

Stevensville Town Council Meeting

Minutes for

Thursday, August 13, 2020 7:00 pm

1. Call to order and Roll Call

Mayor Dewey call the meeting to order Councilmembers Devlin, Holcomb, Michalson and Vick were all present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

Mayor Dewey explained the public comment process, via email and website. Ms. Berthoud will be sending out those emails throughout the meeting. The public comment that is coming in is agenda related and will be part of minutes for this meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

None at this time, Ms. Berthoud is on her second week on the job and will be working through those minutes.

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

Claims #16106-16164, \$411003.24. A motion was made by Councilmember Vick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Devlin.

Councilmember Michalson: on claim 16154 for \$1,210.00, for outer business solutions may I ask what that is for. Do we rent or lease our copier?

Mayor Dewey: no, we own our copier, but when we go over the amount of copies, we are charged the overage on our maintenance fee.

Councilmember Michalson: one more, I see were we paid MMIA insurance for our police vehicles and other vehicles that are being surplusd. Are we paying for those vehicles that are going to be surplusd or should I wait for the police report?

Mayor Dewey: those should hopefully take place the end of this month, we do have some additional property that we want to bring to council. Everything is insured in one basket.

Councilmember Michalson: thank you that is all that I have.

Mayor Dewey: asked if there were any other claims, called for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin, aye.

Councilmember Holcomb: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motions pass unanimously.

6. Administrative Reports

a. Airport

Robert gave the airport report, everything has been going well until they started with the aprons. Came across some problems there will be an additional cost of upwards of \$50,000 dollars, the town will match that at 10% with the FAA. Considering that we got everything through the Montana Aeronautics and the FAA the airport is good to shape to pick up the

cost of that 10%. Change order is in and the contractor is looking at the price to finish that up and that should be coming back in front of council and that project will get going. Right now, they are pretty much stalled. We had the Forest Service up at the airport on fire watch, they paid about \$350.00 per day for the use of the facilities and they got reassigned today to Bozeman and may be back.

Councilmember Holcomb: I have a question; I am going through these emails and have an email wondering if our meeting is being live streamed because it is not being viewed the live meeting is not in the live view window.

Mayor Dewey: If they click on that window it will take them to our YouTube page where it is being streamed.

b. Building Department

Mayor Dewey: The building department report is in your packet. Tim Netzley has given his notice. We are actively recruiting for that position.

c. Finance

Robert: to start is out, we got in our tax evaluation and it looks like we are up \$21,000.00 from last year. It looks like we got a little more money in our budget than we thought. The town is still going good with cash, the town has \$3.4 million in the bank and has been the constant since I have been here, it does fluctuate a little bit. Pretty much stays constant. The CARES we got the reimbursement, I am looking for the sheet where they say what they reimbursed, and I owe that to you. Most of what we did not get reimbursed for are the meetings that we had and the benefits for the police department and fire department. They sent out a letter that they won't pay for the benefits but will pay for the salaries.

Councilmember Michalson: Robert, correct me if I am wrong, but didn't we get a figure around \$32,000 check from the CARES Act so far?

Robert: yes, and that goes through the end of April.

Councilmember Michalson: through the end of April 2021?

Robert: yes.

Councilmember Devlin: I have been trying to track down the exact amount that we have billed for and received for the CARES amount and what does that exactly go to, like what wages and who's wages it is covering what have been reimbursed for. Do you know when we can have that I have had many requests for that so I just would like a time frame on when we can see something.

Robert: I can probably have that out to you by Wednesday I know what we put in for and money we got I just have to reimburse out what we got unless I get an email from them

Mayor Dewey: to recap for the council, we are working on a mechanism where we can demonstrate to the council and the public both how CARES funding is being spent for the town and we do have a spread sheet that we submit to CARES that outlines in generic ways in certain categories or what we are reimbursed for or submitting for. What they send back to us is a check for the money it doesn't say what we didn't get so we are working with the local government and so once we have that we will roll it out to the council and find a way to demonstrate that on the website so the public can see it.

d. Fire Department

Chief Motley: gave his report on stats and runs from the report in the packet. Currently working on in the department since Colette is working for us and doing a superb job we are going back through and making sure that all of our volunteers have a signed personal policy copy and receipt for that and understand that. We are going through that getting that done making sure everyone, Dempsey Vick, just putting that out there. Burning is closed in the valley and we did some training in July and also a relief board meeting was held at the end of July. Coming up we are doing a live structure burn; we have a home donated to the district, so we have 10 different crews coming out for that Saturday on South Kootenai and that is a controlled burn. We are also holding a fundraising firefly golf tournament for the association that tournament is now sold out with an extra team in the waiting. We had a great response and participation from the community and business owners for that helping us put that on. And to help bank for other projects. Other than that business as usual in the fire department. We have finally replenished our PPE. COVID items for responding. Like to throw out there, we have a couple requests out there to buy some budgeted items so ply line and are looking forward to getting those things done.

e. Parks & Recreation

Bobby: You have everything in your packet, but I do want to touch on some pool things. We closed the pool on July 25<sup>th</sup> this year due to some leaks and cracks, we were losing a ton of water. We have been working with HDR the last few days and are doing some leaks testing on the pool and found out that deep end lost over a day a ¼ to ½ an inch at that was due to evaporation. We tested the kiddie pool, last night we divided it from the main pool and overnight lost 28 inches and it was pretty cold last night, we will work with HDR on the best way to move through that. Lewis and Clark Park cleaning, spraying. River Park, kids' nature walk, 5 kids came out. August 31-September 8, Library will have a book walk.

f. Police Department

Chief Marble: report is in the packet. We did get the 2<sup>nd</sup> vehicle ordered I still don't have a firm date on when we will get those vehicles. Just because we are at the mercy of the manufacture and COVID issues. As far as I know it is still December it could be January. Since we currently we do not have a police clerk and we are recruiting for that a few of the projects that I am working on, Stevensville Crime Watch has been put on hold temporarily. I plan on getting those things online when I have a clerk. Looking on getting that person hired and then the 4<sup>th</sup> officer that should move along fairly quickly, hopefully. The 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph in your report I am going to go ahead and change that because today I had a conversation with the superintendent at the school about the SRO with everything going on at the school and the uncertainty of being at the school they are not willing to step forward at this point to renegotiate the contract or have a discussion about that could change in the coming weeks or months, they are going to leave it as is and we are not going to fill that SRO spot for now. Once we have a better idea and what the school services are going to look like we are going to be in a holding pattern. We are going to focus on hiring the 4<sup>th</sup> officer the night officer and move forward with that. Chief Marble explained his new format on CFS. Questions? Councilmember Michalson: James, this is nothing to do with the report. Do you have a time when those electronic speed signs on College are going to be here? Chief Marble: I am going to defer to the mayor on that one.

Mayor Dewey: that is a public works function they are the ones responsible in getting those installed. Those signs and poles have gone up, there are 4 poles set up. Early next week those would be installed remainder of summer break and then see those reinstalled at the school.

Councilmember Devlin: questions please? Chief Marble do you know when, I know that 40 hours were set aside to do a traffic assessment on College by 5<sup>th</sup> street by that corner the 400 and 500 block. Do you know when you are going to have the time to start doing that assessment or have you?

Chief Marble: I have kind of put that on hold, we have staffing issues and that makes it a bit difficult I am doing the job of the police clerk and my job and I have a lot on my plate right now and I am not saying that it is not important but I can't tell you when we can accomplish that. But I can tell you that there have been somethings put into place in the troubled areas on College there are some plans to move forward with other area around town, striping and marking cross walks having the moveable signs in place. I have noticed that when I am out the marking and the signage have worked. It is a good idea to so this in other areas of town. Again that, is another one of these projects, but I have some investigations that are taking priority.

Councilmember Devlin: that striping, and those signs are further down from where I am talking about. I have been discussing this since January and that area was looked at before the area that I am talking about and we have some pretty upset homeowners in that strip that this has been discussed since January and still. The park area and the three-way stop are. I know that there is some staff issues, but I have asked for this for a long time so I am asking that we speed this up a little so that we can appease some of these homeowners.

Chief Marble: Jaime I can talk with the Mayor about it and strategize a little on getting streets and alleys involved in this because I know that some of the issue is signage. Trouble spots like the S-curve. I will get with the mayor or public works.

Councilmember Holcomb: I have a question. I have gotten many emails from a man wanting the chief to comment on the animal noise issues on 7/25 and what was the problem and is there a city ordinance.

Mayor Dewey: we are not going to entertain public comment during administrative reports, we never have. We have forwarded these comments specifically to the chief so that he can respond. When specific comments come into department heads, we are making sure that they are getting over to them.

g. Public Works

In your packet, George is not on ZOOM tonight.

7. Guests

NONE.

8. Correspondence

delivered to council electronically and will be part of your minutes.

9. Public Hearings

Given to council electronically and will be part of your minutes.



10. Unfinished Business

None.

11. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Establishing a Local Board of Public Health for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Dewey: introduced the new business item (a) this was brought forth by Ms. Devlin. Council at that time sought more information. That is in your packet available for the council and the public to view through our website if they choose to. So, you can see there that we highlighted 4 questions as generically as we could and identified 4 things that council needed more information on and decided if the council wanted to consider. The administration is not proposing that you adopt an ordinance or establish this board tonight. We if the council choses to go forward we would then undertake those steps in formally establishing them, council chooses not to we won't undertake those next steps we will just let the issue lye. But given the very least and given the discussion that happened in our previous meeting I wanted you to at least have a chance to review the information that we were able to find and track down and get that over to you. The conversation that was initiated by Ms. Devlin at our last meeting so I would offer the floor to her if she has any remarks after reviewing.

Councilmember Devlin: Sure, my biggest is we all received a lot of feedback on cost there is kind of two parts that I wanted to bring up. To have a board doesn't cost anything, a board is volunteers we have several of those so there is not a cost in that. My biggest fear is that we don't have a plan for moving forward we don't have a plan for COVID. What if we don't have a break out what does our town look like? What if we do have a break out what does our town look like then? There is no feedback and I kind of put this to the test (live feed was breaking up unable to hear what was said) Mayor Dewey you were saying that you weren't getting great response from the Ravalli County Health Department in feedback as far as cases and were they were or kind of what is moving forward or stepping back. (live feed break up) I reached out I haven't had any call backs on what a plan (live feed was lost for Ms. Devlin) I apologize, my service is really wonky. I was trying to reach out to see what the future looks like what are plans that are in place for masks, no masks, outbreaks, no outbreaks and I have received zero feedback. It would be nice I don't think any of us are educated in this area in creating a plan for our community, Stevensville as a whole to move forward so I really thing at the very least we just have a board that we could rely upon that can make recommendations rather than going through, Ravalli County Health Department does a great job I am not putting them down, but we are not getting the communication that we need that frankly that our community wants answers and we can't provide them those answers. If we had our own board, my envision would be that they would work with Ravalli County or be educated enough that they could say look her is 7 active cases right now this is what we recommend you look at or we have god for bid we have 50 or 100 cases and this is what it would look like. I am not proposing that we have a board to spend more money I am proposing a board so that we have education that is something that we are lacking, lacking a resource partner to get more education and further more I would entertain maybe, and I don't know how you would feel about this Mr. Vick and I am not trying to step on your toes here, but if we did a counterpart and maybe this is a board that

works with the climate control board that has already been approved but has not moved forward with having an actual board in place that is my initial statement. I don't see any harm in trying to move forward with a board it is not stepping on any toes like I said it is an education piece.

Councilmember Michalson: hello Brandon? Hello? Brandon, I have some people here some concerned citizens even some business owners here they would like to sit down and they would like to sit down and speak to what they have to say after the council speaks would that be okay?

Mayor Dewey: I don't think that would be fair to the rest of the population who has to provide public comment (live feed was breaking up unable to hear what was said) I think that is the best way to move forward.

Councilmember Michalson: (voices in the background saying "no") I have close to 30 people here.

Councilmember Devlin: if I would have known that I could have invited people to this meeting I would have invited a whole lot more people I was aware that we were doing it live and that people could email their comments ahead of time and have a party at our house and invite people to participate. Did I miss understand this process?

Mayor Dewey: no, you didn't. Ms. Devlin, we have a plan in place for how we receive public comments during virtual meetings and it is my intent to follow it.

Councilmember Holcomb: can I read an email that this person would like to have feelings on record. Am I not allowed to read that?

Mayor Dewey: we will have all of these comments that we are receiving electronically they will be part of the minutes (live feed broke up unable to hear what was said) (man's voice is heard through the live feed that says, "but they are part of the discussion") Ms. Holcomb I think if you want to speak to specific comments I think that it is appropriate and I don't have a problem with that but we have all received and are all receiving simultaneously through the web site. (more voices heard through the live feed) that is where I will leave that Robin.

Through Councilmember Michalson's live feed a man in talking into Councilmember Michalson's camera saying "that you are bring something up (clapping in the background) that you are dividing this town more and more and it is a bunch of bull shit if you want to do something like this to our town (break up on the live feed unable to understand what the man is saying) we can stand 6 feet apart and then we will talk to you this is bull shit and you know it is bull shit (clapping in the background) I don't know.."

Mayor Dewey: Mr. Michalson has been removed from the meeting we are not going to tolerate that type of behavior. That wasn't acceptable I am not going to tolerate that I understand that Mr. Michalson is a representative of the community and he has a voice in the matter but frankly I feel like he has abused that. I will let you continue your conversation.

Councilmember Holcomb: so are we making a motion on this I guess I don't understand what we are doing on this.

Mayor Dewey: (live feed broke up unable to understand what was said)

Councilmember Vick: I think it would be best to let it lay on the table for right now I think that it would be best to see what the county does as far as what public health and with Dr.

Caulderwood leaving and see what kind of new leadership they have coming in their new leadership may be more open to working with the town.

Mayor Dewey: okay. Excuse us folks we are dealing with some internet stuff. Mr. Vick has suggested that this item be tabled until (live feed break up unable to hear what was said) I am going to bring Ms. Devlin up on the phone here. It looks like she is having trouble. We can put you on speaker phone. We do have Ms. Devlin on the phone. So, Mr. Vick has indicated that we just table the item and see how public health reorganizes with the resignation of their public health officer and re-evaluate at a later date I would be curious to hear from the rest of the council on a date that you want to set in the horizon or how you want to proceed.

Councilmember Devlin: my opinion would be, why don't we table it for 30 days and that would be after school starts and see where we are at.

Mayor Dewey: okay, with that interest we could table it to the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. do I hear a motion to set this to the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting?

Councilmember Vick: I make a motion to table to September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Devlin: I will 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Dewey: any discussion from council? All right there is public comment for you to review and Ms. Berthoud working diligently to check the other avenues making sure that you guys get all of that public comment that we are receiving and it proving to be an effective means to receive comment we are receiving quiet a bit of it. is there any further comment on the tabling? Hear and none I will call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Holcomb: no.

Councilmember Michalson: (not present at the time of the vote)

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes 2-1. That wraps up that item and we will revisit it on September 10<sup>th</sup> and will probably have more information about the county's health department.

b. Discussion/Decision: Use of Face Coverings in Public Settings to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Mayor Dewey: introduced new item (b.)

Councilmember Devlin: asked for Mayor Dewey to pick up his phone.

Mayor Dewey: okay no problem Ms. Devlin need to take an urgent phone call. Knowing the intent behind and right now officially without a corium and in the spirit of waiting for Ms. Devlin to return from her phone call. There is a mandate with this agenda item and I think a few people were thinking that was what we were proposing and that is not the case Ms. Devlin wanted to have an open conversation with the town council and the towns leadership about masks and the use in the community whether additional measures need to be. Jaime I was speaking to the intent behind this item and after having conversation with you you were more looking for an open conversation with the council and towns leadership in terms of the current masks mandates that are in place by the governor's office and were there any other steps that the town could take or anything other things that you wanted to

address specifically to face coverings. I think you were more as a community and not necessarily headed in the direction of implementing a mandate.

Councilmember Devlin: that is exactly right.

Mayor Dewey: I can provide some information in terms of what we received from public health be it brief and it was outlined in a press release yesterday, as of yesterday they we had been under a mask mandate in Ravalli County because we had more than 4 cases we have been under that mask requirement for 28 days and over that 238 days they can note that it is two incubation cycles of COVID-19 and they have noted a decrease in cases since the mask requirement went into effect as of today, both yesterday and today no new cases were identified in Ravalli County and as of 4:00 today we are down to 6 cases in the county. It is an encouraging sign and I wanted to share that with you it came to us through a press release. Other than that, I will let Ms. Devlin speak to the matter.

Councilmember Devlin: sure, I am in no way shape or form suggesting that everybody wear masks or nobody wear masks I am actually pretty natural on that whole topic I am not sure that it is our place to say something like that at this point. I have heard that it is very divided and people are very strongly opinionated on one end and strongly opinionated on the other end. My hope because we filter a lot of these conversations on these questions my hope would be that when we receive these questions and have people concerns on both sides that we are able to remain in control and be that we have something to say instead of "oh thanks for the call I can't help you" sometimes it is just a voice sometimes it is an education piece or they want us to do something and act. I guess more I wanted to see what could we come up with so both sides can't have it all their way we have to have a compromise and meet in the middle wondering if there is a place we can meet in the middle on this and what it would look like again it is discussion I am not looking for a vote I am not looking for a mandate by any means bi am looking for a way to meet in the middle and maybe achieve 80% instead of 50% of our community.

Mayor Dewey: any other councilmembers have any feedback?

Councilmember Vick: I have done a lot of thinking the last few weeks over masks and I think there is no question I think that everyone has figured out that I am very much pro mask however I people do have a right to not wear masks people have a right to wear masks people have a right to lick rats and have a right to not lick rats my personal stance is if the governor has his mandate and we may or may not have or meet the standards of everyone wearing a mask or what not but the thing is I have the right to take my business to places that are pro mask if I choose to so does every other person in this town and if you want to. If I do end up going into one of our business that is not pro mask I accept a risk of possibly contracting COVID-19 and there are some business' that I frequent that are not pro mask but the things is and looking at the majority of public comment that I have heard over the last week I am glad that we are just doing a discussion here I don't think that Stevensville as a local government should try to enforce a mask mandate being as the governor has already issued one.

Councilmember Devlin: that is not my intent by no means I hope that we can have a discussion about and meet in the middle and basically have something to tell people when they are coming apart on the phone and email when they are having a big issue this is not an easy discussion to have with some body, people are either extremely for masks or not for



masks. And some how we have to have a conversation to get to that (live feed cut out unable to hear what was said) I am not asking for a decision or I am not even asking that we instill a mask mandate am asking for us to come together for a neutral here is the best that we have. What is our best right now? Because right now we are saying you don't like it write the governor.

Councilmember Vick: I think that on a neutral stance as the town is concerned that is the best direction to go. It is something that is out of our hands and it has to do with the governs office you don't agree with the mask mandate you need to contact the governor's office and the legislature.

Councilmember Holcomb: I have to agree with that.

Councilmember Devlin: Whitefish instilled their own ordinance, right? We have towns that have instilled their own ordinance that I am becoming aware of through people in our community. I can't turn around say oh you are right they did it but please go ahead and write the governor, that is not a fair answer. I hear what you are saying and there are times when that conversation is the direction that you need to go, but there is also a time when it is not.

Councilmember Holcomb: I guess I am going to have to agree with Councilmember Dempsey was saying you I have heard more from people that do not want to wear the mask and I don't see us enforcing it. I am one that does not want to wear a mask because I can't breathe in it. I don't think we should be forcing people to wear a mask so I think if they have an issue with it, they need to be contacting our governor.

Councilmember Devlin: I agree, I agree what would the answer be if they say why aren't you guys creating your own mask ordinance to enforce masks. I can't tell them to go ahead and call the governor this is our town this is something that the council has to do. I am asking what is our stance going to be are we saying that this is not something that we are considering at this time or thanks for your input at some point we can't refer them to the governor if it is not a governor issue.

Councilmember Vick: I do agree that in the end I do believe that this should have been a government issue and not something from the governor's office because Montana is so vast, we have some counties that maybe only have 10 people in them you have 4 people that have the virus actively you are losing out. Now the entire county has to wear masks. My stance on this is the governor has already made his mandate that is really the only place we can point people to is the governor's office. Or even to the Ravalli county public health.

Councilmember Holcomb: and then you come to the Ravalli county already said they weren't going to enforce it. So, I think the best way is to direct them to the governor of Montana's website and issue directive.

Councilmember Devlin: I understand that, but is our stance that we are not going to participate in this discussion (live feed broke up unable to hear what was said) other communities, I don't have an answer for that I just need your feedback on there are sometimes that it is appropriate to direct them to the governor or it is appropriate to direct them to Ravalli Public Health but there are incidents that is not appropriate (live feed broke up unable to hear what was said) when they ask what is our stance and we are not going one way or the other and we could create an ordinance and implement it so what is our stance for that what is our conversation so the people listening moving forward and receive

these kind of discussions or conversations or questions we can't just say talk to the governor this is a governor issue this is our town, so (live feed broke up unable to hear what was said) Mayor Dewey: to recap where we are at right now. Ms. Delvin is asking should or can the town council as a body take a position on masks being used as a tool or face coverings being used as a tool to limit the spread of COVID 19 in our town. It doesn't sound like she is asking the town council if that would be enforced or a mandate would be enforced to back the governor or not I think that it is more or less a conversation about should the town council be encouraging its citizens one way or another or is it a, what I am hearing from the community is a reasonable approach to say wearing a mask is an effective way to limit the spread, it is a tool to limit the spread of COVID 19 like washing your hands, keeping your hands out of your face and a number of other measures if we couple that with the measures we are much more successful of limiting the spread of an outbreak in our community and trade that off, if you don't want to wear a mask then just distance 6 feet from other people where you can and that makes everyone happy they can choose not to wear a mask and have a way to participate in the conversation and those that choose to wear a mask feel that they have also had a seat at the table and a happy meeting medium so recap that does the town council want to take a stance or a position or give some sort of recommendation to the community is it something that you care maybe to continue as an ongoing conversation or do you just not care to take a position at all. I think kinda that is what Ms. Devlin is after this evening. I will just say, you can do this a variety of ways you can just move on with the conversation tonight if you want, you could make a motion to take a stance, you could designate one of your own to draft a letter that the rest of the council needs to review before it is published to the community saying we as the town council have this advice to lend to the community on the subject. You have lots of different avenues to lend to the subject at your disposal or you can table this to another meeting and have more of a conversation if you choose to. I just want you to be informed of your options.

Councilmember Vick: I think it is best if each council person takes a stance rather than a whole such as myself and Ms. Devlin are both very much pro-mask and as a Robin has stated and is not and I don't know where Bob sits on this but I think it is best if we take an individual stance on this. Rather than as a whole.

Councilmember Holcomb: I agree cause I am not going to condone someone if they want to wear a mask and I am not going to condone someone if they don't wear a mask. I believe that it has to be upon that individual person.

Councilmember Devlin: I appreciate both of your feed backs thank you.

Mayor Dewey: Jaime does that satisfy the need for your conversation there?

Councilmember Devlin: I think that works.

## 12. Executive Report.

Mayor Dewey: that concludes the business portion of tonight's agenda. The executive report you have heard from the department heads tonight on the array of activity that is going on in the organization that we have worked on this summer and have made the positive impact. I apologize if over the last 20 minutes I have appeared to be distracted, the 30 or so people that were at Mr. Michalson's house have come to city hall and are causing a decent ruckus up front and so as that is being handled by law enforcement of course I am at the office right now it is easier for me to ZOOM at the office than at

home. And my window right here in front of the parking lot, I do want to apologize and speak to it and I feel compelled to and forgive me I am shooting off the hip to a degree. As I have just stated I am extremely proud of this organization and its accomplishments this summer and over the recent history I can't say the way for that fraction of our community I realize that they feel very passionate about an issue, we are all very passionate about an issue there is a time and a place and a way to express yourselves and the display we saw tonight was not that and I continue to find myself saying this it doesn't speak to the character of this community and as I repeat myself and continue to say that maybe on a daily basis when these incidents happen it causes me to pause and really ponder what does the character of this community really look like what do you want it to look like because I feel like in the era of 2020 it has been maybe we are in a position to redefine that maybe we need to do a better job defining what the character of this community truly is. So, I just encourage those of you out there who are communicating with us through the avenues we have provided, continue to let yourselves be heard in the way you are doing so respectfully I realize that this is challenging, these virtual meetings are challenging just right down to the lack of internet speed in this community is frustrating and so I will just continue to ask the community to be extremely patient with us as we continue to try to keep ourselves safe and you safe and all those things that go with virtual meetings it is hard on all of us, it is hard on our citizens it is hard on our staff and it is hard on us as elected officials. We are put in an impossible position. I will say that you will probably not be surprised by the amount of public comment in fact just this virtual meeting alone has probably produced more public comment than a hand full of city council meetings have in person in some history. We will have a lot of public comment that will be included in the packet or in the minutes everyone can read that public comment, we are not hiding anything but we have to have a system in place, a plan in place for how information is disseminated and considered in the interest, in all of our times it is not feasible to read every last comment in public comment form, that is just the reality of our system as much as I would love to hear from our constituent that is the system that we have to go by. So, we are going to continue to criticize this I hope that as cases continue to decrease maybe in September we can continue to do our in person meetings and my hope is that when those in person meetings continue there is a level of peace in our community that we don't see the displays of disrespect that we are seeing now and that maybe we can find a way to unify and with that I will turn it over to council comments. Mr. Vick.

### 13. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Vick: I just want to go back and say again like I was saying earlier in our discussion earlier. The entire community knows that I am pro-mask and that I will continue to promote the use of masks but however our people are here in Stevensville and they feel that it may be an invasion of their rights if local government did enforce a mask mandate they would feel like it is an invasion of their rights because the governor has done that I personally do not feel that way however I do want to say that social distancing has been going very well in town at all of our restaurants and bars and places of business and I am very thrilled to see that, I am also thrilled to see that the slow in Ravalli county or the spread in Ravalli county is a lot slower than in the rest of the state

it is probably because most of us that live in the Bitterroot are pretty much social distancing champions but lastly I just want to say I hope that we can pull through this and we will be able to see in person meetings again soon and everyone have a good couple of weeks.

Mayor Dewey: any other council comments? (None) Okay.

14. Board Reports

Any board reports tonight?

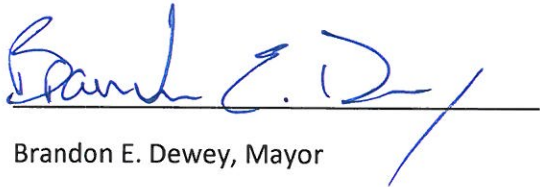
Bobby: the park board met briefly to discuss some design aspects of a potential splash deck that the civic club is working on, just let you know that.

15. Adjournment

Mayor Dewey: thanks Bobby. With that it is 8:15 and we will adjourn the meeting. Thanks everyone for your participation have a good evening.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

  
Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

  
Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk