

October 10, 2023, Town of Twin Bridges Regular Council meeting (104 E. 6th Ave)

Council members in attendance were Matt Greemore, Jordan High, JB Klyap, Nolan Frandsen and Scott Holbrook. Also in attendance were Mayor Patricia Hayes, Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse and public works employees Richard Zahn and David Beller.

Guests: Town Attorney Lori Harshbarger, Dan McCauley (Great West Engineering) and Cody Marxer (Great West Engineering)

Mayor Hayes opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2023-08 Council Bylaws: Council request that this be tabled for another month and would like to have a work session. The council will set up a work session to go over.

Resolution 2023-10 Cancellation of November 7, 2023, Election: Scott Holbrook made a motion to approve resolution 2023-10 cancellation of the November 7, 2023, election. Jordan High seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Great West Engineering: Dan McCauley provided the council with an update on the projects that they are working on for us. The water project is in the design phase and is just about complete. Dan would like to request a work session with the council to go over the water project and the Sewer PER. One of the items that needs to be discussed is the storage tank. Kristi commented that Inland will be here this month to dive into the water storage tank to figure out what is causing the leak. Rick has been talking to the representative from Inland and was told that there should be workers in Montana this month. They will get a hold of Rick with a date and time.

Discussion for a date and time for the work session occurred. The council decided November 14th at 6:00 pm.

Dan reported that the storm drain project certification is complete and the Town should be receiving that information shortly.

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) pedestrian traffic study is being conducted. MDT was supposed to be here last week setting up their cameras to gather data. Dan also commented that he thought they had addressed having a speed study done at the same time, but it wasn't. MDT is requesting that the Town put together another letter for the speed study.

Cody Marxer reported the status of the Growth policy. The survey results have been received and compiled. Cody had her first stakeholders meeting last month and got a lot of feedback from the individuals that attended. She will have one more stakeholder meeting before the plan is completed and presented to the Town and the Madison County Planning Board. The public meeting will be held at one of the Madison County Planning Board meetings. Discussion occurred. The Town will have a work session in December or January with final approval of the growth plan the following month. Cody also asked if she could get a list of the Towns assets.

Cody Marxer also reported that she would be providing updated regulations for the floodplain in the next few months.

Fence Application: Betty Knottner (308 N. Main St.) – Discussion occurred. JB Klyap made a motion to approve the fence application for Betty Knottner at 308 N. Main St. Jordan High seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Madison County Public Health Update (Emilie Seyler): A copy of the 2022 update Community Needs Assessment was provided to the Council. Emilie was not available to discuss.

Credit Card Updates: Nolan Frandsen made a motion to remove Ken Stensrud from the High Peaks Federal Credi Union credit cards and add David Beller. Jordan High seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report: Written report received.

Madison County Planning Board: Written report received.

Library Report: No report received.

Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Scott Holbrook reported that their calls have picked up lately. They have had several medical calls and some vehicle accidents.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Lori Harshbarger commented that the Town will need to have an executive session in the future.

Attorney Harshbarger also discussed the denial of Leslie Adams building application and her fence application. Lori will be sending a letter out on both items.

Attorney Harshbarger also asked about the situation over at the Children's Center. Discussion occurred. She will be sending a letter to the new owners. She will also address the wells that are over than the septic tanks.

JB Klyap left the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Patricia Hayes reported that the Wagon Wheel building has sold and will be closing later in the month. The medical clinic has purchased the property and will be building a new clinic on it.

Patty also reported that she was supposed to attend the Montana League of Cities and Towns conference this week but with medical needs of her spouse and mother she will not be able to attend.

Maintenance Report: Rick Zahn reported on behalf of the public works department. He blew out all the sprinklers for the winter and has closed the bike camp. He has also vacuumed out two of the lift stations. He is planning on doing the main lift next and then jetting the lines. They will be finishing up one more round of mowing for the year and then prepping equipment for snow removal.

If rains they will start grading the road one more time also.

Rick asked if they should finish the roof up on the water tower shop since there has been discussion of removing the building. Yes, he should finish the roof to protect the stuff that is currently inside the building. It can still be used this winter to store the equipment that is being used for the winter.

Matt commented that he wanted to thank Rick for a job well done on the sidewalk he repaired. Discussion of other areas (sidewalks) that need some attention.

Clerks Report: Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse reported that the Town had their annual inspection from the Department of Labor and Industry last week and there were a few items that need to be addressed. The major one is the garage door that is used to put items upstairs in the shop. We need to install a better way of opening the door. One option is to put a garage door opener in with the switch downstairs. The second item is having the vehicle lift and the scissor lift inspected. They need to be inspected annually. Kristi is looking for someone to inspect the vehicle lift. Montana Department of Labor and Industry is supposed to let us know what to do about the scissor lift. Third, Kristi asked about the saw that is in the shop that the Town received from the school. We have had difficulty finding a guard for it. Do we keep or do we get rid of it? Discussion occurred. If we can't find anything then we need to go ahead and get rid of it.

Kristi also reported that the budget has been submitted to the State and that the Annual Financial Report for the Town is being worked on.

Matt and Kristi met with Master Meters sells reps last week and got some additional information from them. Matt provided the council with a report on the meters and his impressions.

Kristi asked if the Town could purchase a couple more of the radar speed signs for the other two entrances in Town since we did not use the money this past year for dust control. The council agreed it would be ok to order two new signs.

The Town received notice from Opportunity Bank that the savings account is dormant, and they will start charging the Town \$5.00 every month if it is not used. Kristi notified the council of the difference in interest between the High Peaks FCU savings account, the STIP account, and Opportunity Bank. Everyone agreed that we should close the Opportunity Bank Savings account and reinvest the funds differently. Kristi will add everything to the agenda next month for official approval and figure out some additional options. In the meantime, she will transfer \$5.00 to the savings account just so the account stays active, and the Town is not charged a fee.

Consent Agenda: Nolan made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Matt Greemore seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

ATTEST:

Kristi Millhouse, Clerk/Treasurer

Patricia Hayes, Mayor