

October 13, 2020 Town of Twin Bridges Regular Council Meeting (Via Video Conference)

Council members in attendance were Jordan High, Scott Holbrook, Matt Greemore, Nolan Frandsen and JB Klyap. Also in attendance were Mayor Joe Willauer, Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse, Maintenance Supervisor Sam Novich and Town Attorney Lori Harshbarger.

Guests: None

Joe Willauer called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Public Comment: Mayor Willauer notified the Council that the Town has received a request from individuals that live along Bridge Street to have the end of the road closed off to thru traffic going to and from the highway by the water tower shop. This will be tabled later for further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Fence Applications: *Joel and Lisa Benenson (320 S. Main St)* – Discussion occurred regarding the fence permit and the fence being over on the neighbor's property (316 S Main St). Nolan made a motion to approve the fence with a written agreement between the neighbors, stating that it is ok with the fence being placed on the neighbor's property instead of on the property line. Matt Greemore seconded the motion. Mayor Willauer called for any additional comments. Matt commented that he would feel better that something is in writing that shows the neighbors are in agreement, so that the Town is protected from being sued if the property to the North gets sold in the future. Since the Town is approving this fence application, we do not want it to come i cause the Town issues. Attorney Harshbarger commented that when we have them sign something saying that everyone is in agreement about the location of the fence, that they also agree that the fence is not in compliance with the Town Ordinance. Mayor Willauer called for any additional comments. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Kristen Kneeland (108 S Main St.) – Property was surveyed a couple of weeks ago. Matt made a motion to approve the fence application for Kristen Kneeland. Jordan High seconded the motion. Mayor Willauer called for any further discussion. No further discussion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Building Applications: *Loren and Carol Giem (218 W. 8th Ave.)* - Matt made a motion to approve the building application for 218 W. 8th Ave. Motion was seconded by JB Klyap. Nolan asked for clarification regarding the distance from the property line. Distance is six (6) feet. No further discussion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Larry and Betsy Best @ 301 N Bridge St. – Discussion occurred regarding the setbacks for the addition and the plans. Jordan High made a motion to approve the application for Larry & Betsy Best. Motion was seconded by JB Klyap. No further discussion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Coree Martin (Farmers Market): Coree Martin who represents the Farmers Market has made a request for the Town to pay for paint to paint the picnic tables in the Firehall Park. Kristi commented that we

did not receive information for cost of the paint, so she could find a spot for it in the budget. Mayor Willauer requested that this decision be post-poned until we have additional information.

Christmas Stroll: Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse reported that the Twin Bridges Community Association (TBCA) wants to put the Christmas stroll back on Main Street. They are requesting to have burn barrels in the park this year. The Christmas Stroll will be held on December 3rd. Joe commented that he didn't have a problem with the burn barrels as they have done them in the past. Jordan was concern with them getting to hot and burning up the grass or putting marks on the cement. Nolan asked if this should be approved by the fire chief. Discussion occurred. Nolan will check with the fire chief. Nolan made a motion to approve the burn barrels as long as no burn bans are in effect at that time. Matt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Trees in front of Medical Clinic: Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse notified the council that she received a call from the clinic and they want to cut the trees down in front of the clinic. They were not sure if the trees were part of the Town or the Clinic. Discussion occurred regarding the trees. Mayor Willauer tabled the decision for next month until Sam and Kristi can find more information out on whether or not this is the Town's decision or the Clinics.

JD Tractor: Discussion occurred regarding the John Deere Tractor and the cost. Joe commented that it is within the budget can we put a motion together so Sam can move forward. Matt commented that he would like himself and someone else to work with Sam on the tractor. Committee will be Sam, Nolan and Matt. Matt Greemore made a motion to have a committee put together a package that benefits the community that is under \$45,000. Nolan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Asphalt for 6th Ave: Jefferies Contracting started working on the trenches on 6th Ave last Thursday. There is some area of concern of ice buildup. Matt and Sam have both looked at it and Matt has spoken to Joe and a couple of the other council members to let them know what is happening over by the school. Discussion occurred regarding an area of approximately 1000 square feet that needs additional asphalt. Matt made a motion to approve going up an additional \$6,000 in cost for asphalt on 6th Avenue. JB seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Snow Removal: Sam requested guidance from the Council on how they would like the sidewalks plowed this winter. Main Street has always been the priority and then the streets. Currently the ordinance states that the property owner cleans the sidewalks. Matt commented that Main Street is the number one priority still and the school should be second. Kristi asked about the snow removal and what happens if we don't plow them at some point in time and someone gets hurt. Is the Town going to be liable because we started plowing everyone's sidewalks and didn't do it one time. Lori commented that the Town should get out of the snow removal business. It needs to go back to the people. No decision was made at this time.

JB asked if we could send out a letter to remind individuals that it is owner's responsibility to keep snow off the sidewalk. JB made a motion to send a letter to all property owners to review the ordinance that they are responsible for their sidewalks. Matt seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Sheriff's Report: Written report received, council reviewed.

Madison County Planning Report: No report received.

Library Director Report: Written report received, council reviewed.

Attorney Report: No Report

Safety Report: No Report

Mayor's Report: Mayor Willauer reported that he and Nolan sat in on a virtual call with DNRC and Great West Engineering regarding the changes in the floodplain mapping. He also notified the Council that we did not receive the EDA funding, but he is looking into some other options and will let the Council know what those options are at a later date.

Maintenance Report: Sam and Rick have most of the water tower shop painted. They still need to do the tin on the roof. They will also be hauling the asphalt material for crushing and then applying to 1st avenue.

Over the next couple weeks they will start prepping for winter and the rest area will be shut down this week for the winter.

Clerk's Report: Kristi Millhouse reported that the Budget was turned into the State on October 1st and copy of where we are at budget wise at the end of 1st quarter is in everyone's email for their review.

Kristi sat in on the Montana League of Cities and Town's Convention last week and there were some really good speakers. One of the items she would recommend the council view is a documentary called "All the Queens Horses." It is about a clerk that stole \$52 Million from the Town she worked for. It shows how important the segregation of duties and internal controls are for Cities and Towns.

Denning and Downey has started the closing and audit for FY19-20 and Kristi will be providing them information over the next few weeks.

Kristi still needs Sam, JB, and Scott to sit in on a virtual call with DNRC to go over the floodplain map revisions. Everyone needs to be informed before we take this to the public.

Approval of Consented Minutes (September 8, 2020): JB made a motion to approve the September 8th minutes. Nolan seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Claims: Matt made a motion to approve payroll electronic checks 89061 to 89083 and checks 5808 to 5818; and Claim Electronic Checks 89790 to 89791 and checks 21127 to 21152. Nolan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Council Review: Mayor Willauer commented that the ordinance meeting was post-poned for last month do we want to do a virtual meeting or do we want to meet in person with masks. Matt said he would recommend doing a round table with masks on. Nolan agreed with Matt's comments. Mayor Willauer agreed and will set a date for everyone to meet.

Nolan commented that if you haven't not gone over the floodmaps with DNRC and Great West yet, that you do so. It is really important with the changes that are going to be occurring. Matt agreed with Nolan's comment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

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