended by MMIA or another expert for a stipend in the absence of health insurance as a proposal for the preliminary budget. Tammy seconded. All in

favor of the amended motion. Amended motion carried. Vote for original motion, Tammy no, Jan yes, Curtis yes, and Diane yes. Original motion carried.

4. Library: Tammy moves that we consider the library preliminary budget for the council's consideration of their preliminary budget. Jan seconded. All in favor. Motion carried
5. Sheridan Public School: Letter was read concerning E Poppleton to be closed year-round instead of the 9 months during the school year. Does the town still own the road if the road is closed year-round? Who would maintain the road? Right now, the school has been maintaining the road with some help from the public works dept. It is believed there is no MOU concerning who maintains that portion of the road, and the water main goes under there. Tammy moves to accept the proposal submitted by the Sheridan Public School District #5 subject to details in a resolution to amend ordinance (unknown, clerk was asked to look for it) ([there is no ordinance, only resolution 2002-1](#)). Seconded by Jan. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. MCPHD Greenhouse: Emily Saylor from Madison County Public Health Department (MCPHD) is proposing a greenhouse at one of the parks for town residents. A needs assessment survey was accomplished county wide. The findings of what the counties needs include access to nutrition and healthy foods. From that the results a health improvement plan was created. They are looking to engage 30 households within Madison County, and the purchase of 3 or 4 greenhouses. They want to include schools and have municipalities to store information. After a year would like to another entity to continue where they left off. Looking for interest from the town and would like space on town property. The greenhouse would not be in competition with Jackson's Garden. Would like to have the greenhouse purchased and placed by the end of summer. Tammy moves for the MCPHD to move forward in presenting more detail and expectation of the town to be considered at our July meeting. Seconded by Diane. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. Zoning update: Brad Koon from Triple Tree Engineering discussed the task order, WGM group is subsidized for the zoning. Went over the steps of going forward which includes the next step for a planning board. Brad discussed the different planning boards for the council to consider, and Brad recommends having a planning board before doing a public hearing. Jan moves to table the discussion on zoning until July meeting. Seconded by Curtis. Discussion within the council pertaining to which plan to consider. Tammy-no, Curtis-yes, Jan-yes, and Diane-yes. Motion carried.
8. Lead and Copper Rule Improvements: anything that is a lead contributor to the water system needs to be removed. There is no record of what material was put into the service line and is listed as unknown. If it is left unknown the lines will need to be looked at if not replaced. The state is offering a SRF loan with 60% of principal forgiveness. An estimate for an 8-hour workday for 2 people totals approximately \$2168.49 per day plus room and board, materials needed for replacement, and who comes to work on the project. Discussion of a zoom meeting with DEQ, the council, mayor, public works, and clerk. The cost would be less if we started soon. The financial burden is under question, is the town responsible for the meter pit to the homeowner. Ty Gerths recommendation is to replace all the lines now and get the loan at 1.5% from the SRF loan. Possible to have the resident from the meter pit to their home responsible for the line and they have until a certain date to replace their line, or the town will do it for them at a fee. Jan motioned to table until we develop a meeting of some form with DEQ where we can have better information. Tammy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. American Tower Lease Agreement: Tammy moved to table to American Tower agreement until we know what the contract says. Seconded by Jan. All in favor. Motion carried.
10. Jennifer Bailey to bank accounts: Jan moves to add Jennifer Bailey to all of Town of Sheridan bank accounts as administrator. Seconded by Tammy. All in favor. Motion carried.
11. Consent agenda on Claims for April and May: There was discussion concerning the town attorneys' pay along with other questions concerning claims. Jan moves to accept the consent agenda on claims for April and May. Seconded by Curtis. All in favor. Motion carried.
12. Pickleball Court Financing Upkeep: Looking to upkeep the pickleball courts with paint. Letter was read concerning the courts and looking for extra funds from the Town. Last year there were funds given of \$1000. They are looking for \$900 this year for paint and other needed supplies. Jan moves to consider contributing \$900 for painting the pickleball courts in the budget process. Diane seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Tammy moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Curtis. All in favor. Motion Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Meacham