

## **TOWN OF BASIN**

Regular Council Meeting – Minutes

Thursday, April 25, 2024

Town Hall at 7:00 PM

Call to Order Regular Session

Pledge of Allegiance

A Regular Meeting of the Town of Basin Council was held at Town Hall in Basin, Wyoming on Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 7:00 PM. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Council Members Present: CJ Duncan, Brent Godfrey, Stuart DesRosier, Carl Olson, and Chuck Hopkin.

Also present were Clerk/ Treasurer Deaun Tigner, Chief McClure, Foreman Bill Dahlke, Kent Richins, Jesse Frisbee, and Roger Brewer.

Public Comment: Roger Brewer is worried that a section of land behind his property is a mosquito breeding ground. Although he is aware that it is railroad property, his goal in being here is to identify potential contacts with whom he can talk to about burying the ditch. Councilman Godfrey advised contacting the train master in Greybull who would give him a list of contacts in Denver. Councilman DesRosier asked if pellets would help and they said it wouldn't help if it was moving, but it would be worth it as it doesn't flow that fast. Jesse was asked to talk to the Railroad about maintaining this. He also said it is the Montana Street drain that drains into it.

Barbara Greene said she just sent an email to the Council about a possible grant for community facilities rehabilitation and to be on the lookout for it.

Building/ Demolition Permits: Trenton Koehn: 610 Wyoming Ave: Fence. Councilman Olson made a motion to refuse until the application was complete, Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chicken Permit Applications: None at this time.

Executive Session: If requested.

### **Approve Consent Agenda/ Additions/ Deletions:**

Councilman Godfrey made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Councilman Hopkin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Conduct of Business:**

**Fishing Day:** Barabra Greene said she would have a few things to donate to this if we decided to do this. Mayor Duncan and Councilman Olson will be out of town. Councilman DesRosier, Godfrey and Hopkin will be there from around 8 – noon to give out poles and will talk to Game and Fish and see if they would want to be there as well.

**Fireworks:** The Chief still recommends noon to midnight. He would ask that it is allowed on private property only as it does cause traffic hazards, and then also a reminder to clean up after yourselves. The fire department has no issues with the fireworks. Councilman Hopkin made a motion to approve fireworks with the Chief's recommendations for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman DesRosier would also like to include adding the fireworks for home games for next fall. Chief McClure did say there was a debate on the size of fireworks last year. Councilman DesRosier made a motion to allow fireworks for the football games for home touchdowns, Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Utility Pole Assessment:** After speaking with TCT, Foreman Bill Dahlke learned that they visited the council in 2011 or 2012 to discuss this issue. At the time, TCT expressed worry that Charter/ Spectrum were not being charged. Bill does have the paperwork from TCT, will coordinate with what we have for the town, and then will get in touch with Charter/ Spectrum, etc. Bill said we have a couple of templates that we will be working on to get it to the attorney and hopefully bring it to the next town council meeting. Bill will look at other entities and see what they are charging. The attachments do affect the work on our poles as in order to work on our own poles we would have to remove their attachments and change the pole. He said \$39 dollars is a good starting point.

**WyDot Stockpiling Agreement:** Kent and Deaun will keep working on this.

**Town Hall HVAC Units:** Jesse let the owner of Big Horn Heating & Cooling know of what the council decided from that list of what would be their responsibility and he sounded like they could handle that. Jesse will reach out to them and get a start date or an anticipated finish date or the town may come up with one for them.

**Mayor's Meeting:** There has not been a Mayor's meeting in a while. Mayor Duncan would like to start the discussion of a 6<sup>th</sup> cent sales tax in Big Horn County and also take it to a Mayor's meeting and, if we can have a discussion there, then we can start going to commissioner meetings.

**Rate Increases:** The Council talked about paying more for our purified water from Big Horn Regional. There was also a discussion about the recommendation from a rate study conducted the previous year to raise the electric rate this year. At the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at 6 p.m., the Council would like to hold a public meeting to discuss rate increases. The proposed rate increase for purified water is 10%, which is a straight passthrough from our supplier, proposed rate increase in electric is 2.5%, a slight increase proposed to the raw water a month, and discussed raising the mosquito rates as with the cost of the chemical increasing, the fund does not make any money, so that discussion is also on the table. Councilman Godfrey asked if we were going to raise the fees in the cemetery for town burials. Clerk

Tigner was asked to see when the deadline to put the cemetery in the district on the ballot would be. Councilman Hopkin asked to have some cost comparisons and add this to the agenda for May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Utility Deposits/ Transfers: Clerk Tigner will see if she can get the information to Kent within the next week. The Council would like numbers on delinquent accounts. Councilman DesRosier made the motion to make the landlords ultimately responsible for tenants utility bills for properties, with no change to the deposit amount, Councilman Hopkin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: Councilman Olson went to the WAM conference in Meeteetse. One of the biggest things they talked about there was investments.

Executive session for personnel: Councilman DesRosier made a motion to go into executive session for personnel and potential litigation at 7:46 p.m., Councilman Hopkin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Olson made a motion to adjourn executive session and go back into the regular meeting, Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously at 8:46 p.m. The Mayor and Council directed Kent Richins to establish an ad for the newspaper. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

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Town of Basin Mayor/ CJ Duncan

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Deaun Tigner – Town Clerk