

STEVENSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Thursday, June 25th, 2015

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 Mim Mack called the meeting to order at 7:07p.m. immediately after the Board of Adjustment meeting. Councilmember's Perrin, Holcomb, 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.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to suspend council rules to move New Business Agenda Item A, Stevensville Bike Camp Location, prior to Unfinished Business. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of minutes from:

June 9th Town Council Meeting

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to table approval of the June 9th Town Council minutes until the July 9th Council meeting due to corrections needing to be made. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of bi-weekly claims:

Council reviewed the biweekly claims presented.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve the bi-weekly claims as presented. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Administrative Reports:

Airport

Airport Manager Bob Otte reported on the Airport activities. He thanked Councilmember Crews on his help with the recent air space penetration by a local well driller.

Court

Judge Klaphake reported on Court activities and his training in a law school held at the University of Montana. He commented on the large number of citations for speeding at the school and reminded Council of his recommendation to install a flashing light. Judge Klaphake then informed Council of the percentages of accidents caused by alcohol and the highest death rate being from seatbelt violations.

Treasurer

Treasurer Mapelli's presented her monthly report including utility billing and collections.

Guests:

Mel Walters submitted information regarding the 2016 Founders Day Event, but was unable to attend the meeting. 2016 Founders Day Event will be rescheduled for a future Council meeting.

Correspondence:

Mayor Mim Mack read the following correspondence into the record:

- Pantry Partners Thank You Note
- Nina Eadie, Stevensville Garden Club, Thank you Note
- Stevensville's 3rd Grade Thank You's

Public Comments:

Hans McPherson, Chair of the Supply Ditch Association introduced himself and fellow board members in attendance. He then gave a history of the Supply Ditch and turned the podium over to Board Member Louie Bouma.

Louie Bouma commented on a motor vehicle accident he was involved in the Town of Stevensville and requested the Town reimburse him for his attorney fees. Mayor Mim Mack informed Mr. Bouma that the Town Council has no authority to overrule a decision of the court, but requested Mr. Bouma write a letter to the Town with his request.

Tonya Eckert, 106 College Street, presented Council with written comments on 3 items: 1) what the \$300 donated to the Stevensville Garden Club was used for since most of the materials were donated; 2) report of the Town office staff is not treating members of the public with respect and a few ladies leaving Town Hall in tears; and 3) incident at the swimming pool the previous night involving a police officer going into the girls changing room.

Main Street Association Director Joan Prather thanked the Council and Mayor for their support and assistance in the Western Heritage Days event last weekend.

There were no further public comments.

Discussion/decision – Stevensville Bike Camp Location

Kathleen Meyers gave a presentation on a proposed bike camp in the Town of Stevensville.

Discussion was held regarding the cost of the bike camp being approximately \$63,000 (\$42,000 grant and \$21,000 local match); locations of other area camps, maintenance and cost to maintain a camp; committee members and the Town involvement; and other location sites. There were questions from the public and concerns expressed on the location of the camp.

Further discussion was held regarding the current ordinance of “no camping” and the process to amend the ordinance to allow camping in the park.

Mayor Mim Mack called for public comment on the bicycle camp at this time. He then read several letters submitted prior to the meeting: letter from Kerry O’Conner in opposition of the bicycle camp and letters in support of the camp by Dr. Amy Berglund, Tonia Janzen, Joan Nygaard and David Hip.

Shari Dietch commented in opposition of the camp.

Amanda Smith commented in opposition to the camp being at Lewis & Clark Park.

Joan Prather, Stevensville Main Street Association, commented in support.

Ed Greef commented in support.

Shari Harris commented in support.

Meghan Hanson, 511 Charlos Street, commented in support of camp.

Cathy Cook commented in opposition of the camp.

Jamie Sechum (last name sp unknown) commented in opposition of the camp.

Laura Harper commented in opposition of the camp.

Clayton Floyd, 210 St. Mary’s Drive, commented in opposition and of the intended use of Lewis & Clark Park. He then presented Council with a petition against the bicycle camp signed by over 400 people.

Tonya Eckert commented in opposition.

Jan Perrin, 503 Charlos, commented in support.

Brandon Dewey commented in support.

Cathi Cook made additional comments regarding the soccer fields.

Collin Hightman (last name sp unknown) commented in opposition of the camp location.

Jane Schutz, 103 Winslett, commented in opposition.

Desera Towle commented in support.

Vicki Motley, 318 9th Street, commented in opposition to the location.

Jane Schutz commented on the conflicting information being received.

Kathleen Meyer commented that the bicycle committee understood the proposed location was part of the old baseball field and that it was not encroaching on the soccer field. She asked for clarification.

Mayor Mim Mack called a 5 minute recess.
The meeting reconvened.

Mayor Mim Mack reviewed the property deed to Lewis & Clark Park and the intent of use of the park meeting the community public use restrictions as currently proposed. He then commented on the administrative process that was questioned and inference that the staff hid the agenda.

Council held further discussion on types of people cyclists are, concern of the location due to the soccer fields, property deed and the intended use of the park, campgrounds defined under MCA, camping for a select group and no opportunities for others being left out, economic impact, using private property to promote the bicycle camp versus public property.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to approve the bicycle camp to be located in Lewis & Clark Park. Councilmember Hunter seconded the motion. There were several more comments made from the public both in opposition and in support of the bicycle camp. **Councilmember Crews called for the question and the vote was called. Councilmember Crews voted “nay”, Councilmember Holcomb voted “nay”, Councilmember Perrin voted “aye”, and Councilmember Hunter voted “aye.** Mayor Mim Mack commented on the public comments received and his research on the bicycle camps. **Mayor Mim Mack voted “aye” breaking the tie vote. Motion carried 3-2.**

Business:

A. Standing Agenda Item: Sewer Project

1. Discussion/decision: Approval of Lizzy Adams and Rickey Schultz as Alternate Resident Project Representatives

Mayor Mim Mack reviewed the request for approval of alternate resident project representatives in the event Tom Hanou, the main resident project manager, is out of town for any reason.

Councilmember Hunter made a motion to approve Lizzy Adams and Rickey Schultz as Alternate Resident Project Representatives for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

B. Discussion/decision – Resolution No. 368, A Resolution Creating Twin Creeks Lighting District Phase I for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor reviewed the public hearing and receiving no opposition to the lighting district.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 368, A Resolution Creating Twin Creeks Lighting District Phase I for the Town of Stevensville. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

C. Discussion/decision – Resolution No. 369, A Resolution to Levy and Assess Certain Lands for Twin Creeks Lighting District Phase I

Mayor Mim Mack reviewed the resolution.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 369, A Resolution to Levy and Assess Certain Lands for Twin Creeks Lighting District Phase I. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion. Vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

D. Discussion/decision – Handicap Accessible Porta-potty versus Non-Handicap for Riverside Cemetery

Mayor reviewed discussion from the previous Council meeting with regard to purchasing a porta-potty for Riverside Cemetery. Council held discussion on the need for an accessible handicap unit and how to fund the cost difference.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve purchasing a handicap accessible porta potty to be located at Riverside Cemetery.

Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

E. Discussion/decision – Establish Water/Sewer Fund Reserve Accounts Tabled from June 9th Council Meeting

Treasurer Mapelli presented options for savings accounts and commented on her concerns for a long term CD rate.

Council discussed the current water/sewer funding, pooling both funds for a higher interest return and allocating accrued interest back to the appropriate water/sewer accounts.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to table this item until the July 23rd meeting to give the Treasurer more time to research investment opportunities. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion and all and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business:

A. Discussion/decision – Stevensville Bike Camp Location

This item was discussed prior to Unfinished Business.

B. Discussion/decision – Approve Town Partnership with the Stevensville Bike Camp in Support of MT Department of Tourism Grant Application up to \$1,000

Mayor requested the bicycle committee to present information on fund raising and future maintenance for the bicycle camp. Kathleen Meyer requested to postpone this item for presentation at a future meeting.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to table this agenda item to the July 23rd Council meeting. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion and all voted ‘aye’. Motion carried 4-0.

C. Discussion/decision – Hilltop Subdivision Covenant Change

Mayor presented the covenant change request with the Town having two votes on a change. Council held discussion.

Councilmember Perrin made a motion to approve the Hilltop Subdivision Covenant Change. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

D. Discussion/decision – Creamery Picnic Special Event Permit

Council reviewed the Special Event Permit for Creamery Picnic.

Councilmember Holcomb made a motion to approve the Special Event Permit for the Annual Creamery Picnic on August 7th & 8th. Councilmember Crews seconded the motion. Discussion was held regarding recycling containers being available during the event. **The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.**

E. Discussion/decision – 4th of July Pignic Special Event Permit

Mayor stated this should not have been on the agenda for Council approval, but the permit has been approved administratively by all department heads.

F. Discussion/decision – Suspend 2015 Pool Group Pool Passes

Mayor reviewed the pool 6-14 pass sales. 12 group passes (248 individuals) have been sold causing concern for pool occupancy. He stated on two occasions this week the pool was temporarily closed for more occupants. Mayor recommended Council suspend the group passes for the remainder of the 2015 pool season.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve suspending all group pool passes for the remainder of the 2015 pool season. Councilmember Perrin seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding suspending group passes versus all passes. **The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.**

G. Discussion/decision – Appraisal of 11+/- Acres at River Park up to \$1,000

Mayor Mim Mack reviewed ongoing discussions with the Capp family regarding a land swap at the river access and a portion of River Park. He informed Council that a land appraisal is needed and the approximate cost of such would be \$2,700 with Fish & Wildlife agreeing to pay \$1,000, and the Capps' agreeing to pay \$700, which would make the Town's portion being \$1,000.

Councilmember Crews made a motion to approve expending up to \$1,000 for the appraisal of 11+/- acres of River Park. Councilmember Holcomb seconded the motion. Further discussion ensued. **The vote was called and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.**

H. Discussion/decision – Fire Department CD

Mayor informed Council that this CD is rolling over. He presented options to roll these funds into the CIP for future equipment purchases or roll it over. Fire Chief Motley presented the history of these funds. Mayor recommended placing these funds in the CIP versus a CD. Chief Motley concurred with the Mayors recommendation. Discussion ensued with regards to these funds.

Councilmember Holcomb made a motion to roll the Fire Department CD funds into the CIP account. Councilmember Perrin seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Report:

Mayor Mim Mack reported on the following:
Police Department new Reserve Officers
Fire Department new volunteer members
Mayor out of town tomorrow through next Thursday
The bike camp dialogue and process

Discussion ensued regarding the public comment from Mr. Bouma.

Town Council Comments:

Councilperson Holcomb presented information on Leathers and Associates that a member of the public dropped off at her house. She recommended Council review the information.

There was discussion of investigating the allegations of a police officer in the pool bathroom.

Board Reports:

Councilperson Holcomb reported on the Park Board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:24 p.m.

APPROVE:



Gene Mim Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:



Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk