

## Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Dewey called the meeting to order Councilmembers Devlin, Ludington, Shourd and Vick were all present along with Mayor Dewey.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Public Comments

One public comment from Susan Devlin came in via-email on 01/14/2021.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

a. September 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes

b. October 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes

c. December 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Vick: made the motion.

Councilmember Shourd: 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Dewey: it was moved by Mr. Vick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Shourd. Any council discussion? No public comment. Ms. Berthoud will you call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

### 5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims #16456-16495

Councilmember Vick: made the motion.

Councilmember Devlin: 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Vick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Devlin to approve the claims. Council discussion?

Councilmember Vick: questions about 16453 and 16463, the two that Robert added in the latest email that they were not on the claims sheet. Are we able to approve those without those being on that claim sheet?

Mayor Dewey: you can we will just include them in the range of numbers that you are approving.

Councilmember Vick: I will make a motion to add claims 16453 16463.

Mayor Dewey: okay noted. Any further questions or discussion on the claims, no public comment.  
Ms. Berthoud would you call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

## 6. Administrative Reports

a. Airport

b. Building Department

Report was provided in the packet.

c. Finance

Robert gave his report.

d. Fire Department

Chief Motley gave his report that was provided in the packet.

e. Parks & Recreation

Bobby gave his report that was provided in the packet.

f. Police Department

Interim Chief Ellington gave his report that was provided in the packet.

g. Public Works

Bobby gave his report that was provided in the packet. Question from Chief Motley about the fire hydrant on Philips Street.

## 7. Guests

None.

## 8. Correspondence

a. Letter from the Ravalli County Sheriff & County Attorney

Mayor Dewey introduced the correspondence from RCSO and RCAO and read to letter to the council and the public.

## 9. Public Hearings

None.

## 10. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 466, A Resolution Amending the Personnel Policy Manual for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Dewey: introduced unfinished business (a) Resolution No. 466. Long long time ago as in 12 months unfinished business. Ms. Devlin and Mr. Vick likely recall in January 2020 we were more or less at the end of a process where we had made some revisions to the towns personal policy however when COVID-19 crept up on us we kind of lost sight of that process and weren't able to finfish it out. We are here tonight to kind of restart that all of the changes and suggestions have been incorporated into the draft before you with one addition at the end of the personal policy you will see an additional exhibit for the call out policy for the public works personal over the past few weeks we have worked to develop a more concrete way on how we handle calls for the public works department we found that the personal policy addressed it one way and past practice had addressed it one way. There were some word of mouth conditions that were implemented in the department that the administration was not necessarily aware of so we rectified a lot of that and in terms of the call outs things needed to be written out better in policy so that the expectations were clear so that is one of the most significant changes since that last time council considered this policy the other thing that we have referenced is the department of administrations fee schedule in terms of perdiem reimbursements the way it used to work every time the department of administration changed the reimbursement for state employees we would revise the personal policy at the same time just change the numbers. Rather than bring it forward every time they change, we referenced the department of administration guidelines that covered us so that you did not have a policy coming before you every single year if it didn't need to. If the council has insight or anything like that, that they would want to see changes to the policy it is before you for review.

Councilmember Devlin: I would like to make a motion to approve the amendment of the personal policy.

Councilmember Vick: 2<sup>nd</sup> that motion.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Devlin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Vick. Discussion? There are no callers on this evening for public comment. Ms. Berthoud is there any public comment? With that if there is no further discussion from the council, Ms. Berthoud call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motion passes unanimously.

## 11. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Confirmation of Officer John Ellington

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item (a). Mr. Ellington is currently acting in the place as the chief of police.

Councilmember Vick: I will make the motion to confirm Officer Ellington.

Councilmember Ludington: 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Dewey: council discussion? No public comment. Ms. Berthoud will you call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motion passes thank you.

b. Discussion/Decision: Airport Project Financial Update

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item (b). some circumstances as you will have changed the latest airport project, I think that project in totality, Robert what was the price tag on that project completely? A million? You are muted Robert; we will wait here. I think the total project was just over one million dollars, \$1.7 million. Primarily federally funded there were a number of FAA and Montana Aeronautics that helped fund that that project and it was primarily to fix taxi ways and fix a couple of aprons on that project. Robert asked that he and Tyler have the opportunity to come before the council, if you recall we had a snafu material that underneath the aprons at the airport this summer and that required some changes to the contract to fix so they are here to give you an update on that and what more is needed from the town. I will turn it over to Robert and then if he needs to refer to Tyler, he can do that.

Robert: I think Tyler can talk about it that best out there because he put it together.

Mayor Dewey: okay, Tyler.

Tyler Reed: So we ended up with a change order for this project this project included reconstructing both the north and the south apron on the parallel taxi way. And then we also constructed a mid-field taxi way, so it was a good size project and we this change order really caught everyone by surprise including the FAA. If you recall back in 2016, we reconstructed the runway and extended the parallel taxi way and that was about a \$2.2 million dollar job and then we closed the project with a \$300,000 dollar underrun, so that was nice and did not encounter anything on that project like we did on this project. Unsuitable material, silty clay that was encountered in both aprons was about 800 cubic yards about 80 dump loads of material and so this amendment is for just all the hoops that we had to jump through just the site, we had to do a couple of site investigations we had tetra tech who was our consultant our geotechnical consultant come in and do some testing of the soils out there. They had to do so lap sampling, that was a lot of back and forth with the FAA. They had asked a lot of questions and additional data, so we put together a couple of options for the cross section of the pavement and so like the mayor mentioned this project is at \$1.7 million normally the FAA covers 90% of that cost and there is a 10% match from the town but in this case we got a Montana Aeronautics grant that covered that 10% so the original cost we fully funded at that point the city didn't have to spend a dime. At this point we are asking the city for \$50,000 dollars and the FAA has mentioned that this is grant eligible and so there for 90% of that local match that would not come out of the airports budget. Robert, I don't know if you have anything to add or if I missed anything.

Robert: I think you said it all pretty good like Tyler said the initial project didn't cost you any money and we are going to get 90% of this \$50,000 back on the next grant, so it turns out to be

\$5,000 for this \$1.7 million dollar project so it turns out to be really pretty good in the end and the airport has that money, so I don't think that it is a bad thing.

Mayor Dewey: is it your guy's, Mr. Underwood and Mr. Reed, is it your guy's desire to some how bless this moving forward or are you just updating the council?

Robert: what I think needs to happen before we can pay them, we need to get approval for the change order then we can pay the fifty thousand that we owe and then we will go back to the FAA and get our 90% this year.

Mayor Dewey: is that change order ready and prepared to come in front of the council this evening in preceding that way. I am not sure how you want us to go from this point, is it you are seeking the council to authorize the change order when it is prepared or is it councils desire that the change order come before them.

Tyler: it has already been prepared and I don't know if it made its way into the council's packet or not.

Mayor Dewey: we did not have a change order at the time when we published the packet last week. Or I didn't when we put it together, if we have a change order ready and the council is comfortable in approving the change order based on the information that they have been provided this evening then we are okay with that otherwise if they are not comfortable with that and they would like to reagendaize it they can.

Robert: it depends on how the council wants to do it.

Councilmember Shourd: change order number three?

Robert: is it change order number three?

Tyler: it is task order number three, and this would be an amendment to the task order.

Mayor Dewey: so, this would be a change number one to task order three.

Tyler: yeah you have a change order with the contractor which is has the ball rolling on that one, this is just to amend our town task order for our services which is task order three.

Mayor Dewey: how would the council like to proceed in addressing the changes to our task order with Morris and Marely?

Councilmember Devlin: I would like to see the change order.

Councilmember Ludington: yeah, I have a couple of questions for Tyler.

Councilmember Devlin: I do to.

Councilmember Ludington: Tyler is this remediation been completed?

Tyler Reed: Yes.

Councilmember Ludington: and what have you done with these soils?

Tyler: so we ended up digging 12 inches down of the subgrade and we got down below the existing base we went another 12 inches down compacted that, it is called a geo synthetic it is like a geo fabric, geo grid which saved us quite a bit of digging so from there we ended up with onsite material compacted that down put the geo fabric down so there was segregation between the layers and brought it back up to the standard eight inches as a base and three inches of asphalt and so there is a lot of back and forth. We had to look at different frost groups a lot of this is coming from the geo techs they had to run samples and spent a couple of days out there doing

cone and trauma tests and so yeah, the scope got bigger with the FAA, but that is the FAA you have to play by their rules otherwise you are not something that they will fund or approve.

Councilmember Ludington: and they have signed off on this?

Tyler: correct.

Councilmember Ludington: okay. Based on the fact that we are expecting an FAA 90% match on this and not coming out of the airport fund I don't really have a problem with the council doing it now since it is not coming out of any general fund monies.

Councilmember Devlin: I have a question, is the 90% a guarantee, an estimate, or a thought and how soon does that happen?

Tyler: so, the 90% is set in stone and that is how the FAA works. Any project that we do that are FAA funded which are pretty much all of the projects that we do the FAA will pay 90% of the project and more to it and prioritizing where the money is coming from, Stevensville gets 150,000 dollars a year earmarked by the FAA so that is kind of where that 35,000 dollar would come from, earmarked and so we get it every year and we have a pretty light project coming up and so we will be okay funding wise so the project is substantially complete all we have to do is put down markings and so once we put together a close out basically we do a final grant amendment that will change the change order I have been in communication with the FAA and they are aware of the change order the task order amendment.

Councilmember Devlin: Robert just sent us that change order thank you Robert.

Councilmember Vick: I took a look at it while you were discussing it, I will make a motion to approve the task order.

Councilmember Shourd: 2<sup>nd</sup> that.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Vick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Shourd to approve the change order to the task order number three.

Councilmember Vick: correct.

Mayor Dewey: any further council discussion?

Councilmember Ludington: I would like to thank Robert for his work with the airport board and trying to get this accomplished and look forward to see what the airport has going with the new airport manager. And thank Tyler for leading us on with this.

Councilmember Vick: very long project that we started more than a year ago I look forward to seeing it completed and look forward to what next we have coming forward.

Mayor Dewey: any further remarks from council? No public comment on our calls, any public comment on your end Jenelle? Ms. Berthoud please call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes unanimously.

c. Discussion/Decision: Emergency Paid Sick Leave

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item (c). This item is in front of you tonight with the expiration of the Corona Virus Response Act that was implemented earlier in 2020 that act had expired on December 30<sup>th</sup> along with the cares funding and other benefits that came with the CARES Act or assistance to help respond to the pandemic. We recognize that just because the legislation that congress passed that went away on December 30<sup>th</sup> that the pandemic didn't and what we are proposing here is continuing the emergency paid sick leave provisions that that act provided so that act mandated that we provide emergency paid sick leave we are now in a position were we are offering to voluntarily continue that practice as a policy for I believe we requested this remain in effect through the end of the fiscal year, June 30<sup>th</sup>. You know the verbiage in front of you for the policy is directly from the city of Whitefish who had implemented the policy in advance of the first Corona virus act becoming law knowing what the language was. So we are just carrying that forward as a benefit to our employees, I can tell you that we have at least two staff member out of the office or out of work right now because of COVID-19 related problems were they are either being tested or are experiencing symptoms and so we while some of our staff has utilized some of the emergency paid sick leave provisions previous to legislation expiring, we also have some employees that have not been or sick or have not needed that emergency paid sick leave but they made need it over the next six months depending on how the pandemic evolves. And so we are bringing this is front of council for your blessing should you want to go that direction.

Councilmember Vick: I will make a motion to amend the policy to an expiration date of being December 30<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Mayor Dewey: the motion is extending to December 30, 2021. Is there a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the amendment?

Councilmember Devlin: before we get into amendments, I have a couple of questions that might lead to amendments.

Mayor Dewey: we will let the amendment die and let you folks discuss.

Councilmember Devlin: okay, also with this with the Corona Virus Response Act, part of it if they are already used that time available to them it is no longer available. So just because the year starts over does not mean that they get another 80 hours. If they didn't use all that time the remainder of that time is available, but it also has a clause in it and I see that I don't know, I don't see it worded how I am thinking. So, if you are having to take care of a loved one that is has COVID you are entitled to 2/3 pay not that standard full 40 hours. So is that something that we would want to take into consideration or would we just want to leave it. It is not regulated any more now that we are into the year 2021 so I just want to be mindful that there is another option there if we choose that.

Mayor Dewey: I can tell you that it was not our intent to reset the clock or reset the bank of hours available to staff and I think our staff understands that we have internal discussions surrounding on extending this until the end of the year or until the end of the fiscal year however that looks it is understood if you have used it prior to now and you have anything left you can use it moving forward if this is approved, but you don't get to reset and get sick multiple times. We have actually been very fortunate with our employees on use of sick leave frankly one of the staff members that is out now has a very low exposure because they were able to because of the things that we put in place in responding to the pandemic with remote working and telecommunications they were able to pick up there entire office work space and take it home, so rather than when they are symptomatic or don't feel good at the end of the day they are able to work from home and complete their tasks and that is worth noting. You are correct I don't think we addressed when you are caring for someone else.

Councilmember Devlin: I think that is an important thing to put in here. That is a hardship, right. It is not the full 40 or 80 or what not but it is that 2/3 pay. I don't know how you guys feel but I would like to add that in here.

Mayor Dewey: so, you are suggesting that if an employee under the sub paragraph four where it says if an employee is caring for an individual that is subject to an order as in one or has been advised in paragraph two and are caring for one of those individuals and they elect to use emergency paid sick leave they are only going to receive 2/3 of their pay.

Councilmember Devlin: I believe that is how the act is written.

Mayor Dewey: okay. Is there further discussion from council?

Robert: that 2/3 pay went for 6 weeks and covered taking care of children that did not go to school just to make that clear.

Councilmember Devlin: correct if the school shuts down or your daycare is not available, right taking care of the children not somebody in your family that is sick then you would have to quarantine for, correct.

Mayor Dewey: and as a matter of fact, I don't know as if we have had an employee in the 9 months that we have been working through this utilize it in that way. To take care of their children because the school is closed.

Councilmember Devlin: it is available, I am just wondering if we are putting this in place if we need to make sure that all of the available avenues are put into this, like I said it is not mandated anymore or regulated anymore so if we don't want to put it in there, we don't have to I am just throwing it out there.

Mayor Dewey: the way it is written today they would receive their full wage for the time period for their 80 hours is what we allow for.

Councilmember Ludington: just to review Jaime you are talking about instead of using their 80 hours they can use 2/3 pay for six weeks.

Councilmember Devlin: Right if a school shuts down and they have to stay home with a child or daycare shuts down and there is no way to take care of their children basically is what it is for, it is not for both parents so if you have a two-family household the wife or the husband can do that not both of them.

Mayor Dewey: under the previous legislation?

Councilmember Devlin: correct.

Mayor Dewey: so, I think what Ms. Devlin is kind of proposing those as options for the council to be aware of, knowing that what ever we put into this policy we get to do because there is no federal legislation right now telling us what to do for the time being. Obviously, a contingency in this is if you adopt this today and next week or three weeks from now congress passes a different type of legislation, we are going to fall back on that.

Councilmember Devlin: you have to if it becomes a regulated you can't go by this you have to go by what is set forth. With this you get to right it off as a direct with you 941 so it is money in and money out, it is dollar for dollar on you taxes and you can use that. We wouldn't be out that money per say by doing either 80 hours or 6 weeks you still get the benefit of providing that service or you get the benefit of providing that benefit.



Councilmember Shourd: I think the 2/3 part is beneficial I think it should be something that is in there.

Councilmember Vick: I agree with that as well.

Mayor Dewey: so, you are seeking language that gives an employee the option if they don't want to take the full leave, they can take 6 weeks of 2/3.

Councilmember Devlin: right, because here is how it is written, also if they use that 2/3 pay 80 hours is still available to them if they end up with COVID and have to stay home and quarantine.

Mayor Dewey: you are adding that as an additional benefit in addition to emergency paid sick leave.

Councilmember Devlin: correct. Right, that is what it is intended for. It is two sperate.

Mayor Dewey: that is easy enough to add into the document and create as part of the policy if the council deems that.

Councilmember Devlin: I would make an amendment to this to add that as well as what Dempsey said extend it to December 30, 2021.

Mayor Dewey: Ms. Devlin has made a motion to amend the policy adding the option for employees to take 6 weeks of leave at 2/3 pay to care for a dependent if a school or daycare is closed and to extend the policy to December 30, 2021. Is that correct?

Councilmember Devlin: that is correct.

Mayor Dewey: do I have a 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilmember Vick: 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Devlin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Vick. Council discussion?

Councilmember Ludington: I don't want to be the stick in the mud but there is going to have to be some sort of continual proof that this is what is happening. They have to prove that every week that is what they are doing they are continuing to do that and have proof from the school, or the day care is continuing to be closed due to COVID-19.

Councilmember Devlin: so I will biggie back to that, our policy at our office is that they do. We have to have a letter one so if they are going to receive the sick pay they have to have a letter from public health or their doctor and then we have to have a letter that releases them but in that case they can't get more than 80 hours or if they work part time it is two weeks average hour pay. If a school or daycare is closed we have to have a letter stating that and follow up continuations, whether that is with that care taker or that school or a letter, you are correct Paul.

Councilmember Shourd: I would just have a question if item number three if an individual is experiencing symptoms and gets tested and turns out they don't have COVID do they still receive.

Mayor Dewey: our experience has been if they, I will tell you, our policy is if you are experiencing symptoms you don't get to come to work period, we just don't want to take the risk with the small staff that we have. So, if you are experiencing symptoms you are often sent home to get a test, if they are tested and sometimes what will happen if they were tested public health will give them a quarantine order, a negative test doesn't give you a right to go back to work it basically gives public health officials whether you have the virus or not. Sometimes we will see employees come back with negative tests but sometimes have a quarantine order from public health and they are

not allowed to come back to work until xyz date. In those cases, we have historically made leave available to them. Because they have that order.

Councilmember Devlin: but anybody, you just say you have symptoms, and you want to get paid, and then get tested it doesn't work that way.

Mayor Dewey: Robert and I think and everyone else keep each other honest and no body has come in and said that they have a headache and think that I have COVID go home and come back the next day. In terms of dependent childcare, kind of rolladexting and going through the staff that we have that may only effect one or two employees.

Councilmember Shourd: thank you.

Mayor Dewey: any other discussion on the amendment of the policy? Ms. Berthoud any public comment come through? Okay we don't have any public comment on the phone either. So, Ms. Berthoud would you call vote on the amendment.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the amendment passes so the full fledged policy is before you this evening.

Councilmember Vick I will make a motion to approve the policy.

Councilmember Shourd: 2<sup>nd</sup> that.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Vick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Shourd to approve the policy. Council discussion? There is no public comment on the phone unless there is public comment Ms. Berthoud would you call for the vote?

Councilmember Ludington: hold on just a second, Robert put something in the chat that said employees are eligible or now using getting 2/3 pay for their 80 hours. Is that what is happening now or is that what you are saying is going to happen?

Robert: that just came from MMIA a little bit earlier.

Councilmember Devlin: it isn't happening anymore so you can do that, you can add to it, you can subtract from it you don't have to do it all. It was in place until the end of 2020 and now they are saying you can choose to move forward with that if you like but they are not regulating it.

Mayor Dewey: there is no minimal or maximum standard it is kind of the door is open at this time. Any further discussion from the council? No public comment. Ms. Berthoud would you call for the vote.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motion passes unanimously. We will get that out to the staff once amended.

d. Discussion/Decision: Police Department Staffing

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item (d). This item is placed on the agenda that you will receive additional information by the meeting date, I don't necessarily have a formal right up or proposal for you but I did want to at least initiate a conversation with the council about department staffing. This is something that Chief Marble and I had continued to address through his ten-year and as soon as Interim Chief Ellington took the reins of the police department, we had some of those similar conversations about addressing the lack of staffing within SPD. The recent letter from the sheriff clearly helps that cause as well in addressing recent history of the police department we have taken steps in good faith to alleviate the staffing issues that we have had with the police department over the past decade and I would say over the last year we have seen some good progress, all be it Chief Marble's resignation it has set us back so as soon as we take two steps forward some one transitions out of the organization and then we are back another step so that has been a challenge. None the less I heard individually from councilmembers their thoughts on police department staffing so I thought this would be a good time to bring this conversation to light at a meeting and see if the council has thoughts or idea on how they further discuss or entertain the concept.

Councilmember Ludington: I have a few questions. Do you have a closing date for applications for a chief's?

Mayor Dewey: the position is technically open until filled with first priority given to those who apply by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December. As to date we have received eleven applications and we have narrowed that down to nine and hopefully by the end of next week we will have that narrowed down even more.

Councilmember Ludington: next question would obviously be where is the police department budget as we stand and where would we be if we increased for what is being recommended?

Mayor Dewey: police departments budget let me get it pulled up and get you firm figures, the police department expenditure is right at 50%. There is a \$172,000 remaining in that budget for law enforcement, one piece of that puzzle Paul since March CARES has been covering the wages of our public safety staff up until the end of November. So, from March to November, we received reimbursement from CARES on all of our wages for all of the police officers and the police clerk as I understand it. However, the point to that is it is not reflected in the expenditure budget we code that as a reimbursement. So technically speaking if you put that back into the police department budget you would have 100% of the wages left in that budget but the reality is goes back into the general fund side. We only budget about \$80,000 of revenue from CARES into the budget from the general fund obviously we have received more than that as to date and expect to receive more, so you do have that balancing act where yes there are some salary savings but to some degree, we budgeted to see some of that as well.

Councilmember Ludington: so, you are still expecting to have a chief on staff by March 1?

Mayor Dewey: correct.

Councilmember Ludington: and if you were relatively in short order upped the staff of the police department you wouldn't probably have anyone to add before that date as well, I would think.

Mayor Dewey: I don't believe that we could get anyone on the streets before March 1<sup>st</sup> whether that be a chief of police or a police officer. I will tell however we have up until today we had left the police officer job posting as an open recruitment on our website and we saw after the 1<sup>st</sup> of December this slew of applications come in for police officers like a ridiculous amount, that we had to shut off the open recruitment because they think we have more positions than we actually do. Technically there really aren't any. With that surge of applications, as you will, a solid pool of

candidates that in fact bring a wealth of experience to the organization, some candidates reached out to Chief Ellington directly we can identify one that is already POST certified and would just need a conversion from state to state which is just a two-week course at the academy he brings 30 years of experience to the organization. You know we have some folks that are lined up and have a desire to work for this organization a strong desire as a matter of fact, but funding remains to be an issue and that is why we are here to night in front of the council to see if there is a solution or thoughts to a solution.

Councilmember Devlin: how much equipment do we have meaning, vehicles. I guess what could we take on now if funding wasn't an issue?

Interim Chief Ellington: we could take on quite a bit. We have two new Explores that are 2021 models the other one of them will be here by the end of the month a 2012 Charger, a 2013 Ram and a 2009 Charger that needs a little bit of work. I would say that you have room for 5 officers 6 if you needed to. For the vehicles, we keep a multitude of spares because in this job we are always on the road and things happen, so that is why we have the spares.

Councilmember Devlin: your request was to have at least two more.

Interim Chief Ellington: 6, like I mentioned in that letter before a town our size, I know it is budget, ideally right now 6 officers would be great we could almost cover 24/7 if not 24/7 not including sick. I mean as you can see with the previous situations and violent crime and narcotics situations it is pretty prevalent and necessary like the letter that I provided to you guys talked about to much law enforcement is not what you need either just the right amount is what you need. If you have a need to join up with the department.

Councilmember Vick: correct me if I am wrong Mayor didn't, we approve increasing the police department to 6 officers last year?

Mayor Dewey: yes, earlier in 2020 I think in the first or second quarter of 2020 you do pass a resolution establishing 6 positions for the police department, sworn officers positions that is, however that was contingent on funding if you remember when I brought that resolution forward it raised eyebrows on the council that I was going to go out and hire new police officers it was very clear from my stand point at that time that it could not happen until the council authorized funding for those positions and I remained unsure where that funding was going to come from a sustainable basis. The current police department staffing is four sworn officers and a chief of police. Once that chief of police is hired you would have your four sworn people if you so if you are looking to add to that force it changes that dynamic. Back to the equipment question we can adequately equip someone.

Councilmember Devlin: Where would money come from?

Mayor Dewey: unfortunately, a bake sale is not going to cut it. We looked at that Robert would eat the profits. We have had internal conversations even as early as this afternoon about funding this type of request or trying to get creative with this. I can tell you if you look at our cash balances our reserves are holding pretty steady there is an opportunity with the reimbursements that we did not anticipate coming back there is some opportunity to use some of that cash. But I guess the challenge that we run into when we talk that way is this a sustainable approach, meaning likely fund a position for 12 months but then at the end of that 12-month period who's to say that our revenues in the general fund is going to support that. There are grant opportunities like the COPS grant that we have utilized in the past for the school resource position and that had helped the organization where it graduates over 4 years you know the first year, they cover a majority of the position second year they cover less and so on and so forth. With the grant you are responsible to fully fund the position that has been deployed successfully in the past. What that does it essentially buys you time to figure out how you are going to fund the position long term. But a

grant doesn't necessarily solve the problem overnight funding wise I can tell you if you were to say "mayor I want you to fund two officers" I would come back and say I am going to need between \$100,000 and \$110,000 dollars to make that happen. That's you know, we have a very full general budget this year for an array of reasons where it is nearly one million dollars so you can do the math as to what \$100,000 dollars would do to that budget that is a big chunk. When it comes to where can we find \$100,000 dollars some place in our budget, the answer is nowhere. We don't have an expenditure problem in the general fund there is very little fat to trim 2-3 years we have really necked things down where we have found ourselves in the predicament of not spending much money, but we are not bringing in very much. We do a lot with very little funding in terms of the general fund generating revenue. We have had these conversations with the council many years how do we help that revenue problem. I don't think there is any one solution, but you know it is something that has to be considered in the picture when we if you were to fund a position tonight and felt that need we are going to start working immediately to keep that position past June 30<sup>th</sup>, because your budget is going to start over on July 1 I can see us being in a position where if we approve that now and we didn't see that we over extended ourselves I guess if we ask for some money tonight or you funded two positions at \$110,000 our revenue increasing in 2022 to the tune of \$100,000 dollars our revenue just doesn't increase that drastically with property tax increase you know property values increase etcetera.

Councilmember Ludington: just a little history from my perspective this is nothing new for the town council even twenty years ago when I started on the council revenues were always shaky at best and our spending was always tight. About every year when it came up on year five and we knew we had to fund it and we were saying we will do it this year, but unfortunately, we can't do that for an officer again or we are going to have to get another COPS grants and we did that for several years. I think there is, interesting I was at the Barber Shop today and there was a guy from a construction company, and he said I just bought a plot of land that I got a plat on and I just sold every single lot today, 14 lots on this piece of property south of Hamilton. That he got the final plat approved on today and he sold all of the lots in one day. So that could be why police officers want to come here, everyone wants to come here is that going to help us? Eventually, my suggestion would be if there is enough interest in the community I would pull a public safety levy, it might be a way for us to say here is how it has raised its head, we have had a homicide first once since 98 and it wasn't really in the town so, and the sheriffs office says they are going to investigate all of our felonies because of our police department situation, I think we have a leg up there and it might be looking into, saying here is the value of your house today and we pass a public safety levy for x number of years and this is how much it is going to cost you and see how much, see where it goes I think people would be interested in that.

Councilmember Devlin: I agree whole heartily with that Paul.

Councilmember Shourd: seems like the best way to solve the issue.

Mayor Dewey: not sure if you are thinking or waiting for me to speak. I guess I pose the question from this point knowing that information or at least three of you agree to ask the taxpayers to increase mills. Where would you like to go from this point?

Councilmember Vick: I am not a person that is for increasing taxes. However, we do need our public safety people out there and we also need to be providing them mental health as needed. I am more than happy to have a conversation about that and find avenues to fund more police officers and you now get the equipment for them and what not where we can not only have the police officers but the equipment for them.

Councilmember Ludington: my feeling is let's go ahead and dream big. Let's go ahead and say here is what we want to do to staff a police department how much it is going to cost based on what we believe Chief Ellington is telling us and probably others as well including Chief Marble

see what it will cost, see what it will cost when you spread it over the community, I mean no doubt I don't like to raise taxes either. If this is the trade off for however much it is going to cost, then float it out to the community and say okay here is what we are looking at here is what it is going to cost where do we go from here. Do we make it smaller do we try to make it more palatable, what are the tradeoffs, I think there is definitely room for an interested community to speak out on how they feel about this?

Interim Chief Ellington: I agree, me and chief Marble talked about it quite a bit, spoke about it like you said as it grows the department is going to have to accommodate that as well. The police department being, we just have to find ways to say yes and not making a decision. It is a necessity. It is pretty prevalent, you said one homicide but there was two just out of the airport city limits, if we would have been on it would have been in our five-mile jurisdictional limit. I am also positive that we would have been tight there we could have assisted but we didn't have an officer on we don't have 24 hours coverage. That obviously bothers me because we try to be able to help but you know we can't do it when we are not working, we don't have guys on the street then the people don't have the service that they expect.

Mayor Dewey: so, in that vein, the levy rabbit hole it just so happens that I was able to find Resolution NO. 428 from 2018 that did not pass. I will share it with you, Mayor Dewey shared the resolution with the council and discussed the council meeting that pertained to this resolution. As I recall the community members did not agree to a contract. The council did put forth to the administration to put together a levy for February. At the time we were looking at 86 mills, at the time they were valued at \$2500 dollars.

Councilmember Vick: something I was thinking about, primary right now our police department handles traffic issues and what not, is there any way to get an estimation on a gas tax? Of say maybe 1%

Mayor Dewey: you are asking can the council implement a gas tax within the city to help with traffic enforcement?

Councilmember Vick: correct.

Mayor Dewey: I don't know. I know you could theoretically implement a gas tax for certainly road improvements, I don't know about traffic enforcement. That is a question that I have never been privy to the answer of.

Councilmember Ludington: there is only one problem with that, there is only one gas station.

Councilmember Vick: correct I know, that is one of the things I am thinking of there.

Councilmember Ludington: I am pretty sure the directors at the co-op would not be very happy.

Councilmember Vick: I get my coffee there on my way to work so that conversation may not go well.

Councilmember Ludington: I think we are probably still, after a quick couple of calculations what I know the mill levy was last time, we are probably looking at more like a \$130 dollars per house per year. So, I think it is one of those deals that we thought we has some force within the community we could probably build a campaign on that. I am not sure about the timing it would be pretty hard pressed to get something done before the end of this fiscal year that is not all that far away, it is only 5 months. We would have to work really hard to get a vote before the next fiscal year.

Mayor Dewey: timing wise in theory you could sneak this on to the May election ballot and then you would see revenues in December from the November tax bill. Just keep that in mind,

remember when you actually receive the money from a mill levy and if you wait until the November 2021 ballot you are not going to see revenue until December of 2022. Because tax bills go out as you know and are payable in November and those go out once a year and we get the two big tax checks that trickle in through out the year. Timing is something to consider. I would probably entertain for example if you were to move forward with a resolution like this one it is obviously the council's choice and I don't think by any means, I would encourage the council to hold a public meeting to see what the thoughts are what they deem as reasonable.

Councilmember Ludington: you know there is a significant history with municipalities and police forces in the state of Montana it is a kind of a unique situation. The funding and like Mayor Dewey said the largest chunk of money coming out of the general fund is for the police department because we are vested with a volunteer fire department the rest of the towns operations is done through the enterprise funds water and sewer. It is a big chunk of money I am not sure how people would feel about that, they would probably want to have at least a public hearing to get some people's opinions from how they feel about this just as a ball park figure \$140 of your house value take a look at what your house value is and if you want to budget for a larger police force or take a look at what that budget would be if we wanted to try and figure out what that would look like monetarily to do with the police department and put a number to it. We can say if we want to do this, I am personally on the fence about whether we would, we need to know how much this will cost. The school just passed a twenty-six-million-dollar levy.

Interim Chief Ellington: it is tough. I just know that long term it would be beneficial I am pretty sure that everyone is familiar with the increase in crime and that correlates narcotics, meth, dope. That is part of the reason, and like I was mentioning before when I worked in Florida, when they get into a town in a zone or sector that you work, they are like weeds and weeds spread and I don't want to see it spread it takes the tough road there has to be some sort of solution I can look at COPS grants and I can get on that asap but then we also have to have a long term goal of what we want the town to be and how we want the police department to be for the town.

Mayor Dewey: one idea that just occurred to me was that we have pondered a survey in regards to SPD and its interactions with the town and the feed back and SPD's our plan was to do something the first of the year and here we are. It is conceivable that we could put some questioning in that survey floating the idea of a levy if that is acceptable to the council that may give you an opportunity to the waters and see what the temperature is.

Councilmember Vick: I would definitely like to see what other people think about it putting something like that in the poles.

Mayor Dewey: that is very easy to implement it is very low impact and we have seen wild success being able to reach an audience through social media with past surveys we have gotten good responses with [public safety and especially police protection I don't have any doubt we will have a decent survey response to that so that is something that John and I can work together to pull off, put some wording in there very simple but speaks to a levy and the tolerance of the community is. Have we beat that horse or is there more you would like to discuss about the police department and police protection?

Councilmember Ludington: I am done.

Mayor Dewey: one other thought I will leave you with in terms of the revenue problem is one of the times that we have had this revenue conversation the council at that time came up with maybe we need more taxable property in the town and commissioned an annexation study 2017 or 2018 or 2019 were we contracted with HDR engineering to determine the feasibility of annexing the Stevensville Y to 93. I think a couple of you have seen that report I can send it to

you that was one solution that was explored whether it was a feasible option or not, with that if there is nothing further, we can move on.

Interim Chief Ellington: I like that idea.

Mayor Dewey: council is good to go, thumbs up.

e. Discussion/Decision: Contract for Building Inspections Services with Construct Montana, LLC

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item (e) Mr. Underwood I am going to defer to you on this contract.

Robert: as most of you know Tim left the beginning of September and signed a three-month contract with him. We did not find another inspector, so Tim has been continuing to do it. Tim is also contracted with the City of Hamilton. The contract is in the packet, similar to what Hamilton has. We have a lot of money in the fund and continue to get findings from the state because of that.

Tim Netzley: presented to the town the building inspector contract for building inspections for the Town of Stevensville. I have the same contract with Hamilton and a temporary with Darby as well. I am happy to answer any questions.

Councilmember Ludington: I have a couple of questions, first of all can you charge 1005 for a while until it drops down. I know that it is a pretty large fund. I realize that there is some administration work from the town. One thing that I did not see in the contract and I would like to see is that the town retain a copy of the certifications that you have. And maybe help you maintain those certifications, if you need additional credits to maintain that. The way in see it and you probably see it that way to this isn't going away, constructions for the municipality are not going to go away, they are probably just going to be more. We are going to be looking at this problem of having a relatively large fund for a while, so that would be the only thing that we might want to make sure that we do, is to have your certifications on file so when someone comes in for a building permit here is what the building inspector is going to do and here are his qualifications. We are telling the builder, or the homeowner that we have the best available services that there are in the area and that, my other questions would be is 15 days standard? I think that is what is says, all inspections will be carried out with in 15 days.

Tim Netzley: 15 days for the plan review, that is the standard, but we often do much better than that.

Councilmember Ludington: I am all in favor of contracting for services I think it is a really great use for small business it gives them a independent way to make sure they sustain a revenue stream for whatever company they got. And as in what concern he does have staff, not only are we taking a part time position from the town, but we are helping to employ more people than one, so I think it is a win-win for the town.

Councilmember Vick: I would have to agree with you there Paul.

Councilmember Devlin: I do have a concern we are providing the office space, our town employees are doing the scheduling, so we have an overhead cost in that, while Tim you have employees we do as well, and your proposal is a 80% of building fees and I think that is a little high. The part that concerns me is I mean you kind of have us backed into a corner so to speak, what other options do we have, but when you do a contract and I agree it is right that we can support a small business and you have great qualifications a contract has to benefit both parties so I would really like to see those building fees go down to 70% instead of 80%.



Tim Netzley: We try to stay under the national average for similar contracts which starts typically around 85% then goes anywhere from 20-25% for plan review. And I made the recommendation that we raise the plan review fees from \$25 to \$50, 35% is what the state is doing as well, Hamilton as well.

Councilmember Devlin: that is a fair argument I just have to look at from all different sides, right? 80% I think that is high.

Mayor Dewey: I see Jaime's point in terms of the overhead often times the town will look to contract with outside entities to provide services to get out of those types of costs, just because we discussed it about the police department and reduce costs in other ways so there is that aspect to consider whether to proceed with a contract or not. Are we funding both Mr. Netzley' overhead and our own and doubling up on that, I don't necessarily have an answer?

Tim Netzley: the way that we have it is the staffing cost to the city should be minimal there is we have gone through all of the archives and do regular reporting but otherwise we just recommend having somebody that is a point of contact that we can check in with and the scheduling just happens in one spot for the contractors to go to; to get that taken care of and then they are not entirely detached from the city. As it is now Mayor Dewey or Ms. Berthoud may know, maybe Robert would know better how many hours would you say go into the scheduling from the staff.

Robert: I don't know exactly even though the spend at least a day a week, getting calls done. Maybe 20% per person maybe even less, 6-7 hours. It is about 6-7 hours per week, they do it everyday because there are people coming that is part of the process of getting the form filled out, paying for the form getting it back and scheduling would at least take one person a day a week in the busy schedules, not much this week but in the other nine months of the year when it is a little bit busier. And we have talked about that before and that is about right.

Tim Netzley: nothing has come in these last month or so.

Councilmember Ludington: I think as we continue to look at the fees that we are charging and the possibility of larger projects coming into the community those are obviously going to generate a sizable amount for the department and even though the amount of time it takes to schedule those probably doesn't take that much more time the revenue that comes in is considerable as Robert has said that department is pretty healthy right now but like you said we are going to get fined because we have so much money in it we don't want to be forced to lower our fees because we are holding so much money I think it would take a period of time once the school gets done I know there is some other stuff that is in the pipe line commercially that will probably generate another sizable chunk of money not to mention if something happens with another subdivision within the municipality is going to generate funds. Nothing ventured nothing gained if we don't have space to build stuff than are need goes down and our scheduling goes down with that the reverse of that is also true. I don't personally have a problem with that we may at some point discover that it is not covering our costs and if that is the case we may have to take a closer look at the contract that we have with the building inspector and try to renegotiate I think in my opinion this is well within the bounds of what we should be able to do and if we find out that staffing is spending a lot of time filling out paperwork then we need to try to redirect that to so they can do more of that stuff on line and the building inspector takes it on. Try to see what ways we can reduce the amount of staff time.

Councilmember Devlin: I wonder if we had six hours of our staff back not doing building inspector work, what other what would they be relacing their time with and I think we can all agree that there is other work. Paul, I agree with what you are saying yes there is a lot of money in there and we don't want to have to pay fees for having it in there. I just I think we just need to be mindful and when we sign a contract it needs to benefit both parties yes it benefits us because we don't

have anyone else to do this and yes it benefits us still maybe generate some income off of it right, but I think we can definitely argue that 6-7 hours a week of our towns time our towns staff time providing space that is worth something. Yes, if you contract out generally you contract out to somebody that is not using your space you contract out to somebody that provides all of the services not just parts of that we are looking at, in a quiet time 30 hours a week I mean 30 hours a month. I don't want to wait and find out that maybe we could have done something different or that we could not afford it. I don't know I am having a little bit of heart burn over it.

Councilmember Shourd: what is the length of time for the proposed contract?

Tim Netzley: 3 years.

Councilmember Shourd: 3 years, thank you.

Councilmember Devlin: to kind of go back I think that we do it annually or two years but not to exceed two years at a time. I don't want to be stuck in a contract that agina we find out we can't afford or what not.

Tim Netzley: as I have discussed with Mayor Dewey, we are willing to do two years. If you want to try it out and see how it works.

Mayor Dewey: how would the council like to proceed with the contract this evening?

Councilmember Vick: I will make a motion to approve the contract for two years.

Councilmember Shourd: 2nd

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Vick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Shourd. Council discussion? Public comment? There are no callers on tonight....

Councilmember Ludington: I will say one more thing, as you are all probably aware, building in Ravalli county is going nuts last time that this happened I happened to be in the trade at that time and the guys that thought they were builders were numerous and Tim can probably speak to that as well if we don't have a building inspector we are going to be in serious trouble at some point with something that was built in the municipality where it should not be and I think that he is finding that now with people that are suppose to know what they are doing so I think that this is something that we can not do without. I realize that this could cost a little bit in the long run but in don't think we can do without it we are really lucky, and if you talk to some in the areas in the county that doesn't really have any type of building inspection going on there is all kinds of crap going up our there and it is kind of scary, even in the recent subdivisions that have been in the county some of that building and I have seen some of it, it is pretty shoty I don't want to see that in the town, I really don't we have spent a lot of time and done a lot of effort and as the council representative on the Planning and Zoning Board that spent 13 ½ hours in the last two weeks debating a subdivision, we have to have a building inspector I will not allow us to not have one.

Councilmember Devlin: I agree with that Paul like I said our back is against the wall either we approve this contract, or we don't have a building inspector, it is that black and white. And that is not my heartburn, my heartburn is that maybe we can negotiate a little bit, but I agree whole heartly we have to have somebody.

Mayor Dewey: any further council discussion?

Councilmember Vick: my opinion is that being that 80% is not that bad it isn't like we are paying him outside of that. That is what I am looking at.

Mayor Dewey: any further discussion? Public comment? Ms. Berthoud any public comment?

Ms. Berthoud: no public comment.

Mayor Dewey: if you would roll call the vote please.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Shourd: aye.

Councilmember Vick: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motion passes.

## 12. Executive Report

Mayor Dewey: I have been told by Ms. Berthoud that perhaps I am wordy in my report and I will keep it brief as it is nine o'clock. As council is likely aware and let me preface, Jenelle likes to stay late we are in that habit now with the recent meetings in that vein after plenty of hours of deliberation the planning and zoning board did turn over a recommendation I am sure Paul will address in the board report section of our agenda with that we will be reaching out to the town council on availability to schedule for public hearing or public hearings depending on how many you want to have and meeting for that. So, you can expect that to come forward. The caveat to meetings is that as you have individually given me your feedback, we are prepared to go back, considering the case counts in Ravalli county and other measures that are in place we are prepared to go back to in person meetings and that is encouraging. I don't know that this council has never met in person before, so I am excited for that opportunity. However, with that comes with some restrictions if you will it is the council's intent to return to in person meeting with the same masking and distancing requirements that were in place prior to going to virtual meetings and if any of the councilmembers object to that please let me know. The other piece to that is that we can continue to hold council meetings in the library community room that seems to be the best facility that can hold a reasonable amount of people the council chambers is available but by the time you get the council, staff and any department heads that attend we are out of capacity and citizens are able to join us which defeats the purpose of meeting in person I think the library room is available to us and we have spoke with the library director and have worked out our agreement with them to use that space however we are a little bit more limited because they have restarted some of their programming so we need to keep our meeting the best we can to two per month which covers our council meetings. I think it is just going to depend on how you want to precede with Burnt Fork Estates and meetings in that regard. I think if you are going to hold in person meetings or an in person public hearing that room is going to quickly run out of capacity with the 14 or 16 chairs that we are able to accommodate. So, keep that in the back of your mind I would like some feed back when you consider that item. I guess to speak to the letter that the sheriff sent you all received a copy of that along with Mr. Ellington's memo regarding police staffing and we have consulted with legal counsel, in fact I think there are a half a dozen lawyers across the state who have seen that letter and are candidly perplexed by the sheriffs directive if you will, that frankly undercuts our police department and doesn't do much justice to the idea that our staff are capable of handling felony investigations, which I have full faith that they are I think we are still vetting the legality of the sheriffs letter and demanding that felonies are handles a certain way in Stevensville I can tell you at this juncture we do not feel that it is legal despite the county attorneys signature on the letter, but like I said we are going to continue to vett that, we had one meeting scheduled with the sheriff unfortunately that meeting didn't happen because court ran late the sheriff didn't want to stick around and due to the city attorney stuck in court we weren't able to pull a meeting together and he has reached out for a meeting and I will entertain that as soon as I am done consulting with legal counsel on how we are to proceed wit the issue. Beside from that the department heads are doing well in regards to continue with the towns operations,

we survived a wind storm yesterday and the other note I think I will make is at the end of the month we have a fifth Friday where we hold staff retreats and some times those are held with council, so the fifth Friday of the month if you wouldn't mind marking your calendars we will of course reach out from the staff side of things to see if you have availability that day to workshop with the staff and I with strategic planning over the last quarter, we are at that time of the year when our fiscal 2022 budget. Your input would be valuable there if you are available. If there aren't any questions from council for me I will turn it over to Town Council comments.

### 13. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Vick: I am going to keep it brief and not take up half a page in the Bitterroot Star. First off, I want to wish our deputy clerk Laura Miller a very happy birthday and also second thing Mr. Mayor if you remember last year I had made a motion to were if the council president and the Mayor come to an agreement then the towns attorney can be present at the meetings and what not, I think with my questions about gas taxes and other things that have come up in the past you have my blessing throughout the rest of this year at least to have the town attorney present and active in our council meetings if you so see fit.

Councilmember Ludington: most of my comments were board reports. It has been an interesting couple of weeks.

Mayor Dewey: any other council comments, board reports, Paul your turn I think you are the only board that met.

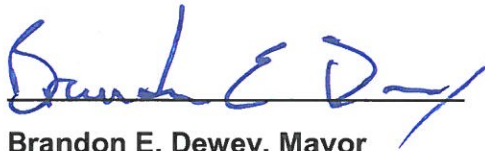
### 14. Board Reports

Councilmember Ludington: and boy did we meet. And I will once again give all of the accolades that I possibly can to the members of the planning and zoning board, Greg Chilcot, Meghan Hanson, Dan Ritter and Trenis Hindle for all of the time that they have spent listening to comments and going over what has turned into a pretty complex development. I would encourage you to look at the entire proposal I realize that it is 200 pages and that traffic impact study, and the soil study is pretty dry, but it is important. As you well can imagine that people that live in Creekside Meadows are not happy and I realize that so we are going to have to have a public hearing and I would hope that try to have I think that we have to have it in person, and we may have to see if we can use the facility at the school and it is going to be 4 or 5 hours I just guarantee it. They are going to talk our ears off and try to get us to see their point of view and what their objections are and what are important. And there are issues involved here, some that have been put on the back burner and have kind of sat around for several years, I don't know if you watched but in the first meeting that we had I did talk about a meeting that I went to in the brief time that I was mayor with PCI when they were the towns engineer with the DNRC and it was kind of sad and I don't think that has changed, I think water right that the town has, as the mayor said, is absolutely sufficient I think we have some issues with it and this may be the opportunity for us to fix that and it may be the opportunity for us to get into a lot of trouble with the developer. We have been fortunate this year in COVID 19 to be able to not really have to respect the deadlines that we would normally review with subdivision review and believe me there is a lot to review there, a lot going on just in that piece of property and what they are proposing to do there. Notwithstanding what is going on in the surrounding area which is a really nice subdivision that is next door and road ways that are contingent to this subdivision that do not belong to the town and water rights that are in question and storm water that could be an issue and the whole density issue going on there, so I would really encourage you to familiarize yourself with that proposal because there is a lot issues there including the issues that Creekside Meadows has brought up. And other citizens with in the town but I think we have come to a pretty good agreement I think that this is something that could work really well for us, one of the things the mayor pointed out, the infrastructure fees alone from this will generate almost \$700,000 dollars for them to just be able to hook up to our facilities there is also going to be that 20% from all those building permits there is also going to be an opportunity for us to make sure that we are taking care of all of our water and our

waste water and our storm water, this is going to allow us to tie up it will also allow us to figure out what the interest is in our town. I was on the council with the original Creekside Meadows was originally proposed, it was proposed in five phases only two were done. Some of that had to do with the economy some of it didn't, it was also a very difficult process. The planning and zoning had many meetings on it, I believe that the comments from them that they would have to agree to was at least two dozen if not more and it has turned out to be a very nice subdivision so that is really all I will say about that, there will be further we should try to do the best that we can to listen to what everybody has to say about this and like I said there are people that are not at all happy that this is proceeding and that there are issues that we are going to need to be able to answer for them. Thank you.

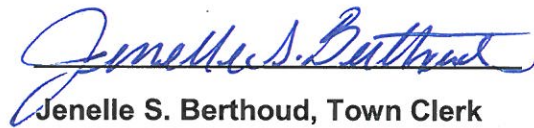
15. Adjournment

**APPROVE:**



Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk