

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD October 11th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, Levi Johnson and Tom Tiarks- Council

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Butch Arthur – Urban Supervisor, Conservation District

Kathleen Johnson – Snowy Mountain Development Appointee

Stephanie Seymanski – Morrison Maierle

Robie Culver (virtual) – Stahly Engineering

Alec Krug – 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 – Morrison Maierle to present after Public Comment
- II. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes: Leo made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 25th, Tom seconded and the vote passed unanimously.
 - b. Claims: Levi made a motion to approve the October claims, Leo seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
- III. **Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment –
 - Kathleen Johnson brought up the Town junk ordinance and getting the Town cleaned up before the reunion next year. She also presented the idea of pursuing a grant through the Larry Carrell Foundation to bring in a big dumpster for the citizens to use. Discussion is had on junk, private property vs city right-of-way, etc. No decision is made at this time.
- IV. **Communications**
 - a. No communications.
- V. **Reports**
 - a. Pool
 - Mayor Harris reported that the pool has been winterized, however the siding still needs to be done.
 - Savannah reported that the pool dumpsters will have one more pickup and then services will be turned off until next season.
 - Discussion is had on hiring someone local to hang the pool siding.
 - b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Kathleen reported that there was no meeting in August so she will report in November.
 - c. Conservation District Appointee, Urban Supervisors
 - Butch recently attended a meeting that was very informative, one thing that stood out to him was a report on feral pigs that are migrating south from Canada – if you do see one, it should be reported to FWP, do not shoot the wild pigs.
 - d. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - e. Fire Department

- Absent – Nothing to report.
- f. Public Works – Vacant Position
 - Mayor Harris received a bid from TTS welding to work on various storm drains in areas that tend to have bad drainage.
 - Discussion is had on roads, culverts, drainage.
 - Brad made a motion to accept the bid from TTS and hire them to do the work as presented with money available in the BaRSSa fund, Tom seconded and the vote passed unanimously.
 - Cedar Woodford would like to rent the Roller – there is no objection to this.
 - Two meter pits have been ordered and arrived – these are to have on hand in case of an emergency or someone moving into town.
 - Heidi read as many meters as she could this past month for utility billing purposes.
- g. 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 1st Bank & STIP for previous month.
 - Bobbie from MT Rural Water will be attending the regular council meeting in November to go over the rate analysis during a public hearing.
 - The ending checking account balance for September: \$128,014.71
- h. Council:
 - Leo: Nothing to report.
 - Brad: Nothing to report.
 - Levi:
 - Suggested a flyer around town to accept bids for hanging the pool siding.
 - Blower house and the rest of the City Hall need painted – Savannah will see if Heidi is interested and able in completing these projects.
 - Jeff Matthews has broke down vehicles and junk not in compliance with the junk ordinance.
 - Discussion is had on the State’s Highway project – Riverside is supposed to fill pot holes on roads that had detours, first layer of pavement should be done soon, sidewalks will not be completed until next year.
 - Tom: Nothing to Report
- i. Mayor – Dave Harris: Reported during Public Works

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

a. Morrison-Maierle

- Bids for the wastewater project came in significantly higher than originally estimated by the project engineers.
- Stephanie presented and explained the bid tabulation to the Council as well as different options to cut out portions of the project.

- The bids are significantly higher than funding available, even with doing a much smaller amount of the project than originally planned-her suggestion would be to seek additional funding from a loan and/or grant.
 - Robie from Stahly presented some different funding ideas and possibilities, as well as an estimate on what rates would need to be increased to qualify for these funding options.
 - Discussion is had on sludge removal, rate increases, the wastewater project, STIP money, and other funding sources.
- b. Stahly Engineering
- Presented during Morrison Maierle
- c. MDT
- Reported regarding during Public Works
- d. Interview for Director of Public Works
- The Town Council and Mayor Harris interviewed Alec Krug for the Director of Public Works position.
 - Discussion is had on the interview and position.
 - Brad made a motion not to hire Alec and continue advertising for the position, Tom seconded and the vote passed unanimously.
 - Brad made a motion to raise the starting wage for the Director of Public Works position, contingent upon affordability, to \$20.00 per hour. Tom seconded the motion, discussion is had and the vote passed unanimously.
 - Savannah will look into additional advertising; Ex: Jordan newspaper, flyers around Grass Range, online areas, etc.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

IX. Adjourn Meeting 8:34 PM.

- a. Brad made a motion to adjourn at 8:34 PM, Leo seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2640	Rural Development	\$845.00	#2651	Stahly Associates	\$641.75
#2641	Mid-Rivers	\$253.90	#2652	Fergus Electric	\$2,012.13
#2642	Aqua Tech	\$25.00	#2653	Breaks General Store	\$45.56
#2643	Fisher's Technology	\$32.12			
#2644	Yellowstone News Group	\$441.00			
#2645	Hawkins	\$30.00			
#2646	FNBO	\$245.54			
#2647	Republic Services	\$71.47			
#2648	Winnett School	\$50.00			
#2649	Mid-State Signs	\$125.00			
#2650	John Deere Financial	\$124.22			