

Regular Town Council Meeting March 11, 2024

Present: Tammy Todd, Tonya Romkema, Jan Bowey, Mike Zielinski, Mayor Judy Edwards, Public Works Director Ty Gerth, and Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer Meacham

Guests: Kaylie Theis, Anne Wentz, Duncan Hedges, Jeff Gerth, Mark McLaughlin, Michael Douglas, ~~Diane~~ **Dave** Haag, Liz Mannarino, Sharon Berry, Diane Kaatz, Dorie Hilliker, Gary Hilliker, John Magnus, Stephanie Kruer, and Karen Talley.

Call to order at 6:01pm

Pledge was recited.

Public comment not on the agenda: none

Ex Partee Communications: Tammy, questions concerning water/sewer bills and mayors' notes. Tonya, the mayor's notes with concerns of them being in the trash and thought maybe put the notes in the Nugget. Jan, notes from the mayor and water/sewer billing concerns. Mike, conversation concerning a special council.

Department Reports:

Sheriff: issues with food trucks in front of business, complaint from state concerning the food trucks in front of businesses on Main Street. There were 9 Ambulance calls, 17 civil service, and 46 total CFS.

Library: ~~Nothing currently~~ **No Report**

Attorney: work/retreat meeting concerning policy procedure rules. Ashley Kent is coordinating with Dan Clark from MSU Local Government possibly looking at April/May for a retreat/work meeting.

Fire dept: 1 CO2 call, EMS was already in the home when the fire dept arrived. There are now 18 volunteer firefighters. The new building should be breaking ground within the next 30 days. No new news regarding the fence in front of the fire hydrant on Mill St.

Public works: well 5 was continuously running for a couple of days and has since been fixed. Potholes are being filled. Public Works purchased a new 4-wheeler, and it is ready for plowing.

MSIT: Looking at areas that need improvement. Membership letters were sent out.

Park District Board: Nothing

SCCF: Bingo **scheduled in March, April, and May for a fundraiser.** ~~for Sheridan Days.~~ Would like to ~~get~~ **meet March 25 or 26.** with the council members **and mayor** pertaining **to** next project ideas. ~~for March.~~ Sheridan days July 25-28.

Old Business:

Magnus Land Issue: Stephanie summarized the subdividing of the Magnus family property to include subdivision regulations and statutes on family exemptions. There have been 5 changes that cannot be traced. John discusses why he wants to split the property and the property wasn't split prior to family. Stephanie's advice is that if the council approves it tonight, he can go forward with splitting the property. If it is not approved John would have to go back to the county and come back to the council again. Mike motioned to agree with the county that it be our responsibility and move forward with approval of the

application. Tonya seconded. Discussion was held between the council members concerning further division of the property. Vote: all in favor, motion carried.

Bowland water Resolution: Resolution was read, the Town of Sheridan is responsible for water line under the highway and a meter pit. Discussion came from the public concerning whether there is a meter pit at the home. Jan motioned to accept Resolution 2024-2 as written. Tammy seconded. Vote: all in favor, motion carried.

HB 355 Grant: Park District Board is looking at alternative ways of **replacing the liner. To use the HB 355 funds** ~~the pool being fixed.~~ it must be under contract by the end of December 2024. The grant will be submitted to the Town to be forwarded to the State. April Gerth will be working on finding quotes for fixing the pool. Jan motioned to approve the use of HB355 for the replacement of the pool liner at the pool with the complete application. Seconded by Tonya. Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

Renewal of lease to Sheridan/Alder Parks and Recreation District: Council members looked over the lease agreement **for 2024 operation of the Ruby Valley Pool**, and with no discussion Tammy motioned to accept the agreement between the Town of Sheridan and Sheridan/Alder Parks, Mike seconded. Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Water/Sewer July 2023 Billing: Clerk presented sewer charges for July 2023. The sewer usage charges were not recalculated till August 2023 instead of July 2023. The council had discussion whether they want the sewer charges to be fixed for the July 2023 utility bill. There was also discussion concerning utility bills not showing overpayments on the overpayment line. Jan motioned review all accounts for July/August charges credit the amount overcharged in July and forgive undercharged accounts. Debt will be forgiven. Seconded by Tonya. Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

ARPA Accounting: funds have not been accounted to the US Treasury. Received as cash \$190106, the rest will be reimbursed. We have the money to account for \$190106 in a cash account. Discussion of getting an accountant to get someone else to work on the ARPA. Next report is due April 30th. There was discussion on what the next step is. Mike motioned to have Kelly Smith from Three Forks review **water/sewer billing and** our ARPA accounting for submissions and make recommendations to the mayor/council and to include the recommendation with Downing and Denning if necessary. Seconded by Tonya. Discussion within the council about the outcome of what Kelly finds. Vote: Tammy-yes, Jan-No, Tonya-yes, and Mike-Yes. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: Claims were presented and discussed. Tammy motioned to accept the financial report on claims. Tonya Seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Minutes: Jan motioned to approve the Feb 21, meeting minutes as amended, **Jennifer confirmed requested changes to minutes of the Executive Session were made as previously submitted.** Mike seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Tammy motioned to accept the minutes February 12, 2024, as amended. Tonya seconded. Tammy amended the motion to include the last names. Tonya seconded, all in favor motion carried.

Financial: Jennifer represented financial reports. Discussion concerning the purchase of **a second new truck, as previously addressed by the Public Works Dept to the council, which Tammy claims was not discussed in the final budget process.** ~~and council~~ Tammy would like to review policy and forms for spending. **Tammy motioned to include a review of the town's spending limits, and purchase policy forms**

on next month's agenda. Jan seconded. Stephanie confirmed the subject is not an actionable item at this time. Recommendations were made by the council to address this review at the next meeting.

Council Report: ~~Tammy recommends for next month's agenda to add spending limits, purchase policy, and forms.~~ Would like the public works dept to notify the council of the inspection and get back in touch with the council. The council would like to be included with high ticket items. Tonya turned in her resignation. Discussion was held concerning public outreach for a replacement. Mike nothing now. Jan sought information from others. ~~Jan would like to have the~~ requested an actionable item about the Citizen Advisory Committee and Council role with Triple Tree on land use planning be place on next month's agenda ~~review of the future committees with Triple Tree, how does the council move through with land use planning.~~ Jan agreed to please the topic on the agenda.

Mayor Report: Discussed the question that was asked from previous meeting of, public safety, financially sound, and principle working with full view of public. Mayor discussed Montana law and the need for the town to follow the laws.

Adjourn: Tonya motioned to adjourn at 9:55 pm seconded by Mike, all in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting: April 6, 2024, 6-8pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Meacham
Clerk/Treasurer