

STEVENSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Thursday, November 24th, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Council for the Town of Stevensville came together at Council Chambers, this being the time set for the regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council. Mayor Ludington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember's Holcomb, Perrin, Crews and Hunter were all present. Several citizens were also present.

Council and all present then rose, faced the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes from:

November 12th Town Council Meeting and November 19th Committee of the Whole Meeting

Councilmember Holcomb made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Hunter seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of bi-weekly claims:

Council reviewed the bi-weekly claims presented.

Councilmember Holcomb made a motion to separate the Jury Duty Fees from the claims and approve them separately due to her husband one the list to receive jury duty fees. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Councilmember Hunter made a motion to approve the claims without the jury duty fees as presented. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve the jury duty fees as presented in the claims. Councilmember Hunter seconded the motion. Councilmembers Crews, Perrin and Hunter all voted "aye". Councilmember Holcomb abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

Administrative Reports:

Airport

Airport Manager Bob Otte reported on airport issues including deer at the airport, SPD making extra patrols, and land leases. Bob then reported on ownership issues of water and septic at the airport and requested direction from Council. Further discussion ensued regarding ownership of the well and septic.

Bob then gave an update on the proposed target range for law enforcement.

Police

Chief Marble presented his October report and updated Council on department issues including recent drug cases.

Treasurer

Treasurer Mapelli presented the Treasurer's report for the month of October.

Discussion was held regarding the CIP funds, investments, debt reserve and short lived assets. Treasurer Mapelli will present a proposal for the December 10th Council meeting.

Guests:

There were no guests present.

Correspondence:

Mayor Ludington read the following correspondence into the record:

- 11-5-15 Dept of Commerce Letter regarding the final project closeout of North Stevensville Tax Increment Finance District Sanitary Sewer Main Improvements
- Letter from Raymond Smith regarding alcohol use at Lewis & Clark Park

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Business:

A. Standing Agenda Item: Sewer Project

Mayor Ludington provided an update on the sewer project.

Discussion was held on filling the oxidation ditch once it is abandoned upon project completion.

B. Discussion/decision – Hiring a Full-time Temporary Police Officer for an Additional 30 Days

Mayor Ludington reported on Officer Sunderland's 30 days expiring yesterday and the need for his continued employment until a permanent full-time officer is hired.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve hiring a full-time temporary police officer for an additional 30 days. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

C. Discussion/decision – Second Letter of Support for Nicole Court

Mayor Ludington introduced the letter from the Montana Board of Housing requesting additional support for Nicole Court and talking points submitted by Desera Towle.

Desera Towle commented on the support of Nicole Court due to the funding being highly competitive and the need for this housing in Stevensville.

Discussion ensued regarding project plans and location, parking lots, project meeting Town Development Codes, water table in that area, and notification of the residents on Winslett.

Stacie Barker, a resident on Winslett, commented on her concerns of the water table in that area and what type of residents would be residing in this housing.

Councilmember Hunter made a motion to approve the Mayor draft a letter of support for Nicole Court. Councilmember Perrin seconded the motion. Mayor informed Council and members of the public that this project is in the preliminary stages and if the funding is awarded, there will be many more public meetings prior to construction. **The vote was called and all voted “aye”.**
Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Ludington called for a 5 minute recess.
Mayor called the meeting back to order.

D. Discussion/decision – Second Proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Stevensville, MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Roy Capp

Mayor Ludington presented a revised Memorandum of Understanding from the previously approved MOU.

Discussion ensued regarding the previous MOU approved by Council, the proposed land exchange, MT FWP property improvement, management, maintenance and patrolling of this site.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Stevensville, MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Roy Capp. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding funding of the appraisal, design and use of the access, current access and easements. **The vote was called and all voted “aye”.** **Motion carried 4-0.**

New Business:

A. Discussion/decision – Pay Claims Out of Cycle for the Month of December Due to Only One Council Meeting

Councilmember Hunter made a motion to approve paying claims out of cycle for the month of December due to only one Council meeting. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

B. Discussion/decision – Council Consent to Mayor’s Appointment of a New Finance Officer

Mayor Ludington informed Council of his appointment of April Neidhardt as the New Finance Officer.

Councilmember Hunter made a motion to consent to Mayor Ludington’s appointment of April Neidhardt as the New Finance Officer for the Town of Stevensville. Councilmember Perrin seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding no requirement of being a Town resident. **The vote was called and all vote “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.**

C. Discussion/decision – Alcohol Consumption at the Skate Park and Bear Mountain Playground at Lewis & Clark Park

Mayor encouraged comments and suggestions regarding alcohol consumption at Lewis and Clark Park.

Council held discussion regarding allowing alcohol at the park and allowing alcohol only under an approved special event permit. Chief Marble recommended changing the ordinance not allowing alcohol at city parks except through an approved special event permit.

Council also discussed banning smoking except designated areas.

Councilmember Crews made a motion for the Mayor to submit a proposed Ordinance amendment on Section 18-21 Prohibited Activities regarding the parks of Stevensville. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

D. Discussion/decision – Amending Chapter 18, Parks and Recreation for the Stevensville Municipal Code to Include Skate Park Rules and Regulations

Council held discussion regarding the current Skate Park rules and amending the current park ordinance incorporating skateboard rules to allow enforcement of such rules. Further discussion of Skate Park rules and regulations ensued.

Councilmember Crews made a motion for the Park Board to submit their recommendation to the Town Council for consideration at the January

COW meeting. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion. There was further discussion regarding alcohol, tobacco, firearms, fireworks, glass container and issues with dogs not under control. **The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.**

Executive Report:

Mayor Ludington reported on the following issues:

- DNRC denied the Town's water rights application and there will be another meeting will PCI on December 4th to determine the next course of action.
- The Reduced Rate Program approved by Council will be ready and rolled out in February for January rates.
- Charter Communications Franchise agreement proposed is similar to what is in place now. Mayor will send a counter proposal and keep the Council updated
- NorthWestern Energy meeting regarding trees in the proposed path of the new transmission line possibly needing to be moved and replanted

Town Council Comments:

Councilmember Perrin commented on the current water production versus usage.

Board Reports:

Councilmember Perrin reported on the Stevensville Main Street Board meeting and upcoming fundraiser.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Paul Ludington, Mayor



Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk

