

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes
for THURSDAY, DECEMBER 09, 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 will be late this evening she has another obligation this evening.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Marilyn Wolff, 300 Aspen Trail, Stevensville. I am actually talking about item number three public comments and I am asking for an exception or an accommodation these last two meetings I see that these agendas are long probably going to be really long, it is mainly for older adults and those people that maybe can't be here until the end of the meeting where you maybe could limit their comment to a minute or two and that does not take much time and that encourages the public participation so I am wondering if that can't be something that is aloud this evening and the next town council meeting. If you could give me an answer, I would appreciate it.

Mayor Dewey: if the council is inclined to limit public comment this evening, they have to take that action through a vote. Is there any further public comment on items not on tonight's agenda?

Stacie Barker, 104 Winslet Ave. just an observation I am kind of curious if we sold the two cars that were down behind the police department did, they go surplus or what happened to those cars since this is public property just kind of curious. Those were the cop cars.

Mayor Dewey: any further public comment on items not listed on tonight's agenda? Hearing none we will move on.

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. November 9, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes
- b. November 22, 2021, Board of Adjustment, Meeting Minutes
- c. November 23, 2021, Meeting Minutes
- d. November 24, 2021, Meeting Minutes
- e. November 29, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Mayor Dewey: introduced the approval of minutes.

Councilmember Ludington: I will make a motion to approve as presented.

Councilmember Allen: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Allen. 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 minutes are approved.

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims #17166-#17204

Mayor Dewey: introduced the approval of the claims, #17166-#17204.

Councilmember Ludington: make a motion to approve.

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 unanimously.

6. Administrative Reports

a. Airport

Airport report was included in the agenda packet for the council's review.

b. Community Development

Community Development was included in the agenda packet for the council's review.

c. Finance

Finance report was included in the agenda packet for the council's review. Mayor Dewey spoke to the highlights of the report.

d. Fire Department

Fire department report was included in the agenda packet for the council's review. Chief Motley gave his report to the council. Santa will be out and about along with the department in our antique apparatus. Thanked Mayor Dewey and his staff for his ten-year. Thank you for all that you have accomplished.

Councilmember Ludington: want to thank the fire department for the great parade.

Chief Motley: civic club had a lot to do with that but thank you.

e. Parks Department

Parks Department report was included in the agenda packet for the council's review.

f. Police Department

Police department report was included in the agenda packet for the council's review. Chief Sosa gave his report to the council. Able to hire two officers in November and have successfully completed their field training and will go on Sunday on their own. You gave us the authorization to surplus two vehicles and they were taken to surplus. Shop with a Cop is this Saturday, and we will have 8 students, business owner in the area has graciously provided a blank check to take care of this.

Mayor Dewey: just to clarify, the surplus process on the two vehicles, we have taken those over to the state and the state is facilitating that process on our behalf, correct?

Chief Sosa: that is correct sir.

Mayor Dewey: thank you for your help with the parade of lights as well.

g. Public Works

Public works report was included in the agenda packet for the council's review.

7. Guests

NONE

8. Correspondence

NONE

9. Public Hearings

NONE

10. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Reconsideration of Transportation Master Plan Agreement with Robert Peccia & Associates, Inc.

Mayor Dewey: introduced unfinished business item a.

Councilmember Ludington: I will make a motion to approve.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. I am going to pull up that amount, \$82, 107.00 over two fiscal years. So, it is billed as they incur the costs. Council discussion? Public Comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marilyn Wolff, 300 Aspen Trail, Stevensville. I looked at the agenda packet and read on this and I am really uncertain what this is about for a lot of money. And I fee that its way ahead of its time and there are probably other projects. Just googling Wikipedia Stevensville has a town population of 2002 people total area of the town is 1.3 square miles which 1.2 square miles is water, most surrounding roads are county or state that control main traffic corridors. Folks this is unnecessary I think that the plan is a bit of a boon-doggle activity that is wasteful. I really feel that you should vote no.

Jim Crews: 316 9th Street, Stevensville. I looked at this package and I am appalled I have to ask the question if the town attorney has been involved in the preparation process per section 3.402 of the town code, Mr. Crews recited the town code, the transportation plan, where is the contract it is not in your packet tonight, you can not vote on something that is not on the agenda. The public has not been properly informed, and we cannot comment on something that can't be analyzed. Where are we going to get \$82, 107.00? is that an itemized list of products or services to be rendered. I don't see any detail list of anything in this proposal. What is the duration of the contract? The Planning & Zoning Board was highly inaccurate, I listened to the audio yesterday it was probably one of the worst run meetings I have ever monitored almost no detail discussion I could only make out really one person in the meeting, that was the mayor. The mayor was there to help this little item along. When asked what the mayor wanted from the board it basically came down to the board asking to recommend to the town council this is something that we need. The board made a decision to suggest it to council. They have not had a meeting since November 22nd so there are no minutes. Exactly how did this suggestion come to the council. The council meeting after the P& Z meeting the mayor put the transportation master plan on the agenda. There does not seem to be a formal letter from the board suggesting council the pros and cons of adopting this firm to do the plan or any details. November 23rd the agenda to approve this council decided on a two to one vote to not approve this item. Now we have it back on the agenda, can the council please elaborate on what changed your minds? I see a proposal, but I fail to see an agreement. Do we as a town really need to commit to this? We don't have big transportation issues, most of them take place outside the town limits. There is a lot of fluff in this project. If you actually read what you are getting for \$82,107.00. Spend the money on something that we need. Thank you.

Bob Michalson: 222 Turner Street, I would like to add that under the Montana subdivision act that it specifically states that transportation studies are at the cost of the developer not the town. Thank you.

Leanna Rodabaugh: 204 Ravalli Street, in the last meeting Wandler and Ludington voted against this and now you have brought it up again, what made you change your mind? Did you think that \$82,107.00 is cheap? Shame on you, and shame on you for voting yes the first time.

Mayor Dewey: I am going to ask you to keep your comments respectful.

Leanna Rodabaugh: I am very respectful.

Mayor Dewey: shaming councilmembers is not being respectful whatsoever; this is your one warning.

Leanna Rodabaugh: and then what?

Mayor Dewey: then you will leave. Any further public comment? Any further discussion from council. Hearing none we will call for the vote, Ms. Berthoud.

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: nay.

Mayor Dewey: motion passes 2-1.

11. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Brendalinn Daniels as Firefighter Cadet

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item a.

Councilmember Allen: I will make a motion to consent.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Motley: we have six cadets, and we have kind of capped it at the number of six being town and also district, so there is a total of six. We find that is a very manageable size to the group, on Tuesday evenings we have volunteers that have taken that program on, and it has proven to be a very successful program to us, and we get a lot of good out of it. Now Brendalinn comes from us from the 3-mile fire district, however they do not offer anything for a cadet program, so she has made the commitment to make it to training, make it to events and all those things. She does work here in town. She is trying to pursue a career in firefighting. She thinks this would be a great fit for her and for us.

Mayor Dewey: 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: motion passes unanimously.

b. Discussion/Decision: Wellfield Generator Repair

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item b.

Councilmember Ludington: I will make a motion to approve the public works director's recommendation and authorize the repair of the generator.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Dewey: it has been moved by Mr. Ludington and 2nd by Ms. Wandler to accept the public works director's recommendation and authorize the repair of the generator. Council discussion?

Councilmember Wandler: I think that we should get word out and let the public know that we are going to do this.

Mayor Dewey: absolutely I think the repair will take place in January I think they are able to pull parts together. Any further council discussion? Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Crews: 316 9th Street, backup generator is a very important piece of equipment for water systems and most utility companies have redundant systems I think that we should probably look at having it repaired but we should also fix the other one.

Mayor Dewey: 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: motion passes, we will take a 5-minute recess, Ms. Devlin is on her way and would like to engage with the council on 11c.

5 MINUTE RECESS

c. Discussion/Decision: Indemnification of Mayor Brandon Dewey in the matter of Dewey v Rodabaugh

Mayor Dewey: calling back the December 9th meeting the council left off on agenda item c. Mayor Dewey introduced new business item c. At this time, I will turn the chair over to Mr. Ludington.

Council President Ludington: is there a motion on item 11c.

Councilmember Allen: in an effort to get the conversation moving and to hear public comment I will make a motion.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Council President Ludington: it has been moved by Ms. Allen and 2nd by Ms. Wandler. Council comments?

Councilmember Devlin: I have heard a lot of people's viewpoints on this today alone. Both for and against it. One thing that kind of shocks me when we talk about an outrage is this year through the court cases that were against the town our insurance paid out \$178,649.28 to cover those two cases. 2019/2020 year our insurance for the year was \$23,494.00 our insurance to date has gone to \$73,383.00 due to just those two claims that is a whole lot more than \$12,000.00 and I don't see an outrage or a request from anybody asking Mr. Michalson or Ms. Barker to pay that money. As a matter of fact, no body has stood up to say anything about any of that. One person was reelected to be on the council that contributed to these costs. So, I don't think we are in a situation where we can pick and choose from where I come from that is discrimination. I just want to bring that to light while we start this conversation. I will leave it at that.

Council President Ludington: any other council comments? Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Raymond Smith: 326 Valley View, Stevensville. Let me inform you in regards to the mentioned lawsuit against Mr. Michalson the town itself, the mayor was involved in that also you are covered for certain instances as a town council person but not under other instances. MMIA helped with those lawsuits, correct. We had an MMIA attorney and come in and deal with the situation did we not? For those councilmembers and the mayor that was involved in it. MMIA covered that, this is a separate issue this is his own political issue he was recalled. If he wants to get money from someone, get it from your campaign coffers. The town attorney told him, and you all agreed with it that he needed to return the money we spent \$3,000 to find out that he would be illegal if he wouldn't have returned the money. So, tell me how this is a town issue. Have any of you read Robert's rules, probably not because we would not be here right now. We are not responsible as a town to cover his political actions and you speak of another situation, again the mayor did not follow protocols under that he was just as responsible as those council members were for that lawsuit, so let's be honest he is involved in that lawsuit. We as a town have covered that and our insurance has gone through the roof. If you as councilmembers approve this tonight you can be held for that amount, misuse of taxpayer's funds. We have a town attorney that has not even rendered his opinion, but we have another town attorney that has rendered his opinion you guys have that we have rules, laws, regulation, this is all on Mr. Dewey nobody in the town told him to fight that recall. If he was not responsible for this cost MMIA would have been here to protect him. If you vote for this as councilmembers you don't know your laws.

Jim Crews: 316 9th Street, Stevensville. You should pull up your council rules and read them. I think that this part of the meeting is not proper because the roll call was not called for Councilmember Devlin. She stepped in she is here and no legal roll call she is not part of the meeting. Potential conflicts of interest, any member of the council that has an interest in a matter before the council chapter 2 Montana Code Annotated, Mr. Crews recited the code, town attorney I would have hoped would have looked at this. Read Sections 7-5-4103 and 7-5-4109 Montana Code.

Councilmember Allen: can I interrupt and have you repeat the beginning of that one more time. First line that you read.

Jim Crews: any member of the council? I said that that is your council rules. The mayor has already attempted to influence your decision because he wrote a letter and put it in the council packet. Trying to justify why he should be paid the \$12, 020.20 he said it is a matter of public policy or should have been. First, mayor why did you not seek help with the recall from MMIA? How about the town's city attorney, what did he advise you about the recall? If Brandon E. Dewey is submitting this as a legal claim against the town and the citizens of the town for payment where is the original invoice? It is not in the packet where is it at? Is it in the name of Brandon E. Dewey or is it in the name of Town of Stevensville with prior council approval? We have a right to see these documents. What is the scope of the services? Did the mayor at any time discuss with the council an approval process for this bill? It was Brandon E. Dewey vs Regina Pletinberg and Leanna Rodabaugh. Here is the front page of that, it does not say Town of Stevensville. It is not a town issue, his issue not ours we do not have to pay for this bill. The mayor is falling back on the City of Helena, why is it not in the packet? The mayor decided in June to not ask for indemnification. An agreement was made, and he needs to stick to it. I have a letter here from Scott Owens that says, Mr. Crews read that letter, why is it coming back up. Mr. Crews read the town of Stevensville's purchasing policy set one. item B. no employee will use town funds for personal bills. Presentation of claims 7-6-4301, where is the itemized format. These claims need to be presented with in one year. Mr. Crews recited minutes for claim #16437 for \$12,020.20. Councilmember Devlin, Ludington and Allen made comment to the claim. Mr. Crews recited minutes for meeting after investigation was conducted. Here we are again, I don't know what this really falls under. Mr. Crews gave comment on Mayor Dewey's letter that was included in tonight's packet.

Leanna Rodabaugh: 204 Ravalli Street, when you sued me there was a knock on my door, it was a processor. He had a stack of papers in amongst that paperwork that said that I would pay his bills if he was found to be legally correct. And now he wants us to pay his bills. I found an attorney who took care of the hearing and the judge and all the legal proceedings, thank God for him and the judge ruled in our favor. He was so desperate to not have a recall against him. We do not have to pay for his mistake. It offends me to even hear you ask for it. Mr. Ludington, you don't care you are going to be gone. I did not pay it then and I will not pay now. I foresee a lawsuit against the town if you do this.

Jim Kalkofen: 287 Birch Lane, I just have a few comments on this. A lawsuit against one person is just that. The red flags are flapping in the wind right now. Mr. Kalkofen gave examples of things going on in our country. An individual acting on his own is liable for his actions the nature of the

mayor's legal fees being paid by the town with zero oversight. The council said no. They demanded that the \$12,000 be put back. This is not your money this is the public's money. Stevensville's town politics do not need to be the laughing stock of the valley. You know the correct action vote no to dig deep into the pockets of Stevensville taxpayers.

Bob Michalson: 222 Turner Street, I think that it is pretty appalling, I am used to it, members of the council the paper they through my name around like it is nothing, yes, it is reality, yes I got sued I pray that you Jaime and you Sydney never get sued but being an elected official it comes with the job. I am sorry it does, whether you are in the middle or wrong or right. If you vote on this today, he will have his money and be gone and then it will be a legal problem after that, and you will probably have to pay it back.

Marylin Wolff: 300 Aspen Trail, I do not want to say much more. You really have to vote no for your own sake for the liability of the town this is a private lawsuit between private parties and the town was not named in that so we should not be paying for it.

Joe Moore: 514 Central Ave. I don't have a lot of comments it is probably true about a lot that has been said. We have been in the news as the city for a long time. I am not going to say much, I think that the mayor acted as the mayor. As the only citizen that is up here, I say yes, we should pay this back. For nothing else let's put this to rest.

Raymond Smith: 326 Valley View, let's talk reality and let's talk law. The law states that it was a personal lawsuit that he lost. The town is not responsible for that. If you are going to approve this claim you need to ask Ms. Rodabaugh what her legal fees were. We are sitting here now because he has been such a good mayor, he has done such good things for the community let's give him another \$12,000 before he goes out the door. Why, when he became mayor, he wasn't going to seek any other compensation, yet he wanted a pay raise and another pay raise you guys approved that. Again, as councilmembers I would suggest that you read your public officials handbook and find out what you are liable for what you are responsible for. Again, we are in a weak mayor form of government, you as the council hold the power. This is Brandon Dewey's and nobody else's.

Angela Lyons: 3288 New Hope Lane, this is an important issue for me. Why hasn't the attorney weighed in on this. It would be crazy to move forward without his opinion. The City of Helena brought this suit not the mayor in this case the mayor brought the suit with out talking to you all. You guys were on the hook for the bill but did not have a say if you wanted to be on the hook. This city of Helena used their own attorney and did not hire their own. Everyone else has said everything else. Thanks.

Leanna Rodabaugh: I would like the attorney to weigh in on this.

City Attorney Greg Overstreet: you are not my client and I take my direction from the council.

Leanna Rodabaugh: are you the town's attorney?

City Attorney Greg Overstreet: yes mam.

Leanna Rodabaugh: I guess your attorney is not going to help you so I guess conscience will be your guide. We have heard everyone's opinion. I don't know Jaime who you have talked to that is for this.

Councilmember Devlin: you are not to address me.

Leanna Rodabaugh: I don't know where that is a rule could you show me that please.

Council President Ludington: thank you Ms. Rodabaugh. Anything further.

Leanna Rodabaugh: I am still talking; I was asking Jaime to show me where I am not supposed to talk to her.

Council President Ludington: this is a comment not a question-and-answer period thank you, so make your comments.

Jim Crews: 316 9th Street, I am still kind of curious how councilmember president is going to handle that role call has not been done for Ms. Devlin.

Council President Ludington: further comment? Any further council comment? Alright, Ms. Berthoud would you call for the vote.

Councilmember Allen: abstain.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Council President Ludington: no.

Councilmember Wandler: no.

Council President Ludington: motion fails, I will turn the chair back over to the mayor.

d. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 498, A Resolution Establishing a Special Fund for Street Lighting on Main Street

Mayor Dewey: introduced new business item d. \$10,000 is a good start.

Councilmember Ludington: I will make a motion.

Councilmember Devlin: 2nd

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stacie Barker: 104 Winslet, what type of special lighting this is? New streetlights? My question is there is no specification on it, what lighting are we talking about?

Mayor Dewey: the donor did not stipulate for councils benefit this project is very very young. Ideas are out there. Until someone puts together a project, we will hold the funds. Any further public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Crews: 316 9th Street, a few years ago we spent almost \$500,000 renovating downtown. If you want to do something like this then tie it in with something else.

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

Councilmember Allen: aye.

Councilmember Devlin: aye.

Councilmember Ludington: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Dewey: the motion passes.

12. Executive Report

Mayor Dewey: I will keep things brief. I realize I put you as the council and my colleagues an uncomfortable situation by seeking indemnification specially after I originally said that I would not be seeking that. It wasn't an easy process, and you navigated that process with professionalism and partiality I am sorry to have done that to you and that you had to go through that process that alone weighed on me when making the decision to seek indemnification. A citizen's comments at a previous meeting regarding abuse caused me to reevaluate the nonsense that I have been put through in this position and I understand that public service comes with its issues, and I am not debating that especially when you hold a top elected position in the community you are in a position where you can be scrutinized. But in the same hand of that I think the heat was certainly dialed up on day one of my administration one of the first actions that the council took was to remove me from the fire department roster, demand that I resign my twelve-year career as a volunteer for the fire department and I complied. In the name of trying to create harmony and move the community forward peacefully okay I will step back from that portion of my life that was something that formed who I am. So, like is aid the comments that were made regarding the abuse of a specific person endured form this body, for the record did not occur, caused me to think not only what I had to live through in this position, but that pain not be it physical some members of this community have inflicted on my family as well and that is unfortunate. (Chatter from the audience) Ms. Rodabaugh knock it off, so am I. Water rights progress, pre application phase is complete so good news our water rights attorney is moving forward in building application for DNRC and had a successful telephone call with DNRC addressing all of the different facets that we will have to get through to get an approved application, but they are completely on board with our approach. Ultimately, we will have a permit application, 3 or 4 change applications so there is a lot of paperwork that goes into this but the pre application is complete DNRC has given us the nod to go ahead and file. That is encouraging that is a huge hurdle. Other things administratively since November 1st we have seen five resignations, the director of Finance and HR, Parks & Recreation Director, Deputy Clerk and administrative clerk, and police officer. Those vacancies will result in a 34%

decrease in staffing overall across the organization it is what it is so, the reason I bring this up is I ask the public to be patient with the new administration as they hit the ground running and replenish what I consider to be our most valuable resources is our people. It is going to be so sort of a challenge to get people back into place and get them trained up. Lastly, I have been serving this community and organization since I joined the fire department in 2006, 16 years ago. There have been seven mayors that have held office myself included of those seven only three of us have been duly elected by the citizens a tremendous honor that I am grateful for. So, as I close the door this month on a tenure of service, I am grateful for the relationships built and the experiences I have had in this community I am fortunate to leave with life long friendships that I will always cherish. Some of those are here on this council, I am proud of the work that we have done together as a community that we have accomplished during the last four years we moved this community forward in extraordinary ways even when our supporters said it was impossible you were up for the challenge I appreciate that over my tenure as mayor no task has been too big or too small to handle and we have been supported by extraordinary staff. The reason that we have been able to get so much done is you and when I say I don't mean the council I mean the four of you. Although our time together has been short this council is the most distinguished group of elected officials that our community has desperately needed for some time you have helped bring stability harmony and integrity, dignity to the offices that you hold, and I am humbled to have served with you in this capacity thank you. thank you, Karen, Paul, Jaime and Sydney, for your service to our community you have put up with a lot and I can't thank you enough for your efforts.

13. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Ludington: this has been a difficult year for me, it has been almost a year since I was appointed to this council, there was only one reason why I wanted to do it and that was because there was a lot of work to be done. There were a lot of things that needed attention that nobody had paid any attention to for several years I see that coming back we are going to be back in that spot again starting in January were we will be slowed down unmoved by people that are not interested in changing, like a lot of us I am not a big fan of change, but I know in order to not be left behind we have to try and keep up. I do appreciate all of the commitment that Brandon has given to this town this last several years, I don't think that he deserved the pound of flesh that was taken from him during his tenure. I understand that people are dissatisfied it is too bad that we live now in a country where the truth does not matter, we get to decide what is true. And if you don't agree then you are my enemy. I have had a long-standing relationship with a couple of the members of this community that I have had arguments with, yet we remain friends because we can agree to disagree that apparently doesn't occur in some of the citizens vocabulary. Which is unfortunate, for the town of Stevensville and a lot of people that I have talked to this is a shining star in the Bitterroot Valley they love this town sitting here tonight I am not, I am simply embarrassed I hope that you have success. (Chatter from the audience, "we are embarrassed by you")

Mayor Dewey: quite in the audience or you will be dismissed from the meeting. It is that simple folks we are going to be respectful, let the council president make his comments, Mr. Smith. Mr. Sosa please remove Mr. Smith he is done with the meeting. Mr. Smith you are being disorderly.

Councilmember Ludington: we are entitled to our opinions you don't have to agree with me. Lastly, I would like to thank those people on town staff as I have said before we are extremely lucky to be able to have a public works director, police chief, and a very dedicated fire department Chief and assistant Chief we have some challenges ahead in the office and I hope we are able to continue to be successful at it, so I wish everybody the best and those of you that continue to be involved with town government I am available.

Councilmember Wandler: I have one more meeting, I have never been on a council. I worked full time it has been a real rewarding experience working with the council and the general public. I am surprised by people that I grew up with their comments they don't listen some of them want to talk about what happened in 2015, I only applied for this job because one person everybody knows one of the smartest people, I know told me if you don't like what is going on be a part of it and I did that Jaime. You think about it how many people get up and complain about what is going on have actually applied and gotten involved, if everybody knew what Brandon and the council deals with and understood it, it would surprise people there have been long time friends in the community that thought I was crazy, yes, I was it has been a real good experience and I am glad that I had it and that I am not coming back. I thank the people that supported me. We have to listen to both sides, our insurance rates are going to go sky high if what we talked about tonight is fulfilled. If it doesn't go my way I will sue, well we have to stop this we can't afford it. Thank you.

Councilmember Devlin: thank you Karen and thank you Mayor Dewey, tonight will be my last night representing Ward 1 as a councilmember. The health of my family and my well-being must be top priority, I ran for election, and I had visions of working with leaders in our community and be a voice for those that had been silenced. In the past two years of serving on council I have seen and experienced situations and behaviors that have damaged me. I did not realize that being elected I would become a victim or abuse. I am told that this abuse is the culture of Stevensville and that this is how it is. I am not sure why there is an unwritten expectation for public servants. I do know that we teach people how to treat us. I will no longer allow myself to be abused by people that I represent. Until the mentality of the people living in Stevensville changes it will not matter who serves on the council or who is mayor. Until people stand up and say that this abuse is no longer allowed here it will continue and get worse. I will continue to strive to leave this beautiful community better than I found it I will continue my mission of helping as many people as I can, and I will succeed in teaching others of their self-worth. These things will just not be accomplished by sitting at this table and representing Ward 1 for the town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Allen: I am going to follow suit and do the same thing, I am a schoolteacher, I can't afford to be sued. I did not vote with my conscience tonight if I were in those shoes, I don't have \$12,000 and I was threatened tonight that if I did something out of conscience, I would be sued I am young I have a lot of life and a lot of career and a lot of family and a lot of good things in my path. And the undo stress that this position has caused is heart breaking. The town of Stevensville will get exactly what it deserves we will end up with a government that we deserve. We have four seats up here and only two are filled. When I stepped into this role, I was acutely aware of the deep rooted turmoil in our town and I had the utmost desire to help our town grow. I was unaware that forward movement would be muddled by negative rederick and

false accusations. It has been increasingly difficult and stress inducing I am choosing to relocate my energy into my career and my family I look forward to being an active participant and supporting the administration as a community member and I encourage everyone else to do the same, run for this position take part in the action, I hope to see some of these names. My resignation is effective as of December 24th.

14. Board Reports

NONE

15. Adjournment

APPROVE:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brandon E Dewey", written over a horizontal line.

Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jenelle S. Berthoud", written over a horizontal line.

Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk