

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD June 14th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor
Brad Olson, Levi Johnson, and Leo Tarplee- Council
Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer
Jeremy Springer – DPW
Barb Solf, Megan Flint, & Easton Hanson – Pool
Shauna Heitz – Guest

- I. **Call Meeting to Order:** Dave Harris called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Review and Adopt Agenda
- II. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes: Brad made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 15th, 2023, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0. Leo made a motion to approve the special meeting minutes of May 30th, 2023, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - b. Claims: Brad made a motion to approve the June claims, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.
- III. **Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment – no public comment.
- IV. **Communications**
 - a. No communications.
- V. **Reports**
 - a. Pool
 - Megan suggested a Co – Manager at the pool to help with the daily requirements and suggests Easton Hanson for that position. Megan and Barb will continue to keep their certificates and requirements up to date. Easton and Megan would split the manager pay (no added cost to budget), and she can begin training Easton to be a pool manager.
 - Brad made a motion to accept Megan’s proposal to train Easton as the co-manager at the pool, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Barb and Megan will be gone on Wednesday during the first week of swim lessons for a lifeguard training – swim lessons will still be held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday that week.
 - Barb passed an updated pool project schedule and budget and expressed thanks to Savannah and Jeremy for helping as needed with the project.
 - The pool deck has been torn out, pipes have been placed, Jeremy back filled part of that, and Troyer will be back this week and next to pour concrete.
 - The pool is scheduled to open July 1st this year.
 - Jeremy reported that the eye wash station needs replaced, he found one online for \$215 – There is no objection to getting this ordered.

- Levi made a motion to have Tom Loomis do the required work at the pool for \$400, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
- b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
- c. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
- d. Fire Department
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
- e. Public Works – Jeremy Springer
 - The Odd-Fellows Hall needs a 1 ½ inch meter
 - Levi made a motion to purchase the meter for Odd-Fellows Hall, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - MDT is hoping to finish areas of their project enough to have the road open for the 4th of July and resume working and closures after that.
 - There was not a driver available to get gravel in Lewistown that was discussed at previous meetings.
 - Skip Ahlgren donated 20 loads of gravel to the Town of Winnett – Petroleum County will deliver it for the cost of fuel, Skip will sell additional loads of gravel at \$1 a load.
 - Second mowing letters will go out tomorrow
 - Leo and Jeremy are getting ready to set the swing set up at the park – Troyer should be able to pour concrete while here working on the pool.
 - Still waiting to hear from Do-All construction about the grinder station they damaged.
 - Harddrives will be here this month
 - Discussion is had on if it would be better to have Harddrives wait to fix pot holes until the end of summer/early fall with the detours and construction going on as it will likely damage the roads quickly.
 - A lengthy discussion is had on potholes and the roads. Levi would like Jeremy to fill potholes as the road conditions are poor at this time.
 - Jeremy will prioritize potholes and roads around his other projects.
- f. Clerk – Savannah Moore
 - The council received the revenue to actual budget report, expenditure to actual budget report, and cash reports in their packets.
 - Savannah will be scheduling a budget amendment meeting for the water and sewer funds in July.
 - Bonnie did return a signed resignation from the council due to her health.

- The lifeguards have started doing their work on projects until the pool is open. So far, they cleaned the pool and have begun pressure washing and scraping the old City Hall building to prep for paint.
 - Levi made a motion to pay the lifeguards working their lifeguard pay for project work, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Levi made a motion to purchase paint for the Old City Hall building from the Breaks, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Savannah has a phone meeting with Spay Montana to inquire about setting up a spay clinic at the Town Hall and will also inquire about them doing vaccines at the same time.
 - Discussion is had on the pet vaccine clinic and for next year to request a later time, ex: 4:00 – 7:00, for easier availability to the community.
 - The ending checking account balance for May: \$123,753.35
- g. Council:
- Bonnie – Resigned.
 - Brad:
 - Discussion was had on mowing letters and the old city hall building.
 - Levi:
 - Discussed concerns during Public Works report.
 - Ed Hanson is interested in the vacant position on the Town Council – Levi will check in with him and he can attend the next meeting. Brad was also told he was interested.
 - Leo:
 - Discussed reporting on Park Project during Public Works Report.
- h. Mayor – Dave Harris
- Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business

- a. Existing Water Line: Legal Correspondence
- Savannah passed out the letter of advice from Emily Jones, the Town’s attorney.
 - Discussion is had to seek an extension of the response deadline to be able to review everything.
 - Levi made a motion to table Existing Water Line, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Shauna inquired about scheduling a special meeting to speed up the legal process on the existing water line issue – no decision on a special or sooner meeting is made at this time.
- b. Wage Increase – Town of Winnett Employees FY 23-24
- The council received the different percentages and wage increase options they requested at the special meeting in May in their packets.

- Savannah suggested doing no raises or very minimal cost of living increases due to the budget being extremely low – expenses are more than revenue, especially in the water and sewer funds.
- Discussion is had on raises and the budget.
- Levi made a motion to give all the Town of Winnett employees a .50 cent COLA raise, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.

VII. New Business

a. Morrison-Maierle

- Jeremy explains an issue Stephanie brought to the Town with the pipe bursting at the alley that crossed North Broadway between West Main and Wheeler St, due to the proximity of the waterline and fiber optic as well as the angle of the sewer – this would be extremely expensive and time consuming. Another option is CIPP which will be more affordable and doable at \$30,000-\$40,000, including mobilization. The lifespan of doing this vs pipe bursting is about the same – The council has no objections to doing the Cured In Place Pipelining in stead of the originally planned pipe bursting.
- Stephanie needs to know if the Town would like to charge a daily fee if the project is not complete by the scheduled date once construction begins (it needs to be in the contracts).
 - Discussion is had.
 - The council decides yes to the fee and recommends \$750 a day. Savannah will discuss with Stephanie and ensure that's a reasonable amount.

b. Stahly Engineering

- Nothing to report.

c. MDT

- New updates covered in Director of Public Works report.

d. PCCC Fire Line Rate

- Discussion is had on the Community Center's fire line and rate.
- Brad made a motion to do \$0 charge for the fire line, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.

e. Animal At Large Ticket – Existing Ticket

- Jeremy issued an additional Animal At Large Ticket and the ticket holder plead not guilty.
- The lawyer fee is an average of \$185 per hour to pursue these tickets, the maximum penalty is \$50 if found guilty.
- Discussion is had on dogs and enforcing the ordinances.
- Levi made a motion to pursue the dog at large ticket and to ensure the integrity of the Town Ordinances, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

IX. Adjourn Meeting 7:25 PM

- a. Levi made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2552	Rural Development:	\$845.00
#2553	Mid-Rivers Communications:	\$55.84
#2554	Mid-Rivers Communications:	\$184.49
#2555	DEQ:	\$140.00
#2556	Hawkins, INC:	\$604.89
#2557	Jeremy Springer:	\$60.48
#2558	Winnnett Volunteer Fire Dept:	\$235.00
#2559	US Postal Service:	\$146.00
#2560	Fisher's Technology:	\$23.48
#2561	Stahly Associates:	\$419.75
#2562	Mid-State Signs	\$23.00
#2563	B & D Service	\$94.45
#2564	Republic Services	\$41.92
#2565	John Deere Financial	\$265.06
#2566	Jones Law Firm	\$1,377.00
#2567	First National Bank of Omaha	\$480.97
#2568	Montana Fiberglass, Inc	\$1,218.75
#2569	MES	\$311.72
#2570	MT League of Cities & Towns	\$165.00
#2571	SAS	\$520.00
#2572	Fergus Electric	\$1,620.57
#2573	Advanced Technology Products	\$646.74
#2574	Petroleum County	\$5,000.00
#2575	Breaks General Store	\$436.65