

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes
for MONDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2021, 7:00 PM

CONDENSED MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Dewey called the meeting to order. Councilmembers Allen Ludington and Wandler were all present. Councilmember Devlin is absent tonight.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comments (Public comment from citizens on items that are not on the agenda)

NONE

4. Approval of Minutes

a. October 28, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Mayor Dewey: introduced approval of meeting minutes.

Councilmember Allen: make a motion.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Allen and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. Council discussion? Public Comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote, Ms. Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motion passes.

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims #17114-#17137

Mayor Dewey: introduced the bi-weekly claims with the addition of #17138-#17140, Motorola Solutions. The reason for these changes has to do with the timing of when bills come in. #17141, this is not on your list it is made out to Patrick Daily in the amount of \$1500.00 for the ice rink that was donated to the town, so we are going to be the pass through the donation for A2Z.

Councilmember Ludington: make a motion to approve claims as presented.

Councilmember Allen: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Allen. Council discussion?

Councilmember Allen: #17115, Secure Warrant, what is that?

Mayor Dewey: it is an annual subscription that the police department uses to process their search warrants. It is a go between with the courts and the police.

Councilmember Ludington: #17132, cell phone for the airport.

Mayor Dewey: Yes, the airports cell phone incurred a significant amount of data usage more than the data usage of everyone else on the plan combined and that is something that we are working with Verizon on, and we are going to go ahead and pay the bill so that we don't incur any sort of charges or anything like that or shut off. Technical support has already evaluated the phone to see what happened because they have evaluated the data usage to see what the data usage was and they say the data usage was not streaming but generally streaming would generate that kind of usage it is unclear still and I am not directly involved with dealing with customer support that is something that Wendi and the airport manager are tag teaming and working with Verizon on, but my direction at this time is to go ahead and pay the bill that we owe so that we don't incur any sort of late fee or shut off on the account and then are hope is that when they get it resolved we see a credit back on our bill towards the legitimate usage of that phone. There shouldn't be that much data usage on a phone even when I travel on my mayor's phone, I don't hardly use two giga bites a month and this was like, and this was a lot of data. And that is the explanation of that dollar amount.

Councilmember Allen: if we pay it are we going to get a credit I don't think we really want \$4475.00 in credit versus.

Mayor Dewey: I don't know that specifically I am not dealing directly with Verizon that is something that Wendi is doing. My hope would be that we could get a refund for that amount I don't think that Verizon wants to woe us that kind of money, that is yet to be seen.

Councilmember Wandler: #17124, property tax for George May?

Mayor Dewey: this is one of those pieces of property it is a very small sliver up by the railroad that we own for whatever reason, it is arguably right away but it is not. It is a piece of land, and it was deeded to George May with us as an additional owner and we have never been able to resolve it, and no one has found the time to go in for \$13.98 and really find out why a property deeded to George May is being taxed. I don't think that the piece of land is bigger than this room. I don't know why we pay property taxes on it; I have been told by the past two treasures that we just do it.

Councilmember Wandler: #17134 IRS for penalties and interest?

Mayor Dewey: that is on employment withholdings, so we came up short on the reconciliation for withholdings of employee's income taxes while that was reconciled, we incurred interest on it. Wendi spoke to them, and they have basically put a hold on the interest until they get the check, as long as they get the check when we promised them after this meeting, they have reduced some interest for us.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Allen any further questions from council. Public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: ye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

6. Administrative Reports

a. Airport

Included in the packet for the council to review.

b. Community Development

Mayor Dewey: let the council know about a variance coming up. Report included in the packet for the council to review.

c. Finance

No finance report. Wendi and Laura continue to work through reconciliation.

d. Fire Department

Chief Motley: gave his report to the council, also included in the packet for the council to review.

e. Parks Department

Bobby Sonsteng: gave his report to the council. He was out sick so his report was not included in the packet but will be in the final record of the meeting.

f. Police Department

Included in the packet for the council to review.

g. Public Works

Included in the packet for the council to review.

7. Guests

NONE

8. Correspondence

NONE

9. Public Hearings

NONE

10. Unfinished Business

NONE

11. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Robert P. Rohbock as Volunteer Firefighter Engineer

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item a.

Councilmember Allen: I make a motion.

Councilmember Ludington: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Allen and 2nd by Mr. Ludington to consent to the mayor's appointment. Council discussion? Public Comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington:

Councilmember Wandler:

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

b. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Landon P. Henderson as Firefighter Cadet

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business b.

Councilmember Ludington: make a motion.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. Council discussion? Public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote, Ms. Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

c. Discussion/Decision: Stop Signs Installed on Buck Street at North and South Sides of West 3rd Street and West 4th Street, Replacing Yield Signs

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item c. this was submitted by a citizen am I correct Ms. Berthoud. The citizen is not here tonight.

Councilmember Ludington: I suggest that we postpone until the citizen can be here to make a presentation to the council.

Councilmember Allen: motion to table until November 23, 2021, meeting.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Allen and 2nd by Ms. Wandler to table new business item c, to the November 23, town council meeting. Council discussion? Public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote, MS. Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

d. Discussion/Decision: Selection of a firm to do a Transportation Master Plan for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item d. The town advertised for a firm to do a transportation master plan for the Town of Stevensville. This initiative came out of Burnt Fork Estates. All together the town received one proposal to the RFQ. The two firms partnered together to form one proposal.

Councilmember Ludington: make a motion to select the firm.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. Council Discussion?

Councilmember Ludington: I mentioned this at the last council meeting I think we are pretty fortunate to get this type of proposal from an engineering firm I think that this is needed by the town and there are a lot of changes in that area than there was of course in 2006 when the last one was done. This is more of a plan for what we can do in the future. I highly recommend that we move forward with this plan.

Mayor Dewey: if we can move forward in a rapid fashion, it will also put us in a good spot with the infrastructure package that is coming out of congress. With a master plan in place, it would show a need and show the funding that is needed. Further council discussion? Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vickie Motley: 318 9th Street, just so I can wrap my head around this, does this become part of Planning and Zoning or is it a separate, does the planning and zoning look at this when looking at new subdivisions?

Mayor Dewey: yes, everybody will look at it. Any more public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote, Ms. Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: that motion passes.

e. Discussion/Decision: Contract with Central Square/Zuercher for the Police Department Reporting System

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item e. currently the police department uses a software program through Motorola. This system has been around since 2016 maybe a little earlier 2013. It was a tremendous upgrade for the department however it is not without its flaws, but it was affordable. The biggest challenge that we have with that system today is that as we are required to report incident-based reporting to the state of Montana and the national law enforcement. Much like the fire department does, this system doesn't do an adequate job reporting to the state it has an automated module to do that, but it fails miserably. When I was the police clerk, we were behind a year we worked really hard to work straight through to get that year caught up and we were able to do that and then when there is a transition we fall behind again. Now where the folks at Montana Crime Control would like to see some success and get some Stevensville Data out of us and with that they have offered us a grant to switch to a system that will promptly report our data to the state, this is the same platform that the Ravalli County Sheriff and the Hamilton Police Department use, it integrates with those agencies we have security of our own data but we are also to do pass through information like names, if there is something going on in both jurisdictions there is some pass through. It will integrate with the CAD system with 911 which is not something that our current system does. The information that is entered at dispatch is then also entered at SPD it is not seamless. And that is something that we would like to streamline, this gives the officers a little more mobility as well as we put terminals in their vehicles this software better fits that platform. So, all together it is an advantageous move for SPD. There is a small match of \$1800 for us to do that, candidly when we are not paying our Ally subscription, we can allocate those funds to getting this set up. There will be an annual subscription fee for that software. So, all together Chief Sosa has done a great job working with the folks at Central Square and the Board of Crime Control to get this off the ground. I know that I have had conversations about this with Kathy over the last 18 months and we are finally seeing some forward movement at the SPD. I will do my best to answer questions, but I was planning on Chief Sosa being here to present it.

Councilmember Ludington: I would just like to highlight for the public that is here that this is not cheap, it is \$18,000 of which \$18,000 is going to be covered by the crime controls grant. Paying 90% and the town is paying \$1800, this is the only way that this is going to happen.

Mayor Dewey: the company Central Square also gave us a tremendous discount on their services of \$18,000. So, all together if we were going into this all on our own, we would be looking at a \$36,000 expenditure to do this on our own.

Councilmember Wandler: what is the annual fee for this?

Mayor Dewey: the annual maintenance total is \$1630.00, and the first-year subscription total is \$240.00 I would imagine that it is consistent year to year so about \$2,000 per year for this platform.

Councilmember Allen: so, once you purchase this software it is purchased? It is that one time.

Mayor Dewey: the biggest expense is getting that initial set up done so we pay an initial up-front charge to get implementation done and to get all of our records moved and then we are going to pay an annual subscription to the system of about \$2000 a year.

Councilmember Ludington: and that would include tech support.

Councilmember Allen: I will make a motion to approve.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Allen and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. Further council discussion? Public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes.

f. Discussion/Decision: CARES Officer Agreement between the Town of Stevensville and Stevensville Public Schools

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item f. as we discussed in our budget discussions, we are reimplementing a hybrid modified school resource officer program, the biggest distinction is that we are not requiring school resource officer training, but we are putting an emphasis on community-oriented policing. Some youth diversion techniques in that regard so the school has agreed verbally to partner with the town of Stevensville on helping with the cost of this position and this program with the SPD and Chief Sosa has drafted a contract, we borrowed the contract from the city of Bozeman and removed the requirements that they have to attend SRO school. It stands exactly how it stands for Bozeman after your approval this evening if that is the direction that you go, we will send it to the school board for their approval next to say that this is a program that we are okay with moving forward in. Chief Sosa is asking that we make the agreement retroactive to September 1, 2021, that is when we initially started to pilot the program to make sure that the relationship with the school was going to work, we have done that through September and October and we have seen some success. The officer that was selected to hold that position is internal within our current police force so we will replace him with a patrolman, so the school is happy with that selection and is very heavily involved in the selection of a person to be stationed there as part of the program.

Councilmember Ludington: I make a motion to approve.

Councilmember Allen: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Allen. Council discussion?

Councilmember Ludington: make a note to make changes of the date.

Mayor Dewey: any further discussion? Any public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote, Ms., Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: okay that motion passes unanimously.

g. Discussion/Decision: HDR Contract Amendment for Water Tank Condition Assessment

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item g. the amended contract was included in your packet. We would like to do the assessment prior to the grant application. As promised Craig pulled this together for your approval.

Councilmember Allen: make a motion.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Ms. Allen and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. Council discussion? Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leanna Rodabaugh: Ravalli Street, how much is this going to cost? And I forgot, but the earlier contract that you were approving for highway and traffic is there a cost to that?

Mayor Dewey: there is no contract associated with that, yet it was just a selection of the firm.

Leanna Rodabaugh: do they have a bid in?

Mayor Dewey: no.

Leanna Rodabaugh: excuse me for not asking that earlier.

Mayor Dewey: the contract amendment for HDR is estimated to be \$250,694.00.

Leanna Rodabaugh: and that covers?

Mayor Dewey: that covers project management, design, bidding services, services during construction. So, it does the condition assessment on the water tank and gets us ready for the grant. Any further public comment? Hearing none we will call for the vote, Ms. Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: that motion passes unanimously.

Mayor Dewey: under the executive report not a whole lot right now to report on, things are relatively quiet, and the administration is easing into a transition given the results of last Tuesday's election. The only thing that I will share with council in that regard is that I have received indication from some staff members that they are not willing to proceed and continue working with the new administration although I have not received official resignations, I have received indication that they desire to leave the organization. Given that there may be some transition hick-ups or delays that we will have to address them on a case-by-case basis if in fact those resignations come through in full disclosure if we receive a resignation for a position, I will not be inclined to replace that position in my last 55 days of office, I will essentially hold that until Mr. Gibson can come in and make that selection and decide if he wants that position replaced and who he wants to replace with. So, if there is a change in service delivery because of those resignations we just ask the public to be patient with us it will slow the transition down and won't be as seamless as we had hoped. And also, if citizens notice that while we receive a resignation why isn't the mayor replacing that position, I don't think that it is my place to do that I think that is Mr. Gibson's place and what works for him. That is where we are with those types of challenges otherwise, I think we have a number of board meetings and council meetings scheduled and coming up through out the calendar. Otherwise, I don't have anything else to report in the executive report unless council has any questions for me.

13. Town Council Comments

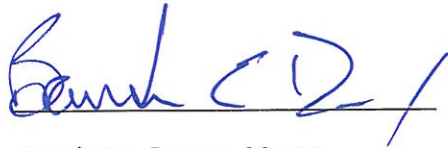
Councilmember Allen: I would like to congratulate Steve Gibson, Stacie Barker and Cindy Brown on their successful campaigns.

14. Board Reports

NONE

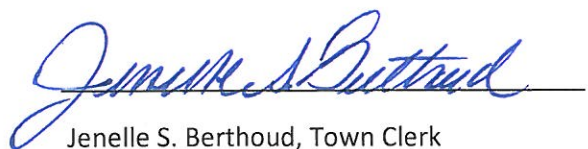
15. Adjournment

APPROVE:



Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk