

## **Special Meeting and Town Council Meeting at Town Hall, February 13, 2023**

Present: Rahn Abbot, Tammy Todd, Tonya Romkema, Tom Roberts (by phone), Mayor Mike Walter, Duke Gilman (public works), Ty Gerth (public works), Sarah Hanson (clerk, treasurer)

Also present: Sheriff Duncan Hedges, Cece Weldon, Ann Wentz, Zachary Thompson, Pat Holt, Eileen Pearce, Kaylie Theis, Gary Hilliker, Scott Payne (WWC), Jeremiah Theys (Great West Engineering)

Called to order at 6:02PM

Pledge

Mike did Second Reading of Interim Zoning Ordinance. Stephanie Kruer handed out final draft of ordinance.

Public Comment on the Interim Zoning Ordinance – no comment

Mike Walter entertains motion to pass ordinance 1-2023. Tammy Todd moves with “I so move to accept ordinance 1-2023” – Tonya Romkema Seconds. No further discussion. All in favor, with four yes – motion passes

Meeting adjourned 6:06pm

Regular Town Council Meeting called to order at 6:06pm

Public Comment not on Agenda

Member of community brings up an issue of dogs next to his house barking continually. Mike Walter explained there is no ordinance against how many dogs can be on a property. Duke Gilman (public works) advised he can stop by the residence and talk to the owners about the dogs barking. There was no further discussion.

Department Reports

Sheriff: Duncan Hedges advised he is having the deputies make more of an effort to get to know the community. Expressed there has been a huge influx of 911 empty lines. They are short three deputies for the county right now.

Library: No report

Attorney: Stephanie Kruer discussed an agreement or an MOU with the senior center sewer line and that it may not be necessary and wondered if they wanted her to table it. Mike Walter advised that there may be another grant to apply for.

Fire Department: Not a lot has changed since last month. Had one call they went to that didn't turn out to be anything.

Public Works: Duke Gilman advised Ty Gerth is heading to Helena tomorrow to get his water certification. He advised they will be looking at capping wells 2 and 4 as they are obsolete. He also advised they need to get their sewers videoed and cleaned. Looking at possible \$80,000 for that in the future. Duke Gilman answered question from member of community on wells 2 and 4.

Clerk/Treasurer: Working on budget and financials and working closely with the mayor to get better grasp on stuff. Have been getting some help from the county to get things in line and get a better understanding of the financials and budget and how to best proceed.

#### Boards and Committees

MSIT – Stephanie advised there is not much to report tonight.

Park District Board – No report

SCCF: Kaylie Theis advises they have been talking to Jim Cotts to update the flagpole at the park, wondering if they can put a new one up or if they need approval from council on that. In the process of updating playground equipment at the park and are working on getting the funding for that. Rahn Abbott asked about fill for the park, Kaylie advised they are looking at wood chips. Kaylie also asked about the white shed at the park and wondering if they are free to still get rid of the structure. Kaylee advised they are looking at getting a 20ft flagpole like the ones at the legion as well as the cemetery.

Public Comment on the Agenda: No comment

#### **Old Business**

Approval of Advisory Charter: Mike Walter advised there were some changes to the last draft that they had to make. This one tonight is draft number four. Mike discussed the changes on the charter that were made. Mike Walter entertains a motion to adopt the charter community advisory committee. Rahn Abbott moves with “I move that we adopt the community advisory charter” – Tom Robert seconds. No further discussion. All in favor, with four yes – motion passes

Adoption of County Marijuana Ordinance: Mike Walter discusses ordinance and how to best proceed with it at this point. Tammy Todd brings up what was discussed last meeting. Rahn asked if we as a town are covered by the ordinance by the county or if we have to adopt it as our own. Stephanie reads Paragraph 12 of county ordinance. Tom Roberts commented on that he believes that it does not seem at great precedent to adopt this right away but maybe to allow the charter to help with it.

Council agrees to table the matter until further notice. Tonya Romkema moves with “I so move that we table the marijuana ordinance at this time.” Tammy Todd Seconds. No further discussion. All in favor, with four yes – Motion passes

#### **New Business**

Sheridan Gateway Project: Scott Payne brought up discussion on project on Madison St. Talks about the amount of traffic on Mill St., Madison St., as well as Crofoot. Scott talked about funding that might be

helping with improvement on all 3 blocks. Discussion about the project for crosswalks, curb and gutters. It does not cover paving at this time. Jeremiah Thays (great West) talked about a TA grant for sidewalks as well as road in front of TRMCC and how they are trying to go about that. Jeremiah advised they believe it may be better as a community project. Scott Payne advised this project has been held back mainly because of other things the town had going on. He advised that there are deadlines coming up to apply for some of these grants that can help pay for this project. Jeremiah advised he believes it would be better for the town of Sheridan to be the applicant rather than the county. Discussion from Scott on what happens if the town goes through with the project. Jeremiah advised they would be looking at the construction of the project not taking place until the Summer or Fall of 2025.

Tammy asked if Scott would be writing the grant or if Jeremiah and him would be involved in the application together. Scott advised it would probably be both. Rahn brought discussion about the money towards the sidewalks, curb and gutter, street coverings, millings, storm water and sewer collection. Mike Walter brought discussion about the corner of Crofoot and Madison and if it would be able to be widened. Tom Roberts advises that it would be great to integrate the two projects to be compatible with each other but is concerned about costs that cannot be known today. Tom is confident there is infrastructure under this project that needs to be addressed before this project takes place. Tom is not in favor of the angled parking on Madison. Discussion made by Jeremiah. Question from member of community asking about replacing lighting. Jeremiah stated it is not in the plans as of right now. Another question from community member about storm water. Scott advised a more rigorous assessment is going to be made. Rahn expresses his concerns of snow removal. Member of community backed up what Tom Roberts had said that there should be other things to be looking at as of right now not curb and gutters. Mike Walter discusses his ideas of what he would like to see done. Discussion on the project by the council and WWC and Greatwest. Mike advises he would like to hear the schools' opinions as well as the pools.

Tammy Todd appreciates the aesthetics of it but agrees with Tom that there needs to be more investigation on the underground stuff. Mike entertains motion. Tom advises he does not think the council is at a place to do this as we do not know what our budget looks like at the moment and some of the logistics of the project. Discussion from Scott.

Mike entertains motion Tom Roberts moves with "I move that A: we table the discussion and B: we establish a work meeting as soon as possible to lay out the steps that will get us to where we can commence". Tammy Seconds. No further discussion. All in favor, with four yes – motion passes.

Scott brings up two others grants. One that is a RRG up to \$15,000 for video work on the sewers. Grant is due February 24, 2023. Community member asked the council if this is the first-time hearing about this grant. This is the first-time hearing about this grant opportunity states the council. Tammy asks if this has been brought up in other meetings, Scott advises that he was not wanted at the meetings when previous mayor was here. Discussion from Scott and Council. Mike advises that maybe they will try and go for the CBDG grant in July.

Tom discusses funds to maintain the infrastructure and that there are many companies out there that will help with this without trying to run after a grant that will cost more money. Discussion by council.

Mike Entertains motion for WWC-9 task order 1. Tom Roberts “moves that we fund the preparation of the RRG grant application provided, that the cost is well understood, and the timeline is well understood. Tonya Romkema Seconds. No further discussion. All in favor, four yes – motion passes.

Rahn Abbott “I move that we table the wwc-9 task order 2 till the May meeting.” Tonya Seconds. All in favor, with four yes – motion passes.

Discussion for another motion for Mike to be able to sign the WWC-9 order 1 grant application. Rahn Abbott “moves we authorize the mayor ‘Mike’ to sign the application for the RRG grant”. Tammy Todd Seconds. All in favor, with four yes – motion passes.

Mike Walter advises 5min recess at 8:02pm

Re-adjourned at 8:07pm

Crossing Subdivision Clarification: Stephanie discusses email from Jeremy Fadness with WWC with the developer regarding condition 22 G on the Geotechnical report. It was not the understanding that each lot would have to have a geotechnical report done. Stephanie reads condition and then reads email from Jeremy. Discussion from Tom Roberts regarding Madison County sub regs 2018-4-29 as well as section 21. Tom brings more discussion of other similar towns dealing with subdivisions. Not questioning each lot, but every geotechnical region and there are 3 separate soil areas. Discussion from Stephanie. Mike asks how they should respond. Stephanie advises that the council can ask her to respond. Discussion by council and Stephanie. Mike entertains motion.

Rahn Abbott moves with “I move that Tom and Stephanie work together to get the language right with the response and have Stephanie respond.” Tammy Seconds.

Tom asks Stephanie timeframe of when they need to respond. Stephanie advises they have a little time to respond. No further discussion. All in favor, four yes – motion passes.

SCCF – MOU: Ray Silve Memorial Baseball Park. Discussion from Kaylie Theis. Discussion on matching funds they have raised. Tom asks her to consider under section 7. Mike would like it to say something along the lines the Town of Sheridan will have final say. Stephanie gives wording the town of Sheridan will be consulted with perspective placement and security of any new playground equipment. Article 8 with “and participation and support of the town.” Stephanie discusses insurance Article 7 B add at the end “and us there of”. They are about \$80,000 into their \$150,000 goal. Tom Roberts moved “to accept MOU with amendments.” Tonya seconds. No further discussion. All in favor, with four yes – motion passes.

Minutes for January 9, 2023: Rahn Abbott moves we accept the minutes with corrections. Tammy Todd seconds. No further discussion, all in favor – motion passes.

Financials/Utilities Delinquent Report: Mike advised council that him and the clerk met with the county financial officer, and they are willing to come down and help us with the financials as well as the budget. Mike advised we have been approved for ARPA funding. Mike entertains motion. Rahn Abbott moves

we except the financials and the delinquent report as presented. Tom Roberts Seconds. All in favor – motion passes

Council Report: Tammy would like to recommend another person for the advisory, Mike advised that there would have to be a work meeting to get letters written up and get those out. Rahn discusses back up support for clerk computer. Rahn brings up options for long term back up storage for the computer. One that he can build for roughly \$1,100. Online back up support that is cheaper but there are higher risks with it. Council discussion. Mike advises that we can treat it like any other expense and Rahn can proceed with building it.

Mayor's Report: Everyone has been busy, and things are moving forward.

Mike entertains motions to adjourn. Rahn Abbott motions to go home. Tonya Romkema seconds. All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm