

## REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**THOSE PRESENT**– Dave Harris - Mayor  
Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Tom Tiarks- Council  
Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

- I. **Call Meeting to Order:** Dave Harris called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
  - a. Pledge of Allegiance
  - b. Review and Adopt Agenda – No revisions
- II. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. Minutes: Leo made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 9<sup>th</sup> and the special meeting minutes of August 30<sup>th</sup>, Brad seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
  - b. Claims: Leo made a motion to approve the September claims, Tom seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
- III. **Public Comment**
  - a. Welcome visitors and public comment – No visitors or public comment
- IV. **Communications**
  - a. No communications.
- V. **Reports**
  - a. Pool
    - Mayor Harris reported that the winter cover is on and the pool itself was winterized by Thompson Pools – The siding has not been finished and the shower house still needs to be winterized.
  - b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
    - Absent – Nothing to report.
  - c. Conservation District Appointee, Urban Supervisors
    - Absent - Nothing to report.
  - d. Sheriff
    - Absent – Nothing to report.
  - e. Fire Department
    - Mayor Harris brought up that the Town's siren, located outside of the Emergency Service Building, has not been tested and is unsure if it still works. Discussion is had on regularly testing the siren.
    - The consensus is the siren should be tested once a month with date and time being posted beforehand.
  - f. Public Works – Vacant Position
    - One application has been received for this job – discussion is had regarding the position and responsibilities of the Public Works Director.
    - Dave reported that the water line at the highway has been repaired and is now deeper than before.
    - Dave would like to purchase two meters and supplies to have on hand at the City Shop
      - Leo made a motion to purchase the necessary supplies and two meters to have on hand, Tom seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

- The chlorine shed is a bit unstable, Dave is going to look into finding someone to repair this – in addition the inside walls are still unfinished or in bad condition – Dave thinks something more waterproof than sheetrock would be better for inside this building to prevent water damage again.
- Dave picked up outside the chlorinator house and City Shop so that Heidi could mow, she is also working on mowing and weed eating sidewalks as she has time, in addition to the Town Park and City Hall.
- The siding on the City shop is not screwed in and water could come in on one side so that will need repaired when there is a new Director of Public Works.
- New storm drain has been installed by the Community Center, low spots should drain better in that area now. Pooling water on Grand should also be improved.
- The storm drains were installed by Riverside Construction in exchange for bulk water.
- SAS will be in Winnett the 26<sup>th</sup> to blow out sprinklers and locate control unit at the park to be able to repair the sprinkler system there – will work on repairing and improving the grass next spring.
- Bulk water valve is dripping – Dave is looking into this.
- The old City Hall building needs to be finished painting.
- Park playground Merry-Go-Round is in good condition and does not have to be disposed of – The Council is in agreement with leaving it at this time.
- Park gazebo still needs some work as part of the park project.

**VI.** The bolt in the mower needed replaced – Dave got a new one and replaced it so Heidi is able to continue mowing.

a. Clerk – Savannah Moore

- The council received the revenue to actual budget report, expenditure to actual budget report, and cash reports in their packets, as well as bank statements for 1<sup>st</sup> Bank & STIP for previous month.
- Strom & Associates (the Town's auditor) has completed the year end closing for 2022-2023. Savannah input the recommended journal vouchers under their advice. The Town's accounting (cash and bank reconciliation) should now be accurate and correct.
- The school put their cans in the scrap metal bin that the Town gets paid for – there is no objection to sending the school \$50 for the cans.
- Heidi is going to read meters this month and Dave is going to check insulation in pits.
- Bobbie from MT Rural Water has given an updated Rate Analysis for the Town's water and sewer rates, per her analysis:
  - Base rate for water should be: \$35.71 (currently \$14.76)
  - Base rate for sewer should be: \$30.64 (currently \$26.62)
- Discussion is had on current rates and setting up a public hearing with Bobbie.
- The ending checking account balance for August: \$ 92,459.90

- b. Council:
  - Leo:
    - Nothing to report.
  - Brad:
    - Brad saw a palette in the limb pile – Dave has been keeping his eye and removing stuff that isn't organic. Discussion is had about having a sign up.
    - Expresses that the meetings need to be kept on the regular date as much as possible and the importance of commitment on the council.
  - Levi:
    - Absent – Nothing to report.
  - Tom:
    - Nothing to report.
- c. Mayor – Dave Harris
  - Reported during Public Works

**VII. Old Business**

**VIII. New Business**

- a. Morrison-Maierle
  - Bid Opener will be September 26<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM. Stephanie from Morrison Maierle will be present to host the meeting. Savannah will read the bids allowed and then Stephanie will take the bids back to her office, review and make a recommendation to the council.
- b. Stahly Engineering
  - Nothing to report.
- c. MDT
  - Reported regarding storm drains during Public Works
- d. Weed Policy
  - Discussion is had regarding the weed ordinance and if the town or the property owner should be responsible for maintaining (weed spraying, repair, etc). At this time, the property owner is responsible for any sidewalk surrounding their property.
  - The Council will not pursue changing this at this time.
- e. 2023-24 Budget Resolution #2023-05
  - Tom made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget as presented at the special meeting in August and approve Resolution 2023-05, Leo seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
- f. PCCC Sidewalk
  - As discussed last month, the Community Center has replaced a double sidewalk with a single sidewalk in their construction.
  - The Council has looked at the sidewalk and also confirmed it does meet ADA Standards, however, sidewalks are not supposed to be changed without getting prior approval.
  - Discussion is had on sidewalks and upholding ordinances and policies in addition to cost, etc.

- Tom made a motion to approve the PCCC sidewalk as is, further discussion is had, Leo seconded the motion and it passed 2-1. Roll Call: Leo – aye, Tom – aye, Brad – nay.
- g. Dog Ordinance 8.02.090
  - Discussion is had on changing the current dog ordinance to strictly leash law – at this time, if a dog is under voice command and control, it does not have to be on a leash but within 6 feet of it's owner off private property.
  - Brad made a motion not to pursue change at this time and leave the ordinance as it is, Leo seconded the motion, discussion is had and the motion passed 2-1. Leo – aye, Brad – aye, Tom – nay.

**IX. Items for Next Agenda**

**X. Adjourn Meeting 6:35 PM.**

- a. Leo made a motion to adjourn at 6:35 PM, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris  
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore  
Town Clerk & Treasurer

**Claims Paid:**

#2616	Rural Development	\$845.00	#2634	FNBO	\$606.89
#2617	TTS Welding	\$5,850.00	#2635	Hawkins	\$1,010.95
#2618	Hardrives Construction	\$10,200.00	#2636	Breaks	\$1,093.72
#2619	Fisher's Technology	\$35.03	#2637	Advanced Technology	\$2,436.00
#2620	Clay & Brittany Barnett	\$149.26	#2638	Barb Solf	\$1,500.00
#2621	Crooked Hole Drilling	\$2,025.00	#2639	Edward Skierka	\$157.48
#2622	Strom & Associates	\$3,780.00			
#2623	Roundup Record Tribune	\$208.00			
#2624	Energy Laboratories	\$53.00			
#2625	Mike Huff	\$250.00			
#2626	Republic Services	\$35.65			
#2627	Morrison Maierle	\$11,031.00			
#2628	Yellowstone News Group	\$88.90			
#2629	John Deere Financial	\$483.20			
#2630	Fergus Electric	\$4,530.71			
#2631	Mid Rivers	\$191.30			
#2632	Mid Rivers	\$55.85			
#2633	Stahly Associates	\$151.00			