

STEVENSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Thursday, February 13, 2014
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 Mim Mack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilpersons Perrin, Holcomb, Klaphake and Crews were all present. Several members of the public were also present.

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

Approval of minutes from:

January 23rd Council meeting

Councilperson Holcomb made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2014 Council meeting. Councilperson Klaphake seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of bi-weekly claims:

Council reviewed the biweekly claims presented.

Councilperson Holcomb made a motion to approve the bi-weekly claims as presented. Councilperson Crews seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 3-0.

Administrative Report

Building

Council reviewed Building Inspector Dennis Monroe's report.

Citizen Nancy Lowell commented on paying part-time employee's holiday pay. Treasurer Mapelli responded and explained state statute on accrued sick, vacation and holiday pay based on hours worked.

Fire

Brandon Dewey presented the Fire Department report. He stated that due to software issues with 911, they will not have their monthly report available until the next council meeting. He also reported that Levi Weiss was named firefighter of the year and Ryan Schnee was voted EMT of the year at the annual fireman's banquet on February 7th.

Streets/Alleys

Mayor Mim Mack updated Council and the public on Town snow plowing. Conrad Eckert thanked Town for the plowing.

There was discussion of the State Hwy Dept not clearing crosswalks which is an issue especially for the handicapped. Councilperson Crews thanked the volunteer firefighters for shoveling several citizens out.

Mayor Mim Mack then thanked the fire department volunteers, Brandon Dewey, Levi Weiss and Ryan Schnee for their time shoveling citizens out.

Ann Susan commented on people driving up on the curb corner at the corner of her house. Mayor Mim Mack stated the curb was designed for people to drive over.

Mayor then commented on the Town Street staff working to divert water in several areas of Town in an attempt to stay ahead of any potential flooding.

Water/Sewer

Mayor Mim Mack will report on water and sewer under unfinished business.

Guests:

Stevensville Community Foundation President Ann Susan introduced herself and stated she was attending the meeting to announce the donation of a bench at the Town pool.

Correspondence:

Mayor Mim Mack read the following correspondence:

- ✓ Letter from Marian Dobbins regarding the Cemetery Vandalism
- ✓ Thank you letters from St. Mary's Mission, Stevensville Clothes Closet and Phil Bratton
- ✓ American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary Cemetery Donation
- ✓ Mayor's letter to the Historical Society regarding St. Mary's Mission

Public Comments:

Citizen Leslie Tavick read a letter to Council regarding Councilperson Perrin's comments from the previous meeting citing "mean spirited" comments from the survey that was presented. She then commented on the water rates and people struggling to pay the rates and the donations given to the non-profit organizations. She states the survey was not mean spirited, but a way for citizens to express their comments.

Mayor Mim Mack requested Mrs. Tadvick leave Council a copy of her letter as part of the public record. Mrs. Tadvick declined to do so.

Stevensville Community Foundation President Ann Susan informed Council that the Foundation will be donating and installing a bench in front of the swimming pool with a plaque recognizing those volunteers who have done so much to help the Town. There was discussion on the location of the bench.

There was no further public comment.

Unfinished Business:

A. Standing Agenda Item: Water Project

There was no report on water.

B. Standing Agenda Item: Sewer Project

Mayor Mim Mack reported on the project winter shut down and projected start up. The project was originally to start up again on February 17th. Due to the weather, revisions to a portion of the project, and a gas line needing relocation, construction is anticipated to resume on March 3rd.

There was further discussion regarding construction schedule and the timeline to resume the project.

New Business:

A. Stevensville Main Street Assn 2013 Fourth Quarter Report

Stevensville Main Street Association Director Joan Prather presented the 2013 Fourth Quarter Report to Council.

She then invited the Council and public to the Business to Business event at the Creamery Antique Mall on February 26th.

There was further discussion on the number of businesses in Stevensville and promoting new businesses to move here. SMSA President Michael Sharkey commented on the economic development committee working on a package to offer help to existing businesses and attract new businesses.

The submarine veteran's event was discussed.

Angela Driver commented on the packages offered by SMSA have been well received and she stated she would volunteer to put out more packages to solicit more events such as the submarine veterans event.

Council discussed the grant status from NWE for security cameras and the Town becoming more proactive in getting better high speed internet service to the Town to help attract bigger businesses. Councilperson Klaphake and Councilperson Crews will work on a resolution for improving internet service.

There was discussion of the parks/trails community survey and the timeline to getting it completed.

B. Discussion/decision on Resolution No. 334 – A Resolution of the Town of Stevensville Calling for an Election on the Question of Conducting A Local Government Review and Establishing a Study Commission To Do So

Mayor Mim Mack reviewed Resolution No. 334, the Montana Statute requirement to do this every 10 years and funding of such. He then read the resolution into the record.

Council discussed the number of Study Commission members to be presented on the ballot and the funding of the Study.

Councilperson Klaphake made a motion to approve Resolution No. 334 and Councilperson Holcomb seconded the motion.

Councilperson Klaphake made a motion to amend Resolution No. 334 from 3 member study commission to a 5 member study commission. Councilperson Crews seconded the motion and all voted “aye”.

Council held discussion on the cost of the study and what dollar amount to set in the resolution.

Councilperson Klaphake moved to amend to Resolution No. 334 to change the dollar amount not to exceed \$15,000 to \$20,000. Councilperson Holcomb seconded the motion.

Discussion was held on educating the public on the Study Commission purpose and review.

The vote was called on the amendment and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

The vote was called on the adoption of Resolution No. 334 with the two amendments and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

C. First Reading on Ordinance No. 144, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 24 – Traffic and Vehicles of the Stevensville, Montana Municipal Code

Councilperson Klaphake made a motion to approve the Ordinance No. 144, amending Chapter 24 of the Traffic and Vehicles of the Stevensville, Montana Municipal Code on the first reading and set a public hearing and second reading at the next Council meeting. Councilperson Holcomb seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. Motion carried 4-0.

D. Discussion on Uncashed Claims

Mayor Mim Mack requested direction from Council to set policy on claims that are uncashed.

Discussion was held on stale date, notification to the person issued to, statement printed on checks, drafting a resolution setting policy and procedure and reporting to Council on checks that have been stale dated.

Council concurred to draft a resolution setting policy on uncashed claims.

E. Discussion on Capitalization Policy for Fixed Assets

Mayor presented to Council a request to establish a capitalization policy.

Discussion was held on physical inventory of assets, expense versus capitalize, depreciation, and asset value to expense.

Council concurred to have the Mayor and Treasurer work on language of the capitalization policy and bring it back to Council.

F. Discussion/decision on Stevensville Airport 2014-2019 CIP (Capital Improvement Plan)

Airport Board Chair Ron Klaphake reviewed the Airport CIP and project funding.

There was further discussion on this being a long standing plan, project funding, TEDD monies, and execution of the plan.

Councilperson Klaphake made a motion to approve the Stevensville Airport 2014-2019 CIP. Councilperson Perrin seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Report

Mayor Mim Mack updated Council on the following:

- A meeting with Housing Authority regarding property behind Winslett Subdivision
- the County Commissioners meeting regarding the issues in the Treasurer's office
- Mayors conference in Bozeman in March
- Cemetery vandalism citations being issue in the first two cemetery incidents

Town Council Comments

Councilperson Klaphake commented on flooding streets and internet issues which he will work on with Councilperson Crews. He also commented on progress of the cemetery district and Councilperson Holcomb stated she hasn't met with Sexton Dean Whitset as of yet.

Councilperson Crews stated he would like to attend the training in May.

Councilperson Holcomb stated she would also like to attend the training. Councilperson Holcomb then commented on Leslie Tadvick's statements.

Councilperson Perrin inquired about the cemetery repairs; flood preparation and mediation; and advertisement for the judge position.

Mayor Mim Mack stated he will be putting together a selection process for judge's position soon as her term and contract end mid-June.

Board Reports

There were no board reports.

Nancy Lowell inquired about the statement in the Bitterroot Star regarding cash and expenditures. Treasurer Mapelli responded by explaining current cash, expenditures and reserve funds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

APPROVE:



Gene Mim Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:



Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk