

TOWN OF BASIN

Regular Council Meeting – Minutes

Thursday, June 22, 2023

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, June 22, 2023 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 Kyle McClure, Foreman Mike Dellos, Town Attorney Kent Richins, Town Engineer Jesse Frisbee, Cynthia Carter and her son.

Public Comment: Cynthia Carter showed up to the council meeting to pose some questions to the council regarding the fees required to turn on utilities. Her son is considering purchasing a property in which no services are currently being provided. In order to purchase the house, he must first have a home inspection performed, but doing so would require him to pay to have the utilities turned on and off again. She hopes he can get the utilities turned on before he buys the house so that they can pass inspection. According to Mayor Duncan, there is a strict policy regarding this, and the owner of the property is responsible for it. The Carters were informed by the Council as to why the town could not simply turn on the utilities free of charge. Cynthia said they would contact the realtor/owner of the property in an effort to have the utilities turned on.

Building/Demolition Permits:

- India Leigh Vineyard: 817 Wyoming Ave: Privacy fence, gravel parking lot behind house, patio, wooden gazebo 10 x 12.
- Chunie Greenfield: 402 South 7th St: Privacy fencing between driveway to replace old hedge.

Councilman Olson made a motion to approve the building permits signed by Mike Dellos, Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chicken Permits: None at this time.

Executive Session: None at this time.

Approve Consent Agenda/Additions/Deletions:

Councilman DesRosier would like to add possible flooding at the very beginning of the agenda and Kent Richins asked to put potential litigation on executive session, Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Flood: Councilman DesRosier has been in contact with LaRae Dobbs, the county emergency coordinator. Over the course of the weekend, Boysen will release a great deal of water. Councilman DesRosier reported they have obtained 2000 new sandbags the day before yesterday and filled four pallets full, which is not a huge amount but will give them a jumpstart. Councilman DesRosier talked to Clerk Tigner about getting a hold of people in low lying areas to let them know and was successful with at least some of them.

Eagle Engineering - Letter of Agreement: Councilman Godfrey made a motion to approve the contract with Eagle Engineering, Councilman DesRosier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

North 8th Street: Jesse said they are halfway through the excavation and will likely request some weather days since rain has been occurring every day, perhaps an additional five days, but he won't worry about that until the end of the contract. He currently has until approximately the middle of July. When Mayor Duncan inquired as to whether or not the paving had been scheduled, Jesse responded that it had not. We'll need to coordinate with Wild Bill Construction a little bit to meet the month-end deadline for the chip seal project. Since he would prefer to complete all of the projects simultaneously, and North 8th Street is still under construction, we may need to negotiate additional contract time for Wild Bill Construction.

North Haven Subdivision: Before the council officially signs off on this, they expressed interest in finalizing billing for the electrical. Councilman Olson would like to see that all contractors who have worked on it are paid in full and that all necessary paperwork is done.

Sewer Project: Nothing new to report. Councilman Hopkin wanted to know if the spots in the highway would be fixed. Town Engineer Jesse Frisbee stated yes, they are supposed to. Nick Wilson did not respond to Jesse's emails, phone calls, or texts. Jesse stated that he would continue to try to make contact with Wilson Bros. The test results were not disclosed despite his repeated inquiries. According to Mayor Duncan, similar expansion and upward pushing of the track occurred at the school after some work was done with fofill around the same time. The Council also asked Jesse to discuss this with AVI.

Future Plans/Ideas for old Town Hall: At one point, Councilman Hopkin inquired if the bank was interested in buying it. He was told yes. Councilman DesRosier liked the idea of selling or leasing the building. He is beginning to feel that we are acquiring a lot of property. The plan, according to Councilman Hopkin, was to house all department heads in the new structure. Chief McClure stated that the police department would consider relocating to the old town hall, but a vault door would have to be relocated. Councilman Hopkin proposed selling both the Eagles' annex and the old town hall and using the proceeds to construct a new storage facility for their equipment. The mayor believed that the structure should be sold. The Council will take a few weeks to deliberate on the matter before bringing it up again at the next meeting. If the building were to be sold, it would be put up for bid.

New Town Hall: Last weekend's open house, according to Mayor Duncan, yielded some suggestions. The outdoor mailbox will be installed within the following week. The senior center will only be accessible to senior citizens and not to younger children or families. Mayor Duncan speculated that we might be able to open on Saturdays and Sundays, but for the time being, it makes sense that it will only be accessible during town hall business hours. Councilman Hopkin wanted to know if the room could be rented for a party, etc. Councilman Olson stated that they could always rent one of the other town structures, including the Basin City Arts Center. Olson also discussed the relocation of the sign from the old town hall with Mike. Councilmen Godfrey and Hopkin will see if they can figure out the sign by the gym. Printer Lease: Councilman Godfrey made a motion to sign the lease for the copy machine, Councilman Desrosier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Hopkin discussed having a drive-in parking area. Mayor Duncan thought it would be quite a challenge to have that available. Jesse said the town does own 30 or 40 feet past the sidewalk. Mayor Duncan thinks we need to start parking parallel to the sidewalk and not perpendicular, which is making B street awfully narrow. The Council asked Jesse to draw something up for a preliminary review.

Vacation Pay: Mayor Duncan stated that he once worked for a company that allowed employees to cash in vacation if they did so by a certain time. He believed it might slow down the accumulation because they would be able to cash out the funds sooner rather than later. Councilman Olson mentioned that he has a document from another company stating that if employees have a certain number of accrued hours, they may use up to two-thirds of them, but never all of them, so that they have some left in case they need it. The Council decided to consider this and revisit it at a later date.

Fireworks: Mayor Duncan said a month ago he was absent from the meeting, but the council voted to have fireworks on the 4th from noon to midnight, but he thought it would be a good idea for the town at noon to light off one great big mortar shell to kick everything off. Councilman DesRosier thought it was a great idea. Mayor Duncan and Godfrey will donate money for the shell. Councilman DesRosier will light up the fireworks. All of the councilmen agreed to do this.

Public Comment: Councilman Olson reported that at the last meeting, the Council voted to rent the location for fireworks. Several others have inquired about doing the same thing, with blankets, food trucks, etc. Instead of spending the money to build that into something substantial, he suggested that we give it a try for a year or so to see if it generates revenue. Councilman Olson said he knew someone who was still looking to rent the space. Chief McClure stated that they must ensure they have the necessary licenses, etc., for vendors. For this, the Council requested Kent Richins to draft a lease.

Executive Session: Councilman Hopkin made a motion to go into executive session for personnel and potential litigation at 7:58 p.m., Councilman DesRosier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Godfrey made a motion to adjourn executive session and return to the regular meeting at 8:27 p.m., Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Godfrey made a motion to advertise for a fourth officer for the police department, Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Godfrey made a motion to have Clerk Tigner buy a phone to use as the town administrator to be used for official business, Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Town of Basin Mayor/CJ Duncan

Deaun Tigner – Town Clerk