

Regular Town Council Meeting March 14, 2022

A regular session of the Sheridan Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Robert Stump, Council members Mike Walter, Rahn Abbott, Z. Wade Hampton and Tammy Todd were present along with Clerk, Ginger Galiger and Public Works Duke Gilman.

Guests: Mike Dietrich, Bill Ray, and Mary Pat Graham

Pledge

Public Comment Not on the Agenda

Mayor Stump read a letter from Mr. Wetherbee, the Superintendent from Sheridan School expressing his concern from the proposed Crossing Subdivision. The proposal suggests 64 dwellings in the subdivision which could potentially bring 120 kids to the school. He is concerned that the facility would not be able to stand a rapid growth of that type.

Department Reports

Sheriff – Mayor Stump read the report for the month of February 2022.

Library – No quorum for the last 2 months.

Attorney – none

Fire Department – Mike Dietrich reported having zero calls in February. The department was able to complete the burn at the dump.

Public Works – Duke Gilman reported on measuring well 3 to determine if the levels are affected when well 5 is running. A permit was sent to FWP, R.E. Miller will be performing work in 2 locations to help stabilize the banks. They have had some issues with the telemetry system losing connection and are working with Wisp West to resolve the problem. It could be that the router needs to be replaced. A&M was here to service the fire extinguishers. Starting to clean up at the ball field. Mike Walter asked if the ditch could be burned. We'll have to get permission.

Clerk Treasurer – We are looking at a 3-5% increase for health insurance. I have been working on the new website but have encountered problems transferring the domain.

Boards and Committees

MSIT – Kim and Sherry will start putting together the tables this week.

Park Board District – Mary Pat discussed the issues they are having with the boiler. Lockmer Plumbing and Heating will be here this Wednesday to work on the boiler. If they find that it has to be replaced, the starting cost is \$45,000 and that does not include labor. The Pool Board has started the hiring process and Sarah Decker will be helping Latesa this year. They would like to get a swim team going along with volleyball tournaments. That was a big hit last year. We will know more after we get the plumbers opinion.

Sheridan Community Charitable Foundation has asked Parks and Recreation for \$5000 to help with the cost of building the amphitheater, which was received. The Parks Board would have liked to have seen new playground equipment first. Mayor Stump talked about the layout and encouraged the council to take a look at the plan.

Fire Station Committee – None

Public Comment on the Agenda – None

Old Business

1. Proposal from Clearview Tower Company

Bill Ray is part owner of Clearview Tower Company who put together the offer to buy the lease we currently have with American Tower Company near the dump site. The Town currently receives \$8,694.55 per year. Clearview Tower is offering a lump sum of \$167,500 for a 50- year exclusive easement for the ground space defined in the lease. Bill explained that American Tower would have the First Right of Refusal. The town could counteroffer if American Tower offers more money. This lump sum would be about 20 years' worth the payments. Discussion on the potential of cell towers losing value over the next 20 years. Mike Walter would like to take some time to research this further, prior to deciding. Mike Walter moves to TABLE and Tammy Todd seconded the motion. **Mayor Stump called the question**

for the council members. Rahn Abbott voting yes, Tammy Todd voting yes, Z. Wade Hampton voting yes and Mike Walter voting yes. The motion passes.

New Business

1. Water connection for a non-resident

The residence at 25 Bieler Lane is requesting to hook-onto town water as their well is no longer working. The property is outside of town limits. Mayor Stump explained that during the water project, there was a new water line put in down Bieler Lane and at that time new service lines were installed. This would be fairly simple for the town to do. The town currently has 2 other properties outside of the town limits that are connected to town water and or sewer. Do we require them to annex into the town and hook onto sewer? Mike Walter looked at the lot and it's approximately 2 acres, big enough for a second house to be built on so he feels that it would benefit the town to have them annex. Mayor Stump added that it would be difficult to hook them up to the sewer due to the location of the line. Discussion. Rahn Abbott makes a motion to allow Woodward's to hook up to water services with the agreement that they will begin the annexation process and hook up to the sewer upon sale of the property or sooner if they choose. Mike Walter seconded the motion. **Mayor Stump called the question for the council members.** Rahn Abbott voting yes, Tammy Todd voting yes, Z. Wade Hampton voting yes and Mike Walter voting yes. The motion passes.

2. Work Order #6 Wastewater System Capacity Assessment Update (Task #1 only)

Northern Rockies Engineering conducted a wastewater system evaluation in 2020. This task order will allow WWC to update the data collected over the past year, to continue monitoring the wastewater system. Rahn Abbott moves to approve Task 1. Wastewater System Capacity Assessment Update. Tammy Todd seconded the motion. **Mayor Stump called the question for the council members.** Rahn Abbott voting yes, Tammy Todd voting yes, Z. Wade Hampton voting yes and Mike Walter voting yes. The motion passes.

Consent Agenda Items

The payroll checks 88574-88566, claim checks 17304-17333 and minutes from February 2022 were reviewed. Rahn Abbott moves to approve the claims and meeting minutes for February 2022. Z. Wade Hampton seconded the motion. **Mayor Stump called the question for the council members.** The motion passed unanimously.

The financial and utility delinquent reports were reviewed, with one shut off notice. Mike Walter moves to approve the financial and utility delinquent reports as presented. Rahn Abbott seconded the motion. **Mayor Stump called the question for the council members.** The motion passed unanimously.

Council Report

Rahn Abbott passed along grant funding opportunities for playground equipment onto Kaylie Theis. Mike Walter was asked if there is a limit to the number of dogs people can have in town. Our Ordinance does not limit the number of dogs. Mike Walter also believes that it would be a good idea to install a fence around well #5. Rahn Abbott said there may be funding opportunities for "securing your water sources". We should also secure the manifold building.

Mayor's Report

At the meeting next month, a representative from the Department of Commerce will attend to discuss zoning, subdivision regulations and annexation. Rahn Abbott suggested using the school library. Mayor Stump also announced that Ginger was nominated by Montana Rural Water Systems as Clerk of the year and will be going to Great Falls next week to attend the banquet during convention.

Z. Wade Hampton moves to adjourn tonight's meeting. Tammy Todd seconded the motion. **Mayor Stump called the question for the council members.** The motion passed unanimously.
Adjourned 8:24 p.m.

Approved: Mayor Robert C. Stump

Attested: Clerk Ginger Galiger