

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD March 8th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Levi Johnson, and Leo Tarplee- Council (Bonnie absent)

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Jeremy Springer – DPW

Kathleen Johnson – Snowy Mountain Development

Luann Knutson & Butch Arthur – Guest

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 – Move VII.f Fire Works for Community Center Grand Opening to after Claims & Minutes, V.b Snowy Mountain Development right after.

II. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes: Leo made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 8th, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0. Brad made a motion to correct the error of 2022 on the January 2023 minutes, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
- b. Claims: Discussion was had on the claims, claim 2502 in the amount of \$544.00 to Pioneer Plumbing was rejected, council approved up to \$300 when the new invoice is received. Levi made a motion to approve the March claims excluding 2502, Leo 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.

- a. Pool
 - Jeremy reported that the posts are at Hedman's.
 - Barb received a CMF grant in the amount of \$1,028.00 to pay for the posts to get powder coated and for the new roll up door.
- b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Kathleen Johnson reported that the committee meets every other month and she recently attended a meeting.
 - The Snowy Mountain Development has a program going on that provides free training services geared towards businesses or a trade, for example: CDL license training, construction, etc. You can contact Snowy Mountain to get information regarding this program.
- c. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to Report
- d. Fire Department
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
- e. Public Works

- There was a leak in the main water line near the community center, it was very old and in poor condition. A new hydrant and valve was installed – no bill has been received for this work yet.
 - There is an unlocated leak in town somewhere, going through an extra 6,000-8,000 gallons a day – Jeremy is going to work on locating this.
 - New rubber edge is on the plow and working well.
 - Hill Top and PCCC have been added to the sampling list.
 - Jeremy will be attending water conference March 21st – 24th, Ralph will fill in while he's away.
 - Starting 04/11/2023 DOT will have monthly zoom meetings regarding the highway project, the town is invited to attend.
 - Stephanie has expressed that contractors are seeming very booked for 2023 in regards to the sewer project.
- f. Clerk – Savannah Moore
- The council received the revenue to actual budget report, expenditure to actual budget report, and cash reports in their packets.
 - Olson's Grocery has not purchased their 2023 liquor license.
 - The ending checking account balance for February was: \$189,101.94 (that does include a lot of grant money that will be going out for projects.)
- g. Council:
- Bonnie:
 - Absent.
 - Brad:
 - Spay Montana, a non – profit organization that focuses on spaying and neutering cats for free, spayed & neutered over 20 cats at Winnett Tire, as well as a few community members that brought their cats in. This vet is willing to come do work in our community again, you can go online to their website to request services.
 - Levi:
 - Asked if the town is currently trapping cats, Jeremy said no, until the policy is in place, no trapping will take place.
 - Asked Jeremy if he has had mosquito training. Jeremy reported that he got licensed last year and is working on having the fogger ready.
 - Leo:
 - Nothing to report.
- h. Mayor – Dave Harris
- Dave did the employee evaluations for both Savannah and Jeremy. These are available for the council to review upon request in the office. Both reviews went well.

VI. Old Business

a. Capital Improvement Plan

- Nothing to report.
- b. Park (by the pool) playground equipment
 - All equipment is in, just waiting for better weather to start this project.
- c. Town of Winnett Appointee for Conservation District Board
 - Discussion was had about this position and the council asked if Butch Arthur would be interested, he said yes.
 - Brad made a motion to appoint Butch Arthur to the Urban Supervisor Position on the Conservation District Board, Levi second and the vote past 3-0.
- d. Commercial Lot Hook Ups
 - The town has not received guidance from the attorney at this time and new information needs to be reviewed. No decisions are made at this time and it will be postponed to the next meeting. For future agendas this will be titled Water Main Easement.

VII. New Business

- a. Morrison-Maierle
 - The paper work for the town's easement to access Evert Brady's is completed, Levi made a motion to approve the easement as presented, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Brad made a motion to have the town's attorney also provide the language and paper work for Evert's easement through the town's property, Leo second and vote passed 3-0.
 - Evert Brady signed the sludge paperwork and that has been submitted to Stephanie.
- b. Stahly Engineering
 - Nothing to report.
- c. MDT
 - New updates covered in Director of Public Works report.
- d. Live Trapping Pet Policy
 - Discussion was had.
 - Leo made a motion to table this topic until the April meeting, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.
- e. Resolutions 2023-01 and 2023-02 (Joining MMIA Health Insurance Benefits)
 - Discussion was had.
 - Levi made a motion to pass Resolution 2023-01, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Brad made a motion to pass Resolution 2023-02, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
- f. Fire Works for Community Center Grand Opening (presented after claims, per agenda revision)
 - Luann Knutson has gotten permission from the fire chief, Tye Lund to do fireworks during the grand opening of the PCCC.
 - She presented a copy of the insurance for the PCCC.
 - Discussion was had.

- Leo made a motion to allow fire works for up to 2 hours after dark on April 29th for the grand opening, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Change Commercial Lot Hook Ups to Water Main Easement for future agendas.

IX. Adjourn Meeting 5:45 PM

- a. Brad made a motion to adjourn at 5:45, discussion was had, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2500 Mid-Rivers Communications: \$208.56
 #2501 Mid-Rivers Communications: \$56.06
 #2502 Pioneer Plumbing: \$544.00 Rejected. Up to \$300.00 approved upon new invoice
 #2503 Fisher's Technology: \$33.90
 #2504 Hawkins, Inc: \$321.53
 #2505 DEQ: \$850.00
 #2506 Fergus Electric Coop, INC: \$1722.02
 #2507 Hedman, Inc: \$1,115.40
 #2508 Winnett Volunteer Fire Department: \$222.00
 #2509 Rural Development: \$845.00
 #2510 Energy Laboratories, Inc Dept.: \$1,546.00
 #2511 (February Accounting) First Bank of Montana: \$2.00
 #2512 City Service Valcon: \$19.04
 #2513 NAPA Fergus Auto Parts: \$24.87
 #2514 First National Bank of Omaha: \$300.48
 #2515 John Deere Financial: \$421.10

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD April 19th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Levi Johnson, and Leo Tarplee- Council (Bonnie absent)

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Jeremy Springer – DPW

Shauna Heitz & Butch Arthur – Guest

- I. Call Meeting to Order:** Dave Harris called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Review and Adopt Agenda
- II. Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes: Leo made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 8th, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - b. Claims: Brad made a motion to approve claim 2502 from the March claims as is (no adjustment was made), discussion was had, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0. Brad made a motion to approve the April claims, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.
- III. Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment –
 - Butch shared that he attended his first meeting as the Town of Winnett's appointee for the conservation district position, it went well and he learned a lot.
- IV. Communications**
 - a. No communications.
- V.**
 - a. Pool
 - Jeremy shared that the pool project has begun and covered in more detail during the DPW report.
 - b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Savannah shared a note from Kathleen that they are currently discussing a new airport in Winnett. The current one floods easily and is often unusable.
 - c. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to Report
 - d. Fire Department
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - e. Public Works – Jeremy Springer
 - The MDT project has started
 - Attended a meeting with Riverside Construction and the State yesterday and inquired about tying in to a man hole – They said they can but it would be difficult – They may be interested in another solution of trading bulk water for construction costs to stub in, would have to have a special meeting to get full details and estimated costs to see if that would be a possibility, no decision is made at this time.

- The next few highway project meetings will be held in the City Hall, Tuesdays at 10:00 AM.
- They also discussed detours; no decision has been confirmed on those at this time.
- Scrap Metal Dumpster will be delivered within the next few weeks.
- Hard Drives gave the town an estimate of \$10,200 to fill all of the potholes in town
 - Discussion was had on potholes – If this was a good solution, the cost of having them do it vs Jeremy, how long these repairs would last, etc.
 - Brad made a motion to have Hard Drives fix all the potholes in town, discussion was had, Leo second and the vote passed 2-1. Brad for, Leo for, Levi against.
- Pool project has begun – the concrete is out, the trenches will be dug for new lines, Thompson pools will do their portion and then the new concrete will be poured.
- Pace can now do spot patches up to 4 feet.
- Mosquito training with calibration will be in Great Falls, registration cost is \$25.
- Water school went well, Jeremy learned a lot.
- New meter pit is in at the pool.
- Two new graves will be opened the beginning of May.
- Lot mowing policy discussion regarding the price of it or removing it all together – will be added to the next agenda for review
- The PCCC meter pit was ran over during construction, they don't want to fix it so asked the city to get a new one installed and send them a bill for it.
- Three more meter pits can be installed this summer
 - Levi made a motion to have Jeremy order the PCCC meter pit along with 3 residential meter pits, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
- Jeff Matthews has 8 hours of community service – Jeremy would like to have him do some painting, he will need to be added to work comp insurance to fulfill this.
 - Brad made a motion to approve Jeff Matthews doing his community service with the town, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.

f. Clerk – Savannah Moore

- The council received the revenue to actual budget report, expenditure to actual budget report, and cash reports in their packets.
- Trish Smith runs the Winnett Times website and said that she can post the minutes as well as agendas for the town on that website (at no cost). The council agreed that was a good idea and another way for people to see the minutes.
- Melissa Bohn made a request to have Jeremy work on her road.

- The council agreed to get Bonnie a get-well card and flowers (or something of that sort).
- Capital Improvement Plan was removed from the agenda – it is a constant working document that will evolve as we complete and find new projects. It is well updated at this time.
- Budget will be coming up so if the council or anyone has a project or cost they know of coming up, let Savannah know so she can be sure to budget for it if possible.
- NutraLawn and SAS will be coming up soon for park and City Hall yard – Council agreed to keep them the same as the past.
- Discussion was had about Facebook, Levi suggested putting more updates and projects on there – Savannah and Jeremy both are on there and agreed that was a good idea.
- The ending checking account balance for March was: \$194,039.90 (includes quite a bit of project money that will be paid out soon)

g. Council:

- Bonnie:
 - Absent.
- Brad:
 - Nothing to report.
- Levi:
 - Has received complaints about potholes, more discussion was had regarding this topic and specifically bad potholes.
 - Asked about the grinder station – it was run over by Do-All Construction during the repair of that water main leak.
 - Jeff Matthews residence is getting a large accumulation of abandoned vehicles, wood, and other junk including on his sidewalk, recommended Jeremy speak to him about getting it cleaned up.
 - Fergus County has nice, washed rock that is only \$50.00 a belly dump, Levi thought it may be a good option for the alleys. Jeremy will find out how much it would cost to have it delivered before making a decision on ordering.
- Leo:
 - Nothing to report.

h. Mayor – Dave Harris

- Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business

a. Existing Water Line: Legal Advisement

- The town received guidance from Jones Law Firm. From their review, it is the understanding that the Town of Winnett would have a remaining utility easement, even if the alley had been abandoned.
- Discussion was had regarding whether the line has been moved in the past, where it is exactly, the highway project digging, etc.

- If new information regarding the situation arises it will be reassessed, at this time the town will follow the attorney advice that the water line is legal as it is.

VII. New Business

- a. Morrison-Maierle
 - Savannah gave out an updated schedule from Stephanie – no new updates at this time.
- b. Stahly Engineering
 - Nothing to report.
- c. MDT
 - New updates covered in Director of Public Works report.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Live Trapping Pet Policy
- b. Mowing Policy

IX. Adjourn Meeting 6:24 PM

- a. Brad made a motion to adjourn at 6:24 PM, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2516 Mid Rivers Communications: \$191.62

#2517 Mid Rivers Communications: \$55.84

#2518 Jones Law Firm: \$322.50

#2519 Fisher's Technology: \$31.98

#2520 MES \$968.90

#2521 Fergus Electric: \$1,845.24

#2522 Energy Laboratories: \$125.00

#2523 Hawkins, INC: \$1,502.01

#2524 Do-All Construction: \$15,070.00

#2525 First National Bank of Omaha: \$1,403.26

#2526 First Bank of Montana: \$2.00

#2527 USA BlueBook

#2528 Rural Development: \$845.00

#2530 Breaks: \$88.65

#2531 Troyer Constructions: \$57,475.50

#2532 John Deere Financial: \$474.72

#2533 Stahly: \$113.25

#2534 Ralph Corbett: \$323.60

#2535 TTS Welding \$687.00

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD May 15th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Levi Johnson, and Leo Tarplee- Council (Bonnie absent)

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Jeremy Springer – DPW

- 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
- II. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes: Brad made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 19th, 2023, Leo seconded and the vote passed 3-0.
 - b. Claims: Levi made a motion to approve the May claims, Leo seconded and the vote passed 3-0.
- III. **Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment – no visitors.
- IV. **Communications**
 - a. Snowy Mountain Development has sent an invitation to the Town Council to attend a meeting at the PCCC June 21st at 10:00 am.
- V.
 - a. Pool
 - Jeremy reported that the pool is drained.
 - Thompson pools will be here soon to continue the pool project.
 - Discussion was had on the pool project and when the project is expected to be finished.
 - b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - c. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - d. Fire Department
 - Jeremy reported that the fire department responded to a call at Clint Clark's. A powerline fell on a tree, the fire dept kept an eye on it until Fergus Electric arrived.
 - e. Public Works – Jeremy Springer
 - The gravel discussed at the April meeting would be \$325-\$350 per load to deliver.
 - Levi made a motion to get three loads of gravel from Fergus County, contingent upon pricing being as quoted; discussion is had on gravel, which alleys to work on and the best way to lay the gravel, etc; Leo seconded the motion and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Harddrives plans to be in Winnett the beginning of June to do the pathing discussed at the April meeting.
 - Riverside had a setback on the highway project but the necessary fixes have been done.

- Dave discussed that Riverside will need to gravel the sides of the road that they won't be laying asphalt as it's getting muddy and torn up from construction – Jeremy or Dave will discuss this with them.
- The State would like to do a detour up Railroad St while working on the main intersection – They agreed to blade and repair that road after the detour.
- Discussion is had on the Highway project.
- The old water line was found in Grand, none was located in the alley of Shauna's lots.
- Issued three dog tickets

f. Clerk – Savannah Moore

- The council received the revenue to actual budget report, expenditure to actual budget report, and cash reports in their packets.
- Pet vaccine clinic will be held June 5th at 1:00 at the City Hall
- Preliminary budget is basically ready, will set up a special meeting soon.
- Savannah spoke to Bonnie regarding her position on the council and inability to attend meetings due to personal reasons, she said she is willing to resign if the council thinks that is the best option – The council does think a resignation is best since she is unable to attend meetings.
- The ending checking account balance for April: \$111,648.11

g. Council:

- Bonnie:
 - Absent.
- Brad:
 - Nothing to report.
- Levi:
 - Jeff Matthews property is getting worse in regard to junk, vehicles, garbage, etc. including the sidewalk – Jeremy will talk to him.
 - Asked about a water valve that was broke plowing snow this winter – Jeremy said it has been repaired.
- Leo:
 - Leo said that they will need to order 50 bags of concrete to get the new playground equipment installed – no objection to getting this ordered.
 - Burt Bevis is going to let the Town use his equipment for installation.

h. Mayor – Dave Harris

- Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

- a. Morrison-Maierle
 - Jeremy is working with Stephanie to prepare the map for Evert's easement.
 - Final design is still not complete.
- b. Stahly Engineering
 - Nothing to report.
- c. MDT
 - New updates covered in Director of Public Works report.
- d. Live Trapping Pet Policy
 - Brad made a motion to approve Policy Live Trapping Cats or Other Pets as presented with the change of approval date to today's meeting date, Leo seconded the motion and the vote passed 3-0.
- e. Mowing Policy:
 - Discussion is had on mowing rates, letters, and reason for the policy.
 - Levi made a motion to double the rates on the mowing policy, Brad seconded the motion and the vote passed 3-0.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Resolution #2023-03 – Petroleum County to run the Town Election
- b. PCCC Water Rate

IX. Adjourn Meeting 6:00 PM

- a. Brad made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 PM, Le seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2536 Mid-Rivers Communications: \$55.84
#2537 Mid-Rivers Communications: \$185.05
#2538 Northwest Pipe Fittings: \$3,406.69
#2539 City Service Valcon: \$97.84
#2540 Hawkins: \$30.00
#2541 Fisher's Technology: \$36.94
#2542 First National Bank of Omaha: \$305.18
#2543 Rural Development: \$845.00
#2544 Nutra Lawn, LLC: \$209.00

#2545 John Deere Financial: \$167.24
#2546 Stahly: \$708.50
#2547 Black Mountain Software: \$7,161.00
#2548 Fergus Electric: \$3,473.68
#2549 Morrison Maierle: \$33,012.50
#2550 Harland Clarke: \$311.65
#2551 Breaks: \$136.70

Minutes for Special Meeting held May 30th, 2023

Those Present: Dave Harris, Mayor
Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Levi Johnson – Council
Jeremy Springer – Director of Pubic Works
Savannah Moore – Town Clerk and Treasurer
Butch Arthur – Guest

- I. Call to Order: Dave Harris called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM
 - a. Pledge
 - b. Review and Adopt Agenda: No Revisions
- II. New Business
 - a. Election Resolution #2023-03
 - i. Leo made a motion to pass Resolution 2023-03 notifying the Petroleum County Election Administrator of the Town's desire to conduct the General Election by mail-in Ballot, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - b. Mowing Policy
 - i. Discussion was had on the mowing policy
 - ii. Leo made a motion to pass the revised mowing policy, increasing the hourly prices, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - c. 2023-2024 Town Employee Wage Increase
 - i. Savannah gave the council a breakdown in their packets of the increases with a 3% cost of living increase.
 - ii. Discussion is had on percentage increase vs dollar amount increase, if the budget can support a larger wage increase, the difference between a cost of living raise and a performance raise, and which employees should receive increases.
 - iii. The council would like Savannah to do a budget breakdown with 4%, 5%, and 6% increases as well as, .75 cents per hour and \$1.00 for all employees.
 - iv. No decision is made a this time.
 - d. Animal At Large Tickets (existing ticket)
 - i. Discussion is had on dogs, tickets, and cost of pursuing a non-guilty plea for the current ticket holder.
 - ii. The maximum penalty for a first time Dog At Large Offense is \$50, Jones Law Firm (who will represent the town) charges an average of \$185 per hour.
 - iii. Levi made a motion to move forward and pursue this ticket, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
- III. Items for Next Agenda:

a. Wage Increase for Town of Winnett Employees

IV. Adjournment: 5:42 PM.

a. Levi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 PM, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.

X David K. Harris

David Harris
Mayor

X Savannah Moore

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

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

Minutes for Special Meeting held June 27th, 2023

Those Present: Dave Harris, Mayor
Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Levi Johnson – Council
Savannah Moore – Town Clerk and Treasurer
Tom Tiarks – Guest

- I. Call to Order: Dave Harris called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM
 - a. Pledge
 - b. Review and Adopt Agenda: No Revisions
- II. New Business:
 - a. Public Comment – No public comment.
 - b. Existing Waterline Issue
 - i. Leo made a motion to offer Shauna \$6,000.00 for a 20 foot easement, drafted by the Town's Attorney, to include the existing water line in the alley in question.
 - ii. Discussion is had, the motion dies due to lack of a second.
 - iii. Brad made a motion to offer Shauna \$3,000.00 for a 20 foot easement, drafted by the Town's Attorney, to include the existing water line in the alley in question, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - iv. The clerk is instructed to inform Jones Law Firm of the motion and they will negotiate with Shauna's attorney, Kris Birdwell. If there are any changes or negotiations, those will be addressed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- III. Adjournment: 3:33 pm
 - a. Levi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 PM, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD July 18th, 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– Pool

Butch Arthur – Conservation District Appointee, Urban Supervisor

Tom Tiarks & Alec Krug – Guest

- 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
 - VII. d. Appoint Councilman moved to the top of agenda before Minutes & Claims.
- II. Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes: Brad made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 14th, 2023 and the special meeting minutes of June 27th, 2023 Leo second and the vote passed 4-0.
 - b. Claims: Levi made a motion to approve the July claims, Leo second and the vote passed 4-0.
- III. Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment
 - Alec Krug would like to build a shop and open an aluminum welding business on his property. He wanted to confirm the building rules within the Town and his biggest concern would be the noise of one of the machines.
 - The council informed him to follow Montana State Code for building requirements and to use his best judgement on the loud machine – not using late at night or super early in the morning, etc. If it were to become a complaint or issue, the council may have to enforce time restrictions on when he can run loud machines, Alec plans to use the loud machine as little as possible.
 - Alec was also instructed to keep in mind that he couldn't clutter or block the streets with big trucks, equipment, etc. – He plans to build a shop and that would primarily be inside the building.
 - Alec was also informed by the Council to purchase a business license from the Clerk when he is ready to begin.
 - Savannah shared a concern from Denise Manley regarding cats – a citizen has said that he is going to start shooting cats due to the fact that someone is going on his property and setting the traps off. She thought the Town providing him with a game camera to prove the trespasser may be a good option.
 - The Council says both of these concerns would be out of our jurisdiction and would become an issue of the Sheriff if it escalates. The Town will not be providing game cameras but he could put his own on his private property.

- Savannah shared a message from Laura Kiehl who is interested in using her corner lot across from the pool as a place for the bicyclists to camp vs the regular park area where the kids play.
- The council had no objections to this – It would be the property owner's responsibility to keep the area clean & tidy. If it turned into something with hook ups for RVs, etc that could potentially be considered a "campground" but as far as tent camping with no more than one water hookup, it is believed that would not be a concern.

IV. Communications

- a. No communications.

V. Reports

a. Pool

- The pool is officially being filled.
- The lifeguards are hesitant to put out an official opening date in case of delays but as of this moment, the pool will be open this weekend.
- They hope to still do one week of swimming lessons the first week of August – No official date or confirmation at this time.
- The pool is mostly cleaned up from construction.
- Dave would like to see two of the walls of the shower house painted on the outside where it is chipping and peeling.
 - Barb feels prioritizing the pool opening would be a better use of time than aesthetic items, like painting.
 - Discussion is had on this.
 - Levi made a motion to open the pool ASAP and have the lifeguards work early in the morning before opening to finish the painting on the shower house, Tom second and the vote passed 4-0.
- Savannah is wondering if it would be ok to use the Park Grant / Improvements for items that effect the park and the pool (ex: the waterline that feeds both, the fence between, etc). Parks will have some extra money left over where the pool grant will be completely spent – there is no objection to doing this.
- Barb has not tracked her hours for the grant writing and time she has put in to this pool renovation project, Savannah is wondering if we could do a stipend instead. The Council is fine with this, no offer is made on an amount, Savannah will look at pool account to help have a better idea and the Council will make an offer at the following meeting – Barb is fine with this.

b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee

- Absent – Nothing to report.

c. Conservation District Appointee, Urban Supervisors

- Nothing to report.

d. Sheriff

- Absent – Nothing to report.

e. Fire Department

- Discussion is had on burn permits.
- Jeremy suggests calling Glen Gillet for further questions.
- f. Public Works – Jeremy Springer
 - New waterline is in at the pool.
 - Harddrives will be here this week to work on paved streets.
 - Started training on the road grader and did two streets yesterday – it's going well.
 - DoAll fixed the grinder station that broke.
 - There is a leak in the line that runs across the highway – Levi says the city has always maintained that and thinks it would be cheapest and best just to repair it if possible.
 - Discussion is had on different water lines.
- 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 statements for 1st Bank & STIP for previous month.
 - Spay MT said it would be \$1,175.00 to host a spay clinic or \$550.00 to host a vaccine clinic – Council doesn't think this is a good use of funds so it won't be pursued further. (Savannah will try to get the vaccine clinic at a later time of day for future years.)
 - Lemmons Farms has a \$914.50 credit on bulk water, they don't really want to continue getting bulk water here.
 - Levi made a motion to issue a refund check to Lemmons Farms for their bulk water credit less the current bill, Tom second and the vote passed 4-0.
 - Waiting to here back from Strom Associates if we should do our budget amendment now or wait until he closes the books – will be getting that scheduled soon either way.
 - Budget is mostly ready, just waiting for finalized numbers from state stuff and then will set up a budget hearing & meeting.
 - Running low on stamped envelopes and the box of them costs more than Mayor's \$250 approval limit.
 - Levi made a motion to order a box of stamped envelopes, Tom second and the vote passed 4-0.
 - The ending checking account balance for June: \$174,637.65.
- h. Council:
 - Leo:
 - Nothing to report.
 - Brad:
 - Discussion about purchasing our own blade.
 - Jeremy says as of right now it is working good just coordinating with the County and using theirs.
 - Levi:
 - Potholes continue to be a common complaint he receives.
 - Dip sign needs taken down – Jeremy will take down asap.

- Tree limbs around the City Shop and Savannah's house need disposed of – Jeremy will work on these and/or Cody Martinez can pick up his own boulevard.
- Weeds around the shop are getting pretty bad – Jeremy was waiting on spray and will be spraying around the shop asap.
- Update on alleys and gravel – Only one load of gravel has been received so far but Jeremy plans to work on alleys once he has enough gravel.
- Wondering if it would be beneficial to use BaRSSA funds to work on some of the bad drainage areas around Town – that is an option.
- Has had questions about mosquitos – Jeremy is currently spraying about one day a week for them.
- Recommends mowing and weed eating lots that have not complied with mowing letters before it dries out – Jeremy said only two have not gotten their lots mowed so far and he will mow them if they do not hire someone.

- Tom:
 - Nothing to report.

- i. Mayor – Dave Harris
 - Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business

- a. Waterline Easement: Existing Issue
 - No new correspondence since the Town made their offer for an easement – nothing to report.
 - Dave is getting a bid on fixing the sidewalk in front of this area as it was damaged back in the 80s during the water project and never repaired.

VII. New Business

- a. Morrison-Maierle
 - Received design books – they will be available to review in the office.
- b. Stahly Engineering
 - Nothing to report.
- c. MDT
 - The crew is gone working on another project at this time.
 - There is a conflict with the fiber optic for installing street lights.
 - Sidewalk crew is scheduled to come in August.
 - Discussion is had on sidewalks.
- d. Appoint Councilman
 - Brad made a motion to appoint Tom Tiarks as Councilman for the vacant seat, Leo second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Savannah read the Council Oath aloud and Tom was sworn in.
 - This was done right after review and adopt agenda, per agenda revision.

e. Dog Ordinance

- Discussion is had on if it would be better to have a leash law vs the current requirement of within 6 feet under verbal command.
- Brad made a motion to hold a hearing for the Dog Ordinance before the next regular meeting, Tom second and the vote passed 4-0.
- Jeremy gave an overview of what happened with the Dog At Large tickets that were issued and discussed at previous meetings:
 - One ticket was dismissed due to an error in the way the ticket was issued.
 - The second changed their plea to guilty at the omnibus hearing.

f. Street Lights

- A citizen is upset about the position of the new streetlights.
- Dave and Jeremy have been in contact with the state and while the design is pretty final, they have a few feet they are allowed to deviate so they will do their best to position as is allowed.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

IX. Adjourn Meeting 6:46 PM.

- a. Brad made a motion to adjourn at 6:46 PM, Levi second and the vote passed 4-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2576	Rural Development \$845.00	#2596	Breaks General Store \$403.33
#2577	Mid-Rivers \$55.85	#2597	Weller Farm Services, INC \$45.38
#2578	Mid-Rivers \$208.32	#2598	Lemmon Farms \$805.00
#2579	MMIA – Liability \$2,363.00		
#2580	MMCT&FOA \$50.00		
#2581	Hell Creek Electric \$2,696.00		
#2582	Fisher's Technology \$40.18		
#2583	Jones Law Firm \$1,406.50		
#2584	Northwest Pipe Fittings \$806.54		
#2585	Hawkins, INC \$30.00		
#2586	First National Bank of Omaha \$653.14		
#2587	Fergus Electric \$1,682.91		
#2588	Republic Services \$35.10		
#2589	TTS Welding \$400.00		
#2590	Lewistown Rental \$75.00		
#2591	John Deere Financial \$337.39		
#2592	Morrison Maierle, INC \$9,356.25		
#2593	Stahly Associates \$75.50		
#2594	Aqua Tech Lab. \$20.00		
#2595	Troyer Construction \$57,475.50		

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD August 9th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor
Brad Olson, Levi Johnson, and Tom Tiarks- Council
Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer
Jeremy Springer – DPW

- 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: Brad made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 18th, 2023, Tom second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - b. Claims: Tom made a motion to approve the August claims, Brad second and the vote passed 3-0.
- III. Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment – No visitors or public comment
- IV. Communications**
 - a. No communications.
- V. Reports**
 - a. Pool
 - Jeremy reported that the pool project is pretty much complete – the roll up door has been installed and he has been in contact with Thompson Pools regarding the cover, tin siding should be installed in the next few days.
 - The last day of the pool for this season will be August 31st, once school starts on the 16th, the hours will be 4:00-8:00 pm since only one pool employee is available during the daytime hours.
 - Easton is going to talk to Terri Harris, Supt of Winnett School, about using the pool during school, possibly for PE as long as a CPR certified teacher would also be in attendance with the class.
 - The lifeguards may try to do some training this fall to be prepared and staffed for the next pool season.
 - 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
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - f. Public Works – Jeremy Springer
 - Bill Lowe's new meter pit has been installed.
 - PCCC meter has been repaired.
 - Hardrives used 2 tons of oil on their repairs this week – the primary focus was on pot holes in driving lanes and middle of the road, the total was \$10,200

- There are chips left in other parts of the road, they could come back and work on those for approximately half of the price of the \$10,200 (only needing half the amount of material)
- Discussion is had on the worst roads that need the most repair.
- Savannah reported the final (estimated) numbers for gas tax and BaRSSA for this upcoming year – these are specifically used for repair of roads, street, bridges, and alleys
 - SB 536 & HB76: \$82,907.60
 - Final BaRSSA payout: \$23,200.64
- Brad made a motion to hire Hardrives to bring 1 ton to fix the allegation (worst areas) being marked by someone from the Town estimated to total \$5,100 but approving up to \$6,000, Discussion is had, Tom second and the vote passed 3-0.
- Jeremy discussed the water leak at the highway with Tyler Loomis (TTS Welding), he estimated the repair to be \$1,000 – The council would like Loomis to do this repair for the estimated price of \$1,000.
- Riverside is back to work on digging up the highway and then will begin work on storm drains and getting culverts in.
- No date set on when the State will pour concrete.
- Riverside is going to pull the tree stump near Tom Tiark's residence out of the ground.
- Discussion is had on the root and any possible damage it could cause.
- Jeremy painted the man holes on grand – one had a cracked cover but there was an extra lid at the County that he was able to replace it with.
- Jeremy's last day of work is Monday, August 14th – Ralph Corbett, the DPW back up operator, is still certified and willing to do the daily checks until someone is hired and trained. Dave is looking into getting certified as well.

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 statements for 1st Bank & STIP for previous month.
- Personnel Policy language has been changed from “no weapons allowed” to “no unauthorized weapons allowed” per MMIA's request.
- Certified values are out, Savannah turned in the Town's computation to Pam at the courthouse today.
- The Director of Public Works job has been posted around town, on the MRWS website, in the Roundup Tribune and in the Lewistown Argus – Savannah will also get this up on the Town's Facebook Page.
- During August payroll Jeremy's sick and vacation will be paid out.

- Sue McKenna reached out on behalf of the PCCC asking for Town Council approval of the sidewalk change – the side street was a double and is now a single. It is still ADA and they would like to leave it as installed as a single.
 - Discussion is had regarding the sidewalk at PCCC
 - Whether it is absolutely necessary to have them convert back to a double
 - The PCCC did have a copy of the sidewalk ordinance before this change took place.
 - Concern with not upholding the ordinance book and policies to what they say.
 - The Town Council would like to look at the sidewalk before making a decision – this will be added on to the September agenda.
 - The ending checking account balance for June: \$133,191.22.
- h. Council:
- Leo:
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - Brad:
 - Brad made a motion to hire TTS to fix leak at the highway for \$1,000 estimate, Levi second and the vote passed 3-0.
 - Brad rearranged the tables in the meeting room, may rearrange again before the next meeting.
 - Levi:
 - Has had great reviews and feedback on the street repair by Hardrives.
 - Leak at the highway discussed during Public Works report.
 - The cattleguard going to the lagoon is full and Ed Hanson's cows will be in there soon so it needs cleaned out – Recommend Loomis at TTS to get a really good clean out.
 - Inquired about gravel delivery – no update or changes at this time.
 - Mowing at Rostad's & Scoleri's needs to be hired out as they have not responded to their letters or gotten them mowed. Jeremy is going to talk to Mosby Towing about possibly mowing it since it can no longer be done with a push mower. Council is in agreement the Town should hire someone with the capable machinery to mow if Mosby Towing can't and then add the bill on to the property tax.
 - Tom:
 - Asked about the financials, specifically the water cash being in the negative.
 - Savannah explained the cash is in the negative but the fund as a whole is not overspent – however we will have to do a budget amendment soon on this fund.

- Discussion is had on whether the rates are high enough to cover general expense and maintenance of water and sewer funds.
- i. Mayor – Dave Harris
 - Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business

- a. Waterline Easement: Existing Issue
 - Savannah passed out the most recent letter from the Town's Attorney.
 - The Town Council went into executive session to discuss litigation regarding Waterline Easement: Existing Issue at 6:25 PM
 - Closed executive session and resume regular meeting at 6:46 PM.

VII. New Business

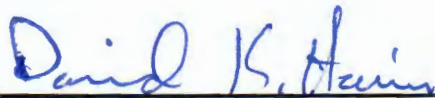
- a. Morrison-Maierle
 - Stephanie is going to add in "no open trenches or work within the Town during the all class reunion" to the job stipulations per Dave's request.
 - Stephanie will ensure construction contract states that they must regravell alleys at the end of construction.
 - Savannah has passed along everything Emily Jones, the Town's Attorney, needs to complete the site title opinion.
 - Evert Brady's easement is done and at the courthouse ready to be signed, notarized, and completed.
 - Discussion is had on the Director of Public Works position and handling these projects and maintenance in the meantime. Levi made a motion to increase the starting wage to \$17.50 an hour and negotiable based on experience, Tom second and the vote passed 3-0. – Savannah will update flyers and advertisements to reflect this change.
- b. Stahly Engineering
 - Nothing to report.
- c. MDT
 - Savannah and/or Dave will be attending these weekly meetings once Jeremy leaves.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Weed Policy, Dog Ordinance, PCCC Sidewalk
- b. Tom will be out of Town during the regularly scheduled September meeting.

IX. Adjourn Meeting 7:15 PM.

- a. Levi made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 PM, Tom second and the vote passed 3-0.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2599	Thompson Pools & Spas	\$20,399.50
#2600	Rural Development	\$845.00
#2601	Fisher's Technology	\$32.59
#2602	Mid-Rivers	\$55.85
#2603	Mid-Rivers	\$188.66
#2604	Hawkins INC.	\$30.00
#2605	Advanced Technology	\$3,340.50
#2606	John Deere Financial	\$261.62
#2607	MMIA, Property	\$958.00
#2608	Aqua Tech Lab.	\$25.00
#2609	FNBO	\$1,656.03
#2610	Stahly Associates	\$604.00
#2611	Republic Services	\$40.03
#2612	Barb Solf	\$249.50
#2613	Megan Flint	\$498.40
#2614	TTS Welding	\$1,000.00

SPECIAL MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD August 30th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Mayor – Absent

Leo Tarplee – Acting Mayor

Brad Olson, Levi Johnson, and Tom Tiarks- Council

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

- I. Call Meeting to Order:** Leo Tarplee called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Review and Adopt Agenda – No revisions.
- II. New Business**
 - a. Public Comment
 - No Public Comment
 - b. Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024
 - The council received the revenue and expenditure preliminary budget reports for FY 23-24 as well as the revenues compared with expenditures report.
 - Savannah's only concern regarding this year's budget is the water and sewer revenue being too low as discussed in past meetings.
 - Discussion was had regarding the budget and specifically the water and sewer funds having less income than expenses.
 - The council suggested Savannah talked to Bobbie from Montana Rural Water Systems to get an updated rate analysis and her advice on a rate increase as soon as possible.
 - No further discussion – the budget will be finalized at the regular September meeting.
 - c. Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2022-2023
 - The water and sewer funds were both overspent for the previous fiscal year – the sewer fund cause was increased cost in general maintenance, the water fund had to repair an emergency line break that was not budgeted for, as well as increased cost in general maintenance.
 - d. Resolution #2023-04
 - Levi made a motion to pass Resolution #2023-04 and amend the 2022-23 budget, Tom second and the vote passed unanimously.
 - e. Pool Project Stipend
 - The council discussed a fair stipend to pay Barb Solf in her efforts for the pool project, including writing all of the grants and managing the project.
 - Brad made a motion to pay Barb a \$1,500 stipend, Tom second and the vote passed unanimously. (will be paid in the September claims)
 - f. Clerk Report
 - Savannah will be gone during the regularly scheduled council meeting in November (the 8th), would like to hold the meeting November 15th (the third Wednesday instead of the second of the month) – there is no objection to this.

- There have been no applications for the Public Works position at this time – discussion is had on a temporary employee or increasing Heidi Hanson's responsibilities in addition to changing her job description to temporarily match these responsibilities.
- No decision is made at this time.
- Two councilmen will be gone at their regularly scheduled September meeting on the 13th, will plan to hold the meeting September 20th.

III. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Temporary Public Works Personnel

IV. Adjourn Meeting 5:20 PM.

- a. Levi made a motion to adjourn at 5:20 PM, Brad second and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD September 25th, 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 9th and the special meeting minutes of August 30th, 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 26th 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 1st 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 26th, 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			

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			

SPECIAL MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD November 6th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT- Mayor – Dave Harris

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

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Bryce Pettitt(via telephone) & Josh Schreiner – Guest

- I. **Call Meeting to Order:** Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Review and Adopt Agenda – No revisions.
- II. **New Business**
 - a. Interview Two (2) applicants for the position of Director of Public Works
 - Mayor Harris and the Council conducted the interview of Joshua Schreiner and answered questions regarding the job. Interview ended and Josh left at 5:30 pm.
 - Discussion is had.
 - Mayor Harris and the Council conducted the interview of Bryce Pettitt via telephone at 6:00 pm – Bryce had no further questions.
 - The interview ended at approximately 6:10 pm and discussion is had on the position and the two applicants.
 - Brad made a motion to hire Josh Schreiner with a starting wage of \$17.50 per hour with a \$1.00 per hour raise with each certification (mosquito, water, and sewer) and with the possibility of an additional raise at the six (6) month performance evaluation at the discretion of the Council, Tom seconded the motion, discussion is had and the vote passed unanimously.
 - Dave will reach out to Joshua to discuss the offer.
 - Tom made a motion to allow Dave final decision on the job offer (yes to offer or no, not to offer) based on Josh's response on job and schedule clarifications, discussion is had, Leo seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. **Items for Next Agenda**
 - a. None.
- IV. **Adjourn Meeting 6:45 PM.**
 - a. Leo made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM, Brad second and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

PUBLIC HEARING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD November 8th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT- Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Tom Tiarks- Council (Levi absent)

Savannah Moore - Clerk & Treasurer

Bobbie Shular - Montana Rural Water Systems

Ralph Corbett, Carol Schaeffer, Richard Voigt, Connie Voigt, Bill Lowe, Ronnie Kastner,

Kathleen Johnson, Denise Manley, Dana Jones - Guest

I. Call Meeting to Order: Dave Harris called the hearing to order at 5:00 PM.

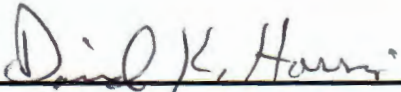
- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Review and Adopt Agenda - switch a. Public Comment to after b. Rate Analysis presentation

II. New Business

- a. Rate Analysis conducted by Montana Rural Water Systems; Review & Discuss
 - Bobbie Shular introduces herself as a Circuit Ryder with MRWS, she works primarily with small communities on their water and wastewater systems and has conducted the rate analysis for Winnett.
 - She explains how the numbers are calculated (last year's expenditures along with active users and size of meter.)
 - The funds are required, by Montana Code Annotated, to be self-sustaining (water revenue pays for water, wastewater revenue pays for sewer, etc.)
 - Per the rate analysis the base rate for a standard ¾ inch hook up should be as follows:
 - Water: \$35.71
 - Sewer: \$30.64
- b. Public Comment
 - Kathleen asks about charging turned off services or empty lots the base rate - Bobbie explains when there is a loan, everyone is responsible for paying back that loan, as for a situation with no loan, every community is different and can set standards accordingly.
 - Discussion is had and some others agree that charging all accessible hook ups and empty lots would be a good idea - The Town will look into the legality of doing something like this before making any final decisions.
 - Bobbie answers any further questions and discussion is had.

III. Adjourn Meeting 6:16 PM.

- a. Leo made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 6:16 PM, Tom seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD November 8th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Tom Tiarks- Council (Levi absent)

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Ralph Corbett – Urban Supervisor, Conservation District

Kathleen Johnson – Snowy Mountain Development Appointee

Carol Schaeffer, Connie Voigt, Richard Voigt, Denise Manley – Guest

I. Call Meeting to Order: Dave Harris called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Review and Adopt Agenda – move New Business agenda items d & e to after claims.

II. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes: Leo made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 11th, Tom seconded, and the vote passed unanimously. Tom made a motion to approve the special meeting minutes from November 6th, Leo seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
- b. Claims: Leo made a motion to approve the November claims, Brad seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

- a. Welcome visitors and public comment – no public comment.

IV. Communications

- a. No communications.

V. Reports

- a. Pool
 - Mayor Harris reported that some siding still needs to be hung. Savannah talked to Adam Tholt about the Skills USA Club hanging the siding (under his supervision) in exchange for a donation to Skills USA. He hasn't confirmed yet but will let Savannah know.
- b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Kathleen reported that there was no meeting, so nothing to report.
- c. Conservation District Appointee, Urban Supervisors
 - Ralph has nothing to report and will look into when his term is up for a re-appointment.
- d. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
- e. Fire Department
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
- f. Public Works –
 - Ralph reported that a citizen called about a clogged toilet, he recommended they call a licensed plumber. The resident believes it may be due to where their line meets the main and the Community Center line – will have to be looked into.
 - Ralph reported that the chlorinator unit switchovers and scales are not working properly – The Council agrees we should have someone from the company look at it for an estimate.

- Richard asked Ralph about the chlorine process and testing – Ralph explained that.
- Connie asked about the process of getting water to the house – Dave explained that.
- Dave hired Mosby Towing to plow during the early winter storm as the city's truck with the plow is not running properly.
- Leo suggests putting a parking lot plow on the regular city pick-up. Ralph's concern is additional wear and tear on that pick-up.
- Discussion is had on equipment and a solution for plowing.
- Dave reported that the heater for the old well has been installed.
- TTS installed the corner drain and it was hit and damaged during the snow storm, the estimate to repair this is \$930.00 - Tom made a motion to hire TTS to do this repair, Leo seconded, the vote passed unanimously.

b. 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.
- Savannah drafted a "Welcome to Winnett" letter for new residents with some basic knowledge regarding the Town. She passed this out to the Council to review for any corrections or additions.
- The personnel handbook needs to be passed as a policy as well as looked over for any corrections – this will be added to the December agenda.
- The ending checking account balance for October: \$130,836.78

c. Council:

- Leo: Nothing to report.
- Brad: Will get ahold of a mechanic he knows personally to see if he could take a look at the Town's plowing truck.
- Levi: Absent.
- Tom: Nothing to Report

d. Mayor – Dave Harris: Reported during Public Works

II. Old Business

III. New Business

a. Morrison-Maierle

- Discussion is had on prioritizing the sewer project to avoid having to take out a huge loan. The estimates for rates to cover even the lowest bidding contractor were much higher than anyone would like to go.
- Discussion is had on the project and deadlines.

b. Stahly Engineering

c. MDT

- Planning to pave Monday, weather permitting.
- Dave has also been in contact with MDT regarding mud issues and they said they will work to correct that.

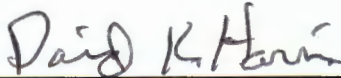
- d. Water & Sewer Rate Increase (presented after claims per agenda revision)
- Brad states that the Town needs to look into the full legality of charging undeveloped lots and buildings with turned off services.
 - Connie and Dick express that there needs to be equality and fairness with the charging for when the Council makes a decision.
 - Discussion is had on charging seasonal residents and not in use services.
 - Denise expresses that unless the law specifically states that those people cannot be charged, it is up to the Council to make a responsible decision so that local residents aren't the sole supporters of the system.
 - Discussion is had - the Council will take everything into consideration before making a final decision.
 - Discussion is had on bulk water rates and billing system (\$15.00/1,000 gallons and honor system)
 - Leo made a motion to table the Water & Sewer Rate Increase, Brad seconded the motion, and the vote passed unanimously.
- e. Resolution #2023-06 – Water & Wastewater Rate Increase
- Leo made a motion to table Resolution #2023-06, Brad seconded the motion, and the vote passed unanimously.

IV. Items for Next Agenda

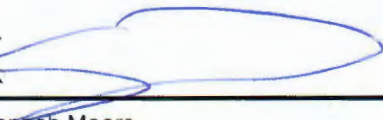
- a. Personnel Policy Handbook

V. Adjourn Meeting 7:19 PM.

- a. Leo made a motion to adjourn at 7:19 PM, Tom seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2654	Rural Development	\$845.00	#2672	John Deere Financial	\$106.94
#2655	Mid-Rivers	\$237.17	#2673	Stahly Engineering	\$915.75
#2656	Northwest Pipe	\$2,087.28	#2674	Yellowstone News Group	\$56.30
#2657	TTS Welding	\$3,275.00	#2670	Hawkins	\$1,696.38
#2658	Mosby Towing	\$200.00			
#2659	Electric Service Shop	\$272.00			
#2660	Town & Country Electric	\$359.40			
#2661	Lisa Jassak	\$157.50			
#2662	Fisher's Technology	\$44.23			
#2663	Thompson Pools	\$6,865.50			
#2664	Ralph Corbett	\$79.99			
#2665	HCR INC	\$500.00			
#2666	SAS Sprinkler & Lawn	\$566.00			
#2667	Aqua Tech Lab	\$25.00			
#2668	DEQ	\$280.00			
#2669	FNBO	\$319.30			

REGULAR MEETING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD December 13th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Levi Johnson- Council (Tom absent)

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Kathleen Johnson – Snowy Mountain Development Appointee

Richard Voigt & Denise Manley – Guest

Virtually: Robie Culver, Stahly & Stephanie Seymanski, Morrison Maierle

- 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 – move New Business agenda items d & e to old business and present after claims.
- II. Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes: Brad made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes and public hearing minutes from November 8th, 2023, Leo seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
 - b. Claims: Leo made a motion to approve the December claims, Levi seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
- III. Public Comment**
 - a. Welcome visitors and public comment – no public comment.
- IV. Communications**
 - a. No communications.
- V. Reports**
 - a. Pool
 - Nothing to report.
 - b. Snowy Mountain Development Appointee
 - Kathleen reported they will be meeting next month.
 - c. Conservation District Appointee, Urban Supervisors
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - d. Sheriff
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - e. Fire Department
 - Absent – Nothing to report.
 - f. Public Works –
 - Dave reported that Dick Voigt's meter pit is leaking, old, and needs an upgrade; TTS is willing to dig and replace that pit, the Town has the supplies necessary in the shop.
 - Levi made a motion to replace Voigt's meter pit, Leo seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.
 - Dick mentioned that the sewer manhole cover needs a new ring as well – this will be looked into.
 - The plow truck has been hauled to Storfa's and a complete service job is nearly done, at this time the total is around \$600.00 and estimated to total under \$1,000.00 when finished – Dave will pick it up and drive it back to Winnett on Wednesday.
 - Ray Rowton bladed two streets for the Town.

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.
- The Town received a PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) check from the Petroleum County Community Center in the amount of \$305.70.
- The personnel policy will be discussed at the January meeting so the council has time to review.
- The ending checking account balance for November: \$133,097.75

h. Council:

- Leo: Nothing to report.
- Brad: Nothing to report.
- Levi: Nothing to report.
- Tom: Absent.

i. Mayor – Dave Harris

- Dave presented a bid from TTS Welding for a bad alley that needs some dirt work and gravel and also for a new cattleguard – the council unanimously agrees that the bid is too high for both jobs.
- Discussion is had on gravel.
- Signs have been posted around Town reminding residents that if they are going to be doing any kind of work within a Town right – of – way they must first contact the Town and get that project approved through the council.

VI. Old Business

a. Water & Sewer Rate Increase

- Savannah passed out a letter from the Town attorney regarding charging properties that are not in use of water or sewer – it essentially states that it would be legal to charge properties that have been previously or are currently tied in to the system but would not be legal to charge vacant lots that have no current access (no established meter pit).
- Discussion is had on charging every property or lot that has a meter pit and charging those a base rate.
- Discussion is had on locating and creating a list of all lots or vacant properties with meter pits.
- Discussion is had on doing one full increase to reach the rate analysis amount or spreading it out into increments.
- Levi asks the opinion of the guests on doing one full increase or gradually increasing – the consensus is they don't have preference, just that everyone be charged regardless of whether they are using the system or not.
- Levi made a motion to table agenda items Water & Sewer Rate Increase and Resolution #2023-06, Leo seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

b. Resolution #2023-06 – Water & Wastewater Rate Increase – tabled.

VII. New Business

a. Morrison-Maierle - Stephanie Seymanski (virtual)

- The Town wants to reduce the scope of work for the wastewater project to only what can be paid for with the grants currently available, and avoid getting a loan and having to increase rates. (The bids came in \$1,000,000+ over original estimations)
- Stephanie has reduced the scope in order of what she believes would be the top priority within those numbers – she goes through that break down over a teams call.
- It is recommended that the project be re-bid.
- It is recommended that the Town have an additional meeting with DEQ to get approval for a reduced project.
- There is concern that this would not resolve the e coli problem.
- There is concern around the lack of discharging at the lagoon.
- Discussion is had regarding the project.
- Levi made a motion not to award any bidders and explore a more affordable option that would not exceed grant funds available, Brad seconded the motion, and the vote passed unanimously.
- Stephanie will try to set up a meeting with DEQ that Rika could also attend for 01/03/2024.

b. Stahly Engineering – Robie Culver (virtual)

- Presented rate analysis with different loan scenarios.
- Discussion is had.

c. MDT

- Dave is concerned with various items with the current highway project: the large ditch coming into town which amounts to two full blocks of main street parking removed, curbing at the store will make snow removal more difficult, overall pit run and mud issues, the curb on South Broadway – he is going to express these concerns to MDT.
- Levi mentions to talk directly to the construction managers regarding sidewalks for anyone having issues – that is what he did for in front of his house.
- Discussion is had on sidewalks.

d. Chlorinator House & Funding Options

- Dave explained the various issues currently happening at the chlorinator house which includes most items and aspects.
- Savannah explained HB355, a state funding grant opportunity that is coming up in January, Winnett has been allocated approximately \$35,000. A few notable requirements to this funding is that you have to have a grant manager (this will deplete the funds pretty significantly) and a 25% match is required. The Chlorinator House would be an eligible and ideal project for this money. Levi had previously mentioned that the Carrell Grant may be a match opportunity for that 25%.
- Levi made a motion to apply for HB355 and pursue the repairs and needs of the chlorinator house for the Town's project, Brad seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

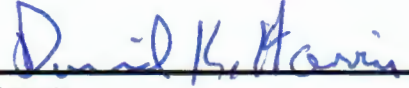
- Leo made a motion to apply for a 25% match through the Carrell Foundation, Brad seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.
- e. ESB Furnace
 - The furnace has had to have been repaired this year and last – it was noted by the serviceman that it is about 40 years old and probably due to be replaced soon. His estimate was \$5,000.00 and Petroleum County has agreed to split that cost with the Town.
 - Levi recommends getting another bid through Joe Stahl – no objections to this suggestion – Savannah will gather some more information and bids for the next council meeting.

VIII. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Personnel Policy Handbook

IX. Adjourn Meeting 7:50 PM.

- a. Levi made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM, Leo seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

 David Harris
 Mayor

X 

 Savannah Moore
 Town Clerk & Treasurer

Claims Paid:

#2675	Rural Development	\$845.00	#2690	Ralph Corbett	\$33.98
#2676	Fisher's Technology	\$33.40	#2691	KC Trucking	\$510.00
#2677	MES	\$5,150.00	#2692	Fergus Electric	\$3,462.82
#2678	Garfield Gazette	\$168.00	#2693	Northwest Pipe	\$527.77
#2679	Roundup Record Tribune	\$416.00	#2694	Stahly	\$792.75
#2680	Pace	\$9,359.89	#2695	Breaks General Store	\$105.66
#2681	TTS Welding	\$6,414.26			
#2682	Mid Rivers	\$237.00			
#2683	Aqua Tech Lab.	\$25.00			
#2684	Hawkins	\$1,292.81			
#2685	Yellowstone News Group	\$97.90			
#2686	DPHSS-FCSS	\$200.00			
#2687	Morrison Maierle	\$14,719.31			
#2688	FNBO	\$578.18			
#2689	John Deere Financial	\$177.44			