

Town Council, Sheridan, MT  
Minutes for June 12, 2023

The meeting was open in usual form by Mayor Judy Edwards at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. Members in attendance included Rahn Abbott, president, Tami Todd, Tonya Romkema in person and Tom Robert by phone.

#### Comments from the Public

Keith Peterson brought to the attention of the Council his concerns regarding speeding on Poppleton and the dust problem it creates. He referred to the dust control signs used in Twin Bridges and suggested Sheridan consider the same. He also said that speeding on Water Street was a problem. He suggested that perhaps Sheridan could augment the deputy salaries to further them having a presence in Sheridan.

Rick Hecker of 509 Tolson stated that he was concerned about the use of Mag Chloride on the streets, speeding on Tolson Lane and requested a stop sign at Tolson and Washington.

#### Reports

Sheriff: Rahn read the Sheriff's report. Report of file

Library: Bill provided a graph of the current use of books by genre.

Attorney: Stephanie mentioned a Municipal Summit she would be attending and will report on it next week.

Fire Dept: Jeff Gerth reported that it has been slow in May. They have 5 new members as of June. Problems continue with the trucks and maintaining operational readiness. The State has been slow in providing the building permit for the new fire station.

Public Works: Ty Gerth provided an update on the public works. The continuous rain is leading to road issues that will be addressed once the rain slows up. The projects he is currently working on include the GIS map updates, lead and copper replacement rule, creating Standard Operation Guidelines for Public Works and replacing the pool sprinkler valve. Zach Thompson has joined the Public Works Department. Report is on file.

#### Boards and Committees

Main Street Improve Team provided a map of the area at the Main Street Park they would like to improve by adding a curb on the Mill Street parking side. Kay Colwell discussed the need to have the area de-cluttered by possibly removing the USFS sign, the street sign and the tall pole that was used in the past to advertise Kindred Spirits gift shop. The removal of the pole is complicated by a change of ownership of the land the pole sits on. It was approved by the Town

Council for placement on town property for Ann Goldthwait. She has since sold the property to Philly Saxon. Philly does not want the pole removed although it is not in current use as the gift shop has been renovated into private residential use. It is unclear if the pole and the small square it sits on was part of the sale agreement. Judy will call Ann and see what information can be found regarding the use of that space.

Park District: No report given.

SCCF: Tami Todd reported for the committee that they are moving ahead with summer plans for Sheridan Days, putting up a flag pole for the baseball field and the new playground equipment should be installed by September or October.

### Old Business

Crossing Subdivision – the letter from Jennifer Farve, attorney for Jeremy Fadness, was read outlining their Request to Amend Conditions of Approval 12 (A) and 22 (G). Letter on file. Condition 12(A) requires the construction of the internal access roads to be paved. Condition 22 (G) requires 6 geo-technical reports to be made on. Rahn Abbott clarified that it was 2 samples on 3 different soil types, not 66 tests. Stephanie Kruer stipulated that the town understood that these reports were not a declaration of suitability for building. Rick Remitz was in attendance in person and Jennifer Farve attended by phone. Rick and Jennifer reiterated the financial burden the two conditions would place on the developer. Tom Roberts made a motion to reaffirm the conditions of the approval passed on December 19, 2022. The motion was seconded by. After a call for question, the vote was recorded as Rahn, yes; Tami yes; Tonya yes; Tom yes.

Tom Roberts reported on the zoning efforts of a committee he has brought together. They have divided up the work into 4 issues: growth policy, subdivision regulations, research on what similar towns have done, and an inventory of all vacant parcels in town. Their next meeting is June 26. Discussion followed as whether the Town needed a new growth policy or if the current one is sufficient. Sheridan will at some point likely need a planning board was Tom's recommendation. Kevin Pearce asked if the zoning would be just the city limits or include a buffered area. At this time the zoning authority would only extend to the limits of the city and there is no discussion on annexing any area outside of the town limits. Frank Knott inquired as to the building moratorium and how it would affect his building on his property behind the Ruby River building. Stephanie explained that all building is on hold at this time.

### New Business

Judy brought up a contract that was here when she took over between Denning, Downey & Associates to provide CPA services to the town. The Council was unfamiliar with the contract and requested Stephanie review it. Motion was made by Rahn and seconded by Tami with a unanimous vote for the review.

Tonya brought up the idea of a finance advisory committee to help sort through the budget process. Judy suggested that until we get a better handle on our current finances, it would be

probably not be helpful. Input from the community on priority items to be funded would be appreciated at any point.

The minutes from May 8 were approved after a motion from Rahn and second from Tonya.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16.