

**Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes**

**for THURSDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2022, 6:00 PM 206 Buck Street, Town Hall**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order, Councilmembers Barker, Brown, Lowell and Michalson were all present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Craig Thomas: 4189 Ember Lane, I emailed you, the councilmembers, mayor and staff about the business plan for the airport where it said that the airport was double billed and that did occur in seventeen, I spoke with Robert and he and Pam explained to me that it is no longer the case. I just wanted to correct that. Thank you.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Meeting Minutes 11/10/2022

Mayor Gibson: introduced approval of meeting minutes for 11/10/2022.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve town council meeting minutes for 11/10/2022.

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second. Council discussion? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please call for the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

b. Special Town Council Meeting Minutes 11/22/2022

Mayor Gibson: introduced approval of meeting minutes for 11/22/2022.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve the special town council meeting minutes for 11/22/2022.

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second. Any discussion on those minutes? Public comment?  
Seeing none, Jenelle please call for the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims (paid out of cycle) #18053-#18083

Mayor Gibson: introduced claims, #18053-#18083.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve claims paid out of cycle #18053-#18083.

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

Steve Gibson: motion and a second. Discussion on the claims?

Councilmember Barker: Claim #18062 to Jeff Newsom Towing? Are we going to be reimbursed for this? The \$996.00 or is it just a.

Robert Underwood: the total is the tow truck, so we are not going to be reimbursed for that and the other one is for the tires.

Mayor Gibson: it was for the plow truck, and it broke down and had to be towed. Any further questions? Any public comment on the claims, seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

b. Claims #18084-#18107

Mayor Gibson: introduced claims, #18084-#18107

Councilmember Barker: I make a motion to approve claims #18084-#18107.

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

Steve Gibson: motion and a second any questions on the claims?

Councilmember Barker: #18089 Corporate Warehouse Supply tower replacement, product discontinued, but it looks like we are still being charged for that.

Jenelle Berthoud: we ordered them because they are discontinued so we got some before they ran out.

Councilmember Barker: is that going to cause problems in the future.

Jenelle Berthoud: that is in discussion for next budget season for the one in the main office.

Councilmember Barker: #18092 Industrial Scientific. Please explain what that is.

Robert Underwood: for the fire department.

Councilmember Barker: gas monitor as in for.

Jeff Motley: gas monitor, it detects whatever gases are inside a building or gas leaks.

Councilmember Barker: okay.

Councilmember Lowell: I was just looking, and I questioned all of the fuel from Cenex for the airport, #18103, \$640. 54.

Mayor Gibson: I had a question about that as well this morning, Robert I talked to Pam yesterday, my understanding is it is for plowing snow, is that correct.

Robert Underwood: yes, there is a plow truck up there.

Mayor Gibson: we are going to look into that, it seems a bit high.

Councilmember Barker: especially when we have only had a couple of snows and it is already that high.

Mayor Gibson: I agree, it caught my eye too.

Councilmember Barker: sludge process #18100, what is that?

Steve Kruse: in the wintertime we can't pump our sludge out to dry by evaporation, we have to use a sludge press and a de-watering and that is a 55-gallon drum it should last us for the winter.

Councilmember Brown: I had a question #18101, Snow Mountain Electric, what that was exactly for.

Councilmember Michalson: service on 2511.

Robert Underwood: lighting on the fire truck. Maintenance.

Mayor Gibson: how much was that.

Councilmember Brown: \$1439.18.

Mayor Gibson: was that the repair.

Robert Underwood: list of items, 12 hours of service.

Mayor Gibson: we talked about that during the budget.

Councilmember Brown: the other question that I had was #18098, \$50,000.

Mayor Gibson: I think that Robert can explain it, it is basically for the auditor it is a three-year contract, and we were so far behind. The first part which was budgeted was, they have already started so it does not go over the amount of the contract it is up front, they have been coming a couple of weeks and that is what that is.

Councilmember Brown: thank you.

Councilmember Michalson: I have a question for Robert, where are we at as far as our fuel are we budgeted out, halfway through.

Robert Underwood: we increased during the budget.

Mayor Gibson: I think we are okay, but the utilities. When we hit the six months, we will look at it again. We are going to have a problem with the utilities. Any more questions on the claims, seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

6. Administrative Reports

In the packet.

a. Airport

b. Building Department

c. Finance

d. Fire Department

e. Police Department

f. Public Works

7. Guests

NONE

8. Correspondence

NONE

9. Public Hearings

NONE

10. Unfinished Business

NONE

11. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Confirmation of Stevensville Police Officer Todd Schafer

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item a. Confirmation of Stevensville Police Officer Todd Schafer. Any questions or comments?

Councilmember Michalson: how do you like it here so far?

Todd Schafer: I just want to take a second to say thank you for this opportunity the overwhelming support I have from the town, the town council the town hall staff has been awesome and the community, coming from where I came from, we had great support but nothing like this. The chili cook off blew my mind last year. The kids are awesome at the school. I am looking forward to many more years. My wife and I are settled, and we are not going anywhere.

Mayor Gibson: thank you, you are doing a fantastic job, I hear nothing but all positive.

Councilmember Michalson: did the one police officer leave, Warstead or whatever his name. Wartman?

Mayor Gibson: a couple of months ago.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve the confirmation of Stevensville Police Officer Todd Schafer.

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

Councilmember Barker: welcome to the force.

Mayor Gibson: Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

b. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Nancy Lowell to the TIFD/TEDD Board

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item b. Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Nancy Lowell to the TIFD/TEDD Board.

Councilmember Michalson: I make a motion to approve Nancy Lowell to the TIFD/TEDD Board

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Any public comment? Any further discussion, seeing none, Jenelle please call for the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: abstained.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 3-1 abstaining

c. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Jim Crews to the Park Board

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item c. Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Jim Crews to the Park Board.

Councilmember Brown: I will make the motion to appoint Jim Crews to the Park Board.

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second, any public comment? Any further discussion?

Councilmember Michalson: I have a question for Jim. Do you want to be on the Park Board because of item h below.

Jim Crews: I want to be on the Park Board because we have a lot of stuff going on in our parks, we have 6 parks in town and some things that are not being addressed, need to be addressed. I use of the parks every single day. And there is stuff that I wanted to get done over five years ago, haven't been touched. I have talked to a lot of the residents that use the park and we discussed a bit, and they have some things that they want to get done too. We have a park over on 6<sup>th</sup> Street that most people don't even know about that you have to access between two homes and there is a little basketball court back there we need advertise to the kids and get them out there, we also need to have some work, I know the streets and alleys guys they do a great job, but we have people down jumping the fence at Father Ravalli Park I have the videos we have people going down there having lunch and throwing their trash all over the ground, and we need to police that and do that ourselves as a community. I think that our parks are being underutilized, we used to have softball tournaments down here we used to have softball games all the time, I can't remember the last time we had a softball game. We use our parks more for

stuff like Creamery Picnic and things like that and I think that we need to change that. There is a lot of stuff that needs to be done, we need to have for example, the fences at Father Ravalli Park need to have that repaired and we need to actually continue to enclose that park so that people either letting their dogs off their leash by command or they accidentally run off and into the street. Not to mention the little girls that go down there 6, 8, 10 years old that just kind of run out into the street, we need to have something to slow them down. We also have Lange Park, and the parking spots are being utilized by the business over there. The parking spots are for Lange Park. So, we have a lot of stuff that needs to be done, and yes, I am very interested in the bicycles.

Mayor Gibson: we will get to that.

Jim Crews: but he asked the question. I will explain that a little bit later.

Councilmember Michalson: the issue that I have Jim, you are very patinate about the town we all know that you are very patinate about the things you do and say, and I went through and looked that we have over 34 emails from you since I have been on the council and that is not good or bad, I am just saying you are active. Some of them are very legitimate and some of them, my own opinion only, they are out there. My only issue that I have with you being on the Park Board are you going to be aggressive like that to them? Are you going to be able to work with them or is it going to be.

Jim Crews: I don't know where aggressive comes in, I am passionate, and I believe in following the rules and using the rules to the advantage of the citizen if there is a problem with that I don't how to take it. I am not aggressive to my fellow co-workers have never been, but I do however like to work for people and if somebody has a view, I do listen. I don't rush to judgement, you know, and this come back to what happened on January 6<sup>th</sup>, I am a right-wing republican, and everyone knows it I support President Trump 100%, I also support President Biden because he is our president but when people tell me that you are just 100% Trump supporter no matter what. That is not true, I listen to what is being said and I want to see the evidence before I make a decision. Being on the Park Board and the reason that I want to be on there is because I want to help improve our town and the things that are going on in this town and make this a better place to live.

Mayor Gibson: thank you. any other questions or discussion? Any other public comment. Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: abstain.

Councilmember Brown: abstain.

Councilmember Lowell: aye

Councilmember Michalson: no

Mayor Gibson: motion fails, 2 abstained, 1 no and 1 yes.

d. Discussion/Decision: Suspension of Town Council Rules to Cancel the December 22, 2022, Town Council Meeting in Observance of the Christmas Holiday and Authorizing Claims to be Paid out of Cycle

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item d. Suspension of Town Council Rules to Cancel the December 22, 2022, Town Council Meeting in Observance of the Christmas Holiday and Authorizing Claims to be Paid out of Cycle.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve the suspension of Town Council Rules to Cancel the December 22, 2022, Town Council Meeting in Observance of the Christmas Holiday and Authorizing Claims to be Paid out of Cycle

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second, is there any public comment? I think that this is pretty historical Mr. Michalson, correct?

Councilmember Michalson: yes.

Mayor Gibson: Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: yes

Councilmember Brown: no.

Councilmember Lowell: yes

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: passes 3-1

e. Discussion/Decision: Approve the Presented Amount Allocated for NewFields to Complete the Water Rights Global Permit Application

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item e. Approve the Presented Amount Allocated for NewFields to Complete the Water Rights Global Permit Application

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve the Presented Amount Allocated for NewFields to Complete the Water Rights Global Permit Application.

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second just to clear this up, we have this in the budget, this is for the water rights, we have Ross Miller and NewFields doing this the bulk of the money has gone to NewFields. In the past Mr. Miller sometimes are \$1,100 or \$1,200 this is in the budget; we have run into some snags with the application, and we have to redo some stuff with wells. It is in the budget, and we have been working on this all year and it is very important to the town as you are all aware, if you want to look at future annexation and we have problems outside the place of use, future development. So, that is what this is. Public comment? Seeing none. Council discussion?

Councilmember Lowell: I am not up on all of this, what is a global permit.



Steve Kruse: I will explain to the best of my ability, the current situation for the town is that the town exists quite a few water rights that came from the surface water filtration system Burnt Fork and South Burnt Fork way up. The decision was made to upgrade the well field at Twin Creeks, wells were put in and that is what provides our domestic drinking water. Only one of those wells is permitted so this effort is to take the rights that the town possesses use them as mitigation to assign the proper rights to the well field, at Well 1 at Veterans Park, the global part is they are bringing it all together and presenting it to DEQ and DNRC. NewFields is an engineering firm and Ross Miller is a water rights attorney.

Councilmember Lowell: thank you.

Mayor Gibson: this goes back to 2008. Public comment? Further discussion?

Councilmember Lowell: what happened to the water rights at Twin Creeks?

Mayor Gibson: Twin Creeks did what they needed to do, and I think Ross Miller was involved in that time and they transferred through DEQ their irrigation rights which what happened with Creekside Meadows and Mr. Ellison it never happened. Any further discussion, public comment. Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

f. Discussion/Decision: Request for Qualifications for a Town Prosecutor for the Town of Stevensville and the Stevensville City Court

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item f. Request for Qualifications for a Town Prosecutor for the Town of Stevensville and the Stevensville City Court. Let me explain a little bit what this means, Mr. Overstreet who has done a great job as the town attorney and wants to continue in that role, <sup>for his</sup> he has a private practice now he is basically how do I say, prosecution is not his cup of tea. He has agreed to stay on until we find a replacement, this will not cost any more money it just divided the two duties. As you know we pay Mr. Overstreet as town attorney and then there are so many hours that are paid to the town prosecutor. It could come back less. When we put out the RFP they could bargain to get less, and I have no idea what that could be. It has nothing to do with not doing their job. It is not going to cost more money. it is just to get the prosecution. The judge is in line with this Colette is in line with this Mr. Overstreet is in line with this, so it is a mutual agreement. With that is there any public comment? Councilmember Michalson?

Councilmember Michalson: so, we budgeted for this year is going to come out of the same, it is already in there.

Mayor Gibson: you can see in the claims like this time, it is split up. It is up to so many hours, all it is the prosecution. Any further discussion? Need a motion.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve the request for a town prosecutor the Town of Stevensville City Court.

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second any further discussion, seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: 4-0

#### g. Bike Path

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item g. This was brought by Mr. Crews. Just to give an update, the other Mr. Kruse and I have been dealing with people since April on this issue especially in regards to the bridge, we have met with congressional staff met with MDT have not had a response, it looks like obviously we don't own it, MDT they think they own it, but we did find a document, 2015, this was signed by then chairman of the county commissioners Mr. Burrows and MDT that basically says and correct me if I am wrong, Steve Kruse, the county is responsible not the Town of Stevensville. We plow the snow out of the goodness of our hearts, but we are not in a position to cut into a piece of property that is not ours, which is the bridge. This is interesting, 2015, I can get this to all of you it is very clear, highlighted signed in 2015 it is the counties responsibility, which makes sense it is in the county. With that Mr. Crews did you want to add anything?

Jim Crews, 316 9<sup>th</sup> Street: I do have some stuff to add that you Mayor may not be aware of. The bollards on the Stevensville shared use path were apparently installed by the Civic Club during construction of the path around 1994. The bollards post a hazard to bicycle riders in that they do not allow sufficient clearance in the approaching lane for bicycle riders and even more so for those with a bicycle trailer, child or pet carrier and may not provide sufficient clearance between the foot rails and the foot bridge. I gave you a handout. The bollards are positioned centrally in the front of the entrance to the bridge. The highway safety institute says there should be approximately a five-foot clearance between the bollards and 30 feet before an intersection. Obviously in this case they are not they are about 16 inches from the end of the bridge, and it is 44 inches from the bollard to the handrail, lateral clearance is only about 40 inches from the edge of the bollard to the edge of the bike path. The Federal Highway Administration F8 course on bicycle safety on page 7 and 9 indicate that when bollards take place, they should be placed at a minimum of 1.5 meters of 5 feet between two bollards and it should be a minimum of 3 feet high and should be at least 9 meters or 30 feet in advance of an

intersection as placement of the entity (unclear audio from speaker) on the bollards. What happened to really get this going was two senior citizens came up from Hamilton and where riding four wheeled bicycles and they could not get through the bridge, they had to actually lift this two hundred fifty-pound contraption up over the bollard to get it on the bridge. Again, is that the kind of liability that we want to have or the county or the state? I don't think so. Bollards are supposed to be placed to prevent people from driving cars and trucks down the bike paths and things like that where they should not be doing that. The only time I have ever seen a car on that bike path is during the Scarecrow Festival. I don't think that the bollards are that necessary, the other problem that we have is that the bridge is constructed so that they can allow a full adult body to travel through the handrail sections if they fall off their bike and could possibly go down into the slough and drowned. The construction stands say an eight-inch spear should not be able to pass through the handrails, so we have a problem with the bridge itself. There are numerous people that use that bike path out there using three, wheelers, four wheelers, bicycles, wheelchairs, and their scooters. You go down there today and try to get down that bike path using a mobility scooter, you can't get through there.

Mayor Gibson: can I just say something?

Jim Crews: sure.

Mayor Gibson: I don't doubt anything that you are saying, but the fact is it is not ours. I would suggest and the council you can this discussion, I would suggest that you contact the county commissioners you contact MDT and with legislature coming up January 2<sup>nd</sup> I would ask that you contact your local legislators and anybody in the community. I don't think that anyone is doubting that there is a problem there, but I don't see where the town, it would be like cutting somebody's fence, we don't own it.

Jim Crews: with all do respect Mr. Mayor I am trying to identify a problem here, it is not just a logistics problem it is a problem with the architecture, a problem with the use. The fact of the matter is in 1994 when they build the bike path there was an agreement signed between the state and the county saying the county had to maintain this forever. If you look at the shared use document, which I gave you a copy of, it says on the first paragraph (unclear audio) route 269, to mile post 213, the asphalt separating the path it 2.2 miles long and was built in 1995, there are two structures, the path as major oxidation it also has minor cracking the path needs crack sealing and fog seal. It may also need some patching, the cost for current maintenance is \$3462.40 and the CTEP program, all CTEP projects are bound by the county, and will cause a maintenance of these paths, otherwise noticed, this came out in 2015, the agreement between the county and the state which I could not get a copy of, is 1994. I had a conversation with Greg Chilcott <sup>our</sup> county commission for Ravalli County, he said they are not going to maintain them so we have a problem in the community whether it is a town problem or a state problem and the only way to get it fixed is if somebody at this level starts squeaking really loud to get some oil put on the axel and if council doesn't want to deal with it that is fine but as far as the next item and the bike path the information is there and I was going to have it referred to the Park Board and have them deal with it.

Mayor Gibson: thank you. any council discussion, we are plowing the path and it is very clear that it is not ours, and again if it is a concern, and obviously it is for some people I would suggest



like we have done, I am setting up a meeting again in January with the director or MDT, not particularly about his issue but I can talk about it, it is mainly about Main Street and Eastside Highway and Logan and Eastside Highway and the traffic. If the council has any other suggestions, Councilmember Brown.

Councilmember Brown: I travel up and down that road quiet a bit, going back and forth to Hamilton, I do see a lot of people struggling to go through this bollard I myself with kids on bike rides it always poses a hazard for them, come summertime there will be more kids out there on bikes going down to the river. It is something, I don't know if we as a council need to approach the county, but sooner than later something is going to have to be done that bridge is not going to last much longer.

Mayor Gibson: I would suggest council, citizens. Steve Kruse and I have done, I would actually suggest, when we talked to senator's representative even before we talked to the regional director for the department of transportation, we actually took them out there and their answer to us and what they could find is it was MDT. That is as far as we have gotten, there is a committee called the department of transportation my suggestion is whoever wants to contact your legislator. Councilmember Barker.

Councilmember Barker: I believe the one reason why they put those bollards there was to keep vehicles off that bridge because that bridge can not sustain the weight of a normal vehicle going across there. It wasn't built for that; I truly believe that is why that was put there. Any other bridges I have looked at up and down the valley they have gone to a steel bridge, so it sustains more. I have actually seen a lady run a bike into and she was hurt, but again it is the awareness too.

Mayor Gibson: I think that if was kind of funny, so I did not go out there all the way, Steve Kruse went out with the two young people, Senator Testers. The girl would not walk on the bridge because Steve told her it was dangerous. Councilmember Michalson.

Councilmember Michalson: I walk it every day, I have pretty much walked it every day for a year now and yes it can be kind of a hindrance but I talk to people out there on the walking path and we talk about that and they are pretty much in agreement that those bollards were put there for safety yes it hinders to the biker and they may have to lift up their bike but what would happen if a kid was on a four wheel, ATV and he was partying down out the River Park and he came flying across that bridge and goes off the side, could we all live with that, I couldn't, that is why they are there, yes it needs to be changed like Mr., Crews said. We don't have the funding to do, until that is done, I think that we have to keep those things there, one accident or one death or one serious injury we are all going to say what happened. I don't think we want that.

Mayor Gibson: thank you. Councilmember Lowell.

Councilmember Lowell: I can kind of fill you in on the bike path I wrote the grant for the bike path back in the early 90's, they were put up because of the jeeps, four wheelers and three wheelers and they were going through, and the liability was pretty high. It is considered a walking bridge not a drive over bridge that was a reason because they were having a problem at that time.

Mayor Gibson: I think that if it was replaced, we are talking big bucks. Probably has to be concrete and it has to have an engineer there has to be a design. Councilmember Brown.

Councilmember Brown: can I ask you a question? Nancy who actually put those in.

Councilmember Lowell: it was done, wasn't by the town we had a company help build it along with the Job Corps from Darby, they worked on it. I can't remember if they were placed at the time or added later, Bill Misner handled that, and he worked for the county. I am not sure if it was through the state, but we had a big issue with it and for safety that is why they were put on.

Mayor Gibson: are we all ready to move on? There was no decision on this, good information.

#### h. Bike Path and Bike Route/Lanes in the Town

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item h. That too, Mr. Crews introduced that you have a large packet, this was a discussion, my understanding this was from the 2016 growth policy which this is some years later, probably some merit to it and I have Mr. Kruse here and talked about it and you are talking about miles and miles of design you probably have to higher an engineer, my suggestion would be. Mr. Michalson, I think that we are getting close to the subdivision regulations and the next thing on the planning and zoning board is the growth policy which a lot has changed since 2016. My suggestion would be that this should probably be looked at the 2022 growth policy that would be my suggestion. Councilmember Michalson.

Councilmember Michalson: and Stacie do you remember was it in 2018 they came from Hamilton and gave a presentation.

Councilmember Barker: they had the bike presentation.

Councilmember Michalson: they wanted to set up an area and work within the growth policy, I can't remember their name.

Councilmember Barker: I think part of them were from the college, because they did, the whole thing of what the lanes would be, they had it all down to a "t" .

Mayor Gibson: with that was there any public comment on that? Is the council in favor of addressing this in the growth policy. We need to get some ideas, actually looking at cost wise here. Councilmember Brown.

Councilmember Brown: we do really need to address this problem; our sidewalks are so terrible in town they are a tripping hazard, so the kids are not on the sidewalks they are in the street riding their bikes. Some of them don't watch I have almost been hit on my bike riding around town, because I ride my bike quiet a bit around town because it is quicker then jumping in the vehicle. And yes, people don't watch out for you, and it is a hazard. We have from the school, how the traffic goes down through the neighborhood down by the school after and before school, you don't want to be out there trying to walk the dogs or riding your bike, so we really need to take time to address this problem.

Mayor Gibson: I agree, Mr. Michalson you are on the Planning and Zoning Board, Councilmember Lowell.

Councilmember Lowell: I just want to add the growth policy, I went back through it, the old one, I think one thing really needs to be addressed in town is the parking problem, Main Street is full, and I don't know where people could park, if you are on a bike, it is hard to see when they are backing out. I think the town, or someone should really look into a parking lot or area maybe meet with the businesspeople. I really think that we have a parking issue.

Mayor Gibson: I agree, we had a call, I am on the board for League of Towns about this very issue this is a special subcommittee the League of Towns and some board members will be addressing that with the legislature, the problem here again in the past some places, let's take Lonesome Dove, there is a parking ordinance off of Main Street that a business has so many there and they have to have so many parking places, what complicates it again is Main Street being a state highway. So, you have areas behind here, but you are exactly right, in the summer pretty hard to find a place to park. Councilmember Barker.

Councilmember Barker: our big issue right now is down at that little s-curve.

Mayor Gibson: which we have met with department of transportation.

Councilmember Barker: we brought business in that should not have been brought in and here we are sitting with certain business do have the compliance but again those side spots are for traveling with bicycles and we can't even let bicycles travel.

Mayor Gibson: you are exactly right and that is another thing that we will be talking to transportation about. Jim could

Jim Edwards, owner of Burnt Fork Market: I don't understand that comment that you brought in businesses that we shouldn't have.

Councilmember Barker: not us the prior administration, we have four businesses in one corner section with no parking along a state highway, they should not be all parking along there. There have been many times coming around that corner with doors flying open, prior administration passed that. Four businesses in one building, there is a coffee shop, a medical business.

Jim Edwards: so, you are talking about the white building with four businesses in it.

Councilmember Barker: correct.

Jim Edwards: yeah, there was no common sense on that, there is no parking, they just use the street, and that is why I decided to come down here, I was just curious on that term that you used.

Councilmember Barker: the prior administration.

Mayor Gibson: we plan on having Mr. Edwards on the agenda in January to talk about what he has raised. And what the town needs, a lot of these traffic issues, we have all seen it, some of the simple, if you come down eastside highway to take a left on Main Street, it is not just the people coming this way, you have one stop sign and everything roles through, we will get to that. We are outside public comment Jim, not trying to shut you down.

Jim Edwards: so, I can't say anything tonight?

Mayor Gibson: it would be better to put you on the agenda, it is up to the council. We are outside the scope of public comment.

Jim Edwards: I really came down here to talk to a Marilyn, but I don't see a Marilyn here.

Mayor Gibson: she is not on the council anymore.

Jim Edwards: I talked to Bob a little bit with stuff that is happening at the store which I thought was outlandish.

Mayor Gibson: well, I would suggest, you talked to me about traffic issues, the pool and other things I just assume that you would have put in a request to be put on the agenda for the next time and you can talk to your hearts content.

Jim Edwards: okay. That is in January, so I better be prepared.

Mayor Gibson: this is out of the scope, and we have allowed you to get up.

Jim Edwards: there are definitely issues there and I did talk to the police department, and they do a great job by the way, I do business in Missoula with the Missoula police department and these guys are top notch, so I appreciate them.

Mayor Gibson: get with Jenelle and get on the agenda for January 12<sup>th</sup>. Are we okay with finishing our discussion about the bike path. Councilmember Barker.

Councilmember Barker: is this something that maybe, obviously we are talking about this, and the growth policy has it, is this something we could bring to a council of the whole meeting and just really nab down on this specific issue. I think that it needs to be addressed.

Mayor Gibson: I have no issue with that, I think what you need to be prepared for and probably involve Steve Kruse, cost.

Councilmember Barker: that is big. I really think that we need to look into this.

- i. Discussion/Decision: Master Agreement for Planning Services by Morrison-Maierle for the Stevensville Airport
- ii. Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item i. Master Agreement for Planning Services by Morrison-Maierle for the Stevensville Airport

Tyler Reed, Morrison-Maierle: presenting two different items tonight and they are connected. The first is the master agreement, back in 2018 the airport did a reselection for engineering services but not planning services because at the time there wasn't much of a need for planning services the FAA requires that the airport go through a selection process for planning so earlier this year the airport went through the town and the FAA for a statement of qualifications for services because at that time the FAA recommended that the airport update their airport master plan. The last time the airport master plan was done was in 2010 so twelve years now since that was updated, they recommend that you update the master plan every ten years so this is a good time to update it again. The airport reviewed the statement of qualifications, and the town council approved the recommendation for Morrison-Maierle to be contracted under the planning services under the August town council meeting, so this is just the next step to

establish the paperwork between the town of Stevensville and Morrison-Maierle for the next five years. So, that is directly connected with Task Order No. 1 that is the separate documents.

Mayor Gibson: so, the question that I have, and it has come up before, it was the councils strong, that this will be paid for all through grants and there will be no cost to the town of Stevensville is that correct.

Robert Underwood: 10%.

Mayor Gibson: so, how much is that?

Robert Underwood: \$32,000.00.

Mayor Gibson: and you guys agreed to that?

Councilmember Michalson: I already asked Robert about this.

Tyler Reed: Mater agreements, is pretty much the agreement and the Task Order is where the FAA has already secured their 90% grant funding and they are waiting this Task Order. The other 10%, \$32,000 we submitted another grant application to Montana Aeronautics to cover that match, we are not guaranteed to get that, but it would help. Worst case scenario we don't receive a grant from Montana Aeronautics in January and then the town has to cover that 10% match. There is a chance that the local match will come through.

Mayor Gibson: do I have a motion?

Councilmember Michalson: I make a motion to approve the mater agreement for planning services by Morrison-Maierle for the Stevensville Airport.

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second, public comment?

Craig Thomas Ember Lane : I have been working with Tyler for over ten years these people have been assisting us in correcting. The feedback that the FAA is they are doing things great, I don't think that we could find any other firm to do this.

Mayor Gibson: any further comments? Any further discission from the council.

Councilmember Lowell: does the airport have the revenue for the \$32,000 if this were the case that is a lot of money.

Robert Underwood: they have about \$33,000 in the budget. Looks like we have spent \$10,000 that is an accounting error. We will move that tomorrow. You have already approved this to Morrison-Maierle.

Councilmember Lowell: does that include mileage. Back in forth from Missoula and hotels and all of that.

Tyler Reed: yes, mileage for sure, I am from Missoula, all of the expenses are laid out in the task order.



Councilmember Lowell: that is what I wondered, thank you.

Mayor Gibson: any further discussion?

Councilmember Brown: what will the airport have left if they have to pay the \$32,000 out of their budget.

Robert Underwood: if we follow budget (unclear audio).

Tyler Reed: this will take roughly 18 months.

Mayor Gibson: any further discussion, seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: passes 4-0

j. Discussion/Decision: Task Order #1- Stevensville Airport Master Plan Update

Mayor Gibson: introduced new business item j.

Tyler Reed: the task order is a bread down of our scope and fees. Both of these two will need a signature from the mayor and then turned into the FAA.

Councilmember Michalson: make a motion to approve task order #1, Stevensville Airport Master Plan Update

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

Mayor Gibson: motion and a second, any further discussion, seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Lowell: aye.

Councilmember Michalson: aye.

Mayor Gibson: passes 4-0

14. Board Reports

Councilmember Michalson: I did not have a board report, but our subdivision regulations have come back, and Jenelle has already set up a meeting for the 21<sup>st</sup>. we will review and take the town attorney if we need to and then to the town council. This is not a board report I attended the Stevensville Fire fighter Relief Association on 11/29 and it was a very interesting meeting I would encourage the other councilmembers when they get a chance to attend one of these.

These guys don't get a lot of notoriety from us, as far as the council. For whatever reason there is a little disconnect there and I think that we should get more involved.

Mayor Gibson: we did forward that to Mr. Overstreet, and I also gave it to Mr. Kruse, and he has already made some comments to the subdivision regulations. Hopefully February.

13. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Brown: I was approached by quite a few people about the Christmas Parade regarding how dark it is on Main Street and the lighting situation and kind of keeping track of that I understand that it is the towns responsibility not Northwest Energy to change out the lightbulbs on Main, I am not sure about that. There are at least three maybe four lights not functioning.

Mayor Gibson: I will get with Mr. Kruse; I don't believe that it is us. Even if it is just replacing bulbs, we should look into it.

Councilmember Lowell: Northwest Energy wont charge, they never used to. they would just come in with their truck and do it.

Mayor Gibson: we will look into.

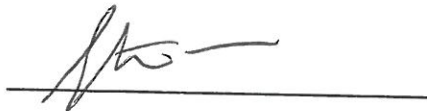
Councilmember Brown: when I come home at night and go out, I have at least counted four that are not functioning, two by the Exit Reality one by the Plum Loco and one by Valley Drug is the ones I noticed.

Mayor Gibson: Jenelle remind me we will get with Mr. Kruse tomorrow.

12. Executive Report

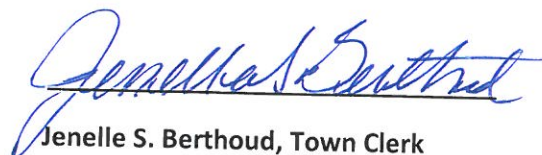
15. Adjournment

APPROVE:



Steve Gibson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk