

STEVENSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Thursday, July 9th, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Council for the Town of Stevensville came together at Council Chambers, this being the time set for the rescheduled regular meeting of the Town Council. Mayor Mim Mack called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Councilmember's Perrin, Holcomb and Crews were all present. Councilmember Hunter was absent as previously approved. There were several members of the public present also.

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

Approval of minutes from:

June 9th Council Meeting, June 11th Public Hearing, June 25th Board of Adjustment Public Hearing, June 25th Board of Adjustment Meeting, and June 25th Town Council Meeting

Councilmember Crews commented on the June 25th Council minutes being brief with regard to the public comments.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of bi-weekly claims:

Council reviewed the biweekly claims presented.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to approve the bi-weekly claims as presented. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 3-0.

Administrative Reports:

Building Dept

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's May and June reports.

Fire

Fire Chief Motley presented the monthly fire report.

Streets/Alleys

Streets/Alley Supervisor Ed Sutherlin reported on Streets/Alleys, pool, and cemeteries. He reported there may not be enough water to irrigate at the cemetery much longer due to low water in the Union Ditch.

Water/Sewer

Water/Sewer Supervisor George Thomas updated Council on water/sewer.

Guests:

Mel Walters gave a presentation on the 2016 Founders Day Event in commemoration of the 175th anniversary of "Where Montana Began". Mel states they expect over 1,000 attendees to this event and will be requesting assistance from the Town with items such as security, street cleanliness, and event set up. The funding will be primarily from donations and grants. Mel will continue to update Council as plans proceed.

Correspondence:

Mayor Mim Mack read the following correspondence into the record:

- ✓ Thank you letter for the Bear Mountain Playground Donation
- ✓ Letter from Renee McGrath opposing the bicycle camp location
- ✓ Letter from Ann Capovani opposing the bicycle camp location
- ✓ Letter from Colleen Alber opposing the bicycle camp location
- ✓ Letter from Carrie Brushia opposing the bicycle camp location

Mayor commented on Carrie Brushia's accusation of the Mayor personally stopping homeowners from using a home in a residential zone as a vacation rental. He informed Council and the public he met with the owners and reviewed the Development Code, Town attorney's opinion on the zoning interpretation and his (Mayor's) statement to the owner's that he would need to recuse himself of any decisions made on a Conditional Use Permit due to him being the owner of a hotel.

Public Comments:

Clayton Floyd, 210 St. Mary's Drive, inquired about the recycling costs and allegations of the Mayor, Bill Perrin and Brandon Dewey being on School property without permission. Mayor Mim Mack responded stating that the first recycling bill of \$80 was received and the second bill has not come in yet. He also reported that there are no criminal charges being filed against the Mayor and Bill Perrin regarding the school. He also clarified that Brandon Dewey was not at the school as alleged.

Cathi Cook, read a letter to the Mayor and Council opposing the location of Lewis & Clark Park for the bicycle camp and encouraged them to reconsider the location.

Shari Harris, 375 Bear Cub Lane, commented on the bathroom situation at Lewis & Clark Park and the need for handicap facilities. Mayor informed Ms. Harris that this topic is on the agenda to be discussed.

Tonya Eckert thanked Ed Sutherlin and George Thomas for helping set up for the Pignic and the Fire Dept for cooking.

Bob Michalson, 222 Turner Street, commented on commercial businesses using the recycling bin, costing the tax payers of Stevensville. Mayor responded that the Town is aware of the situation of commercial businesses using the recycling for cardboard and is addressing the issue.

Stevensville Main Street Assn President Dan Ritter read a statement supporting the partnership between the SBCC (Stevensville Bicycle Camp Committee) and the Stevensville Hotel to relocate the camp from Lewis & Clark Park to the Stevensville Hotel. He stated this is a positive solution to the concerns expressed by members of the public.

Stevensville Hotel Owner Gene Mim Mack read a letter from SBCC announcing its' partnership with the Stevensville Hotel to house the bicycle camp on Hotel property.

Hotel Owner Gene Mim Mack then read a statement from the Stevensville Hotel regarding the partnership between the Hotel and SBCC to host the camp on hotel property. He stated he will be applying for a permanent conditional use permit to allow the use of tent camping for bicycle tourists.

There was no further public comment.

Mayor called a 5 minute break.
The meeting reconvened.

Unfinished Business:

A. Standing Agenda Item: Sewer Project

HDR Resident Engineer Tom Hanou updated Council on the sewer project phase II. He stated the headwork's building is not as far in construction as he anticipated, but he did not feel the overall project was behind. He reported that RD representatives will be making an on-site visit next week.

Council requested a construction "mile-stone" chart to post at Town Hall. Tom will work on getting one.

Tom then reported on existing digester pipes showing corrosion and that they are researching treatment options and costs to stop the corrosion. He presented photos of the corroded pipes to Council and stated replacing or treating these pipes is not part of the project, but contingency funds are available through RD. Councilmember Crews suggested they look into replacing the iron pipes with polymer pipes. Tom stated they will look at all options and report back to Council.

New Business:

A. Discussion/decision– Skate Park Construction Schedule

Raymond Smith presented the proposed Skate Park construction schedule. Discussion ensued regarding construction of both the skatepark and playground occurring at the same time. Parks Supervisor Ed Sutherlin did not see an issue. Accommodating soccer practice schedule and parking was also discussed.

Raymond reviewed their fundraising efforts, current funds collected and funds needed.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to approve the Skate Park construction schedule as presented. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion. The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 3-0.

Raymond informed Council and the public of the Skate Park dinner and silent auction this Saturday at the Living Center.

B. Discussion/decision – P/T Police Clerk Position

Mayor Mim Mack reviewed the history of the Police Clerk position being combined with the Town Clerk and Court Clerk position and the workload being more than anticipated. He also commented on the Supreme Court recommendation to separate Court Clerk and Police Clerk due to obvious conflicts. Mayor stated Council's approval of this position would allow for advertisement of the position prior to the final budget approval.

Council held discussion on this being a full-time position versus part-time; funding of the position; and advertising now versus once the budget is approved.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to table the Police Clerk Position until the July 23rd Council meeting. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion. The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 3-0.

C. Discussion – Restroom Remodel at Lewis & Clark Park

Ed Sutherlin presented proposed plans for the Lewis and Clark restroom remodel which would include constructing an ADA family bathroom in the middle and completely upgrade and clean the current women's and men's facilities.

Discussion ensued regarding the best options to remodel, adding heat, and funding. Raymond Smith offered his personal time to research available grants to help with this project.

Council concurred to come up with a remodel plan and funding prior to beginning construction.

D. Discussion/decision – Adding Rural Firefighters to the Town Roster for Retirement & Training Purposes

Mayor Mim Mack gave a background of discussions of a blended retirement system to be implemented to include all fire volunteers. Currently Town firefighters have been included in the rural roster for retirement benefits, but rural firefighters have not been included on the Town roster. This proposal would create equality to all firefighters.

Mayor then reviewed the details of the plan, possible financial impacts to the Town and roster of firefighters to be included.

Town Fire Chief Motley requested adding the Cadets to the roster for inclusion in the retirement. Rural Fire Chief Rex Olson and Rural Fire District Board Chair Jim Moerkerke spoke to the benefit to volunteers of this retirement. Discussion ensued regarding funding of the retirement program and the Town's impact being dependent on the retirement roster of those meeting the 20 year requirement and 60 hours training.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to accept adding the Rural Firefighters and Cadets to the Town's Roster. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion.

Clayton Floyd commented on the unknown financial impact to the Town and the possibility of it being too much. Further discussion ensued regarding funding, past service year's credit and unknown impact financially to the Town. Councilmember Crews called for the question. **The vote was called and all voted "aye". Motion carried 3-0.**

Executive Report:

Mayor gave an update on the following items:

- 1) Stevensville Police Department new Reserve Officers sworn in on June 4, 2015: James "Eric" Burrows, Jessica Hayward and Mark Teynor.

Town Council Comments:

Councilmember Crews commented on relocating the bicycle camp to the hotel. He thanked Gene Mim Mack for that partnership and breaking a lot of tension within the Town.

Councilmember Perrin commented on the efficiency of using social media to get the word out regarding the fireworks ban.

Councilmember Crews inquired about reconsidering the bicycle camp location motion made at the June 25th Council meeting now that the camp will be at the hotel. Council concurred to reconsider the June 25th motion at the next Council meeting.

Board Reports

There were no board reports given.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

APPROVE:



Gene Mim Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:



Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk