

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes

for THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025, 6:30 PM 206 Buck Street, Town Hall

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Mayor Michalson: I would like to point out that you can give your name, but you do not have to give out your address, we were told at the government training that is considered personal information. If you want to give your name you can but you do not.

Larry Shoft: for about a year we have been asking questions thank you for coming to our meeting last night.

Mayor Michalson: you bet.

Deb Buckley: I am here to speak about the development at Twin Creeks for those that do not know the history. Previously, the first phase has been built out and it has 57 homes, there is supposed to be a phase 2 and phase 3. It has been sold to a developer named Max Wolff and PCI is the developer that drew up the plats that were approved. In about 2022 PCI asked for a change from an R-1 to and R-2, what that means is that the density would have changed from single family to multifamily. What someone did was went around the neighborhood and got signatures and somehow it was brought to me to present it. I did come here, and I presented and the board at that time did turn them down for the R-2 they said no you are going to have to keep that at single-family. Thank you for turning down the R-2. What has happened how is that it has changed hands. May I pass out a map to the council.

Mayor Michalson: that is just fine, we just can't answer questions back and forth.

Deb Buckley: Here is a google map of the neighborhood and where the lots should go for phase 2. Phase 3 is not happening at that is another story. What I want to talk about is phase 2. I drew the water on the map one of my main concerns is when this engineering company came to you they gave you a plat of their proposal that did not include any water and that was very convenient of them I feel like they did it on

purpose and I will tell you why, it is because of water. I am not sure, this is what I had in my records, and this is what was turned down and this is what was approved. There was no water on it, the creeks on their plat look like this, if they would have put water on their plat when they brought it in, you would have all been saying hey should we approve that, should we cut across that creek and let them build 22 some house across two creeks. Should we let them build houses up to a creek. I guess if you look at the map I tried to draw where they are going to put lots 24-32. I don't have any problem with lots 1-23 they are going to build it on a flat prairie. You have 33-43 which are over the creek. This only flows in the spring and the other creek flows all year, it is small, but it is still a tributary to the river. When that plat was submitted it was not accurate, it does not show the two creeks, that is what the neighborhood is named after, Twin Creeks. This was obviously done on purpose so that permitting would go quickly and without any concern. I think that it is a mistake to build by the creek and across the creek on the little bit of wet land. Wetlands act as a buffer that purify the water, if a sewer line was to leak from the houses or you know they are going to be spraying stuff, it all goes into Robertson Creek and the people down below that have water rights and then the Bitterroot River. Best practices indicate, and I do know, I have a degree in conservation, and I was a teacher for 33 years, I now a little bit about this and I care. Best practices say that you should at least have 100 feet set back and 50 feet of vegetation that can absorb pollutants that are going to keep it out of the water ways, but they are building right up to it. The next thing that I wish you would look at here on this, I put on the south end of the property huge piles of dirt. There were piles of dirt put there from the original phase 1, in February and March they started to cart off loads of dirt, then one day I noticed why do we have mounds of dirt by the creek, they have about 6-8 feet of dirt and I do not know how wide but we are talking about four to five thousand cubic feet of dirt piled up out there, I asked why are you piling that dirt up there, they said that we are just storing it there. Why would you store dirt by a creek if you do not plan on filling it in and building on it, because the phase has houses the final decision on that phase is January of next year. I hope that I am putting a bug in your ear that they cannot do this. DEQ was notified by myself it was supposed to be anonymous, but the owner and PCI were told it was me and what they were doing with that dirt was illegal. They also ran their trucks over the creeks and broke down the bank, it is illegal. DEQ called me back and told me that they are illegal and that they need to rectify that. How they are doing that is with straw ropes, they just have them laying around that is their solution. I just feel like this demonstration by the developer shows no concern for the wetland environment out there, if they do spread the dirt it is illegal and I just want to bring this to your attention again which

would be the building on the other side of the creek it is a wetland. This phase 2 stuff that they have is not suitable for that piece of land, it is only 40 acres, we are going to end up with 121 houses in total. The final approval for phase 3 is January of 2026. I hope that you do not approve this, Mr. Wolf will make tens of millions of dollars. What are we going to get out of it? We like to enjoy the green space. They have already filled in the areas where the storm water used to go, the trees are starting to grow back there, and they are cutting them down. I am asking you to keep your eyes open, and I thank you for listening. Do you know for a fact Mayor Michalson do you remember when plat 2 was approved?

Mayor Michalson: I feel like it was 2022.

Deb Buckley: I think when they came for the R-2 they got the Phase 2.

Mayor Michalson: any other public comments?

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Meeting Minutes 04/24/2025

Mayor Michalson: introduced approval of minutes for 04/24/2025.

Councilmember Barker: I make a motion to approve meeting minutes for 04/24/2025.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion?

Councilmember Brown: page 7 under the Farmers Markert we had three councils members saying "aye" and one saying abstain it should have been two and one abstain. I don't remember.

Mayor Michalson: that was on me I should have said abstain. Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. #19637-#19675 (claims paid out of cycle)

Mayor Michalson: introduced claims paid out of cycle #19637-#19675.

Councilmember Barker: I make a motion for approval of bi-weekly claims #19637-#19675 (claims paid out of cycle)

Councilmember Bragg: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Smith: #19653, who are Cardio Partners?

Gina Cowe: they are the people that provide pads for our AED machines.

Mayor Michalson: Public comments? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

b. #19676-#19690

Mayor Michalson: introduced claims #19676-#19690.

Councilmember Barker: make a motion to approve bi-weekly claims #19676-#19690.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Barker: #19687, Mr. Asphalt patch at north 3rd and sidewalks at the Living Center. \$5962.00.

Mayor Michalson: yes, the Living Center, the wheel chairs and walkers cant get up that part. Mr. Asphalt was at the Van Tassels so I had them go over and fix that it was a safety issue.

Councilmember Brown: #19690, HTC construction for \$1,000.00, remodel office.

Mayor Michalson: I spoke awhile back that I was moving into Roberts office and Gina and with HR she does not have a lot of privacy up front so we did this new office space for Robert and Gina until Robert goes away.

Councilmember Brown: Do we have a total amount?

Gina Crowe: yes, it is \$4,070.00

Councilmember Brown: did we get bids?

Mayor Michalson: no, because it is in our purchasing policy.

Councilmember Brown: thank you.

Mayor Michalson: public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

6. Administrative Reports

Mayor Michalson: introduced administrative reports.

a. Airport

In the packet. Brian Germane Airport Manager: made a lot of repairs for our mower this year and it is now up and running. Craig is doing his seasonal mowing with his tractor. CIP projects, we had an introductory meeting, had a successful meeting on the fuel project, waiting on the funding from the FAA. They floated a rumor out there that they were going to send out funding early in May not seen that yet. It will be late in the year before the tank is set but it is in the works. The board met last week to review the asphalt maintance bids. The temporary fuel is being inspected. Skydiving is underway at the airport. Met with Tyler from the Forest Service about the skydiving and how that looks, the Forest Service is a big piece for our airport, one thing that they spoke about was HB 130, and this just passed what that did it effectively increased the distance that they have to fight fires, previously it was one mile. As soon as the fire got within one mile of the Forest Service boundary and one mile of private land they had to be actively fighting it, now that increase to five miles, they are going to have to fight a lot more fire then they had been. What it is the state now

has the ability to use their resources within five miles and back charge the US Forest Service so now they are going to fight these fires. That Forest Service will more than likely be up there earlier.

b. Building Department

In the packet.

c. Finance

None

d. Fire Department

In the packet, Chief Motley is not able to be at the meeting tonight.

e. Police Department

Provided to the council at the meeting. Chief John Boe: I was in training last week, so I did not get my activity report turned into Jenelle on time. Your stats are at the table for you. (read the stats) the one thing that I want to point out on these reports is that I want you to see where the training is at in relation to a specific call. You can tell from left to right where we are.

Mayor Michalson: Chief would you please let the council know where you are in the interview process.

Chief Boe: We have interviewed 5-7 people. We have narrowed it down to 3 and have done background checks on the 3 and they are good candidates; we are waiting on an individual to come back from a funeral so that we can follow up with him and then we will have four good candidates I see in the near future to be adding one to the agency. As far as equipment and maintenance we are good to go.

Councilmember Smith: are any of these candidates experienced.

Chief Boe: only one of them. He is an out of stater from Colorado I believe so he would have to go to the two-week class. We have increased the number of parking citations on Main, the reason we have not had a lot of the tickets written is because of the type of citation that we are using, I have had a conversation with the chief in Hamilton, and he is going to send me a template. It is much quicker to fill out.

Councilmember Barker: I know that the state put those signs up is there a way to turn those so that they are facing.

Mayor Michalson: this week I reached out to Joan at MDOT to ask about us painting the curb yellow. She came back to me and told me that we have the authority to do that, I have instructed Stephen to power wash it and paint it yellow, the only thing that she said was if we were to ever rescind that it would be our responsibility to take care of that.

Councilmember Bragg: is this the "S" curve.

Mayor Michalson: yes.

Chief Boe: we are working in that area and a few other areas to improve the traffic. I just want to mention that we completed our first qual of the year and we used the Kreech property out there, they have a range. I just wanted to let everyone know that she is doing that for the community and the police department.

Mayor Michalson: one more thing to add, at the homeowners meeting at Creekside they wanted me to pass onto the council a big thank you for allowing a yield sign at Sassafras Lane.

f. Public Works

In the packet. Stephen Lassiter, Public Works Supervisor: getting busy, getting irrigation going lines laid out in Riverside and undergrounds at Ravalli, we have cleaned out the pool this week, I was there all day today repaired the cracks, next week we get it painted all donated, Rapp Foundation gave us the money for the paint and Jeff Newsom is taking care of the painting of the pool. After three years it should be the final big thing. Spring cleanup went well, best I have seen it. I went to Kalispell last week to the water training school. I took the exam. I hope that I passed it I studied a lot. Matthew left and went onto bigger and better things; we will be looking to replace him.

Councilmember Brown: projected open date for the pool?

Stephen Lassiter: June 9th.

Councilmember Brown: Thank you, also did the contractor ever come down to check the sewer plant and how did that go.

Stephen Lassiter: last week, there is a PLC that talks to it. The sensor was good but there is a sensor in the unit, and he recommends that we change that, both are going and running, he wrote up his summary of what he did I am not sure on what that part will cost. He did narrow it down, you have to pull out the screens, it took

them all day, and we got the 8 hours out of him. Good progress but not the end of it yet.

Councilmember Brown: is it you and your crew that can replace that sensor or will they have to come back.

Stephen Lassiter: I don't think that they have to come back when we get the part, their technical assistance is included in that. Cody knows where it will go.

Mayor Michalson: I want to add to what Steve was saying about one of our employees, Matt. He has moved on, Gina and I and Steve got to talking and we are wondering if the next guy can be specialized for the park kind of what Steve was doing before, go get pool certifications, splash pad.

Stephen Lassiter: there is playground safety and Hamilton had sent me to that; there is pool school and Steve Kruse sent me to that. Lets try to find somebody that is interested in investing themselves into the town and the job. I need some help.

Mayor Michalson: we are working on that job description, and we will bring that back to the council, it may be a special meeting. summer is coming on quick, so we do not want to wait until the June meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Awarding of Bid for Asphalt Maintenance at the Stevensville Airport

Mayor Michalson: introduced unfinished business item a, Awarding of Bid for Asphalt Maintenance at the Stevensville Airport. I will have Brian come up and give the recommendation to the council.

Brian Germane: in your agenda packet you can see the bid tab, it shows all of the breakdowns and the bids that we received. Engineers estimate was \$370,000.00. (read through all of the bid amounts) as far as the low bid it was CR Contracting \$198,020.54. CR is a firm that Morris & Marley have done several projects within the past, it was good to see that they were the low bid and that they have a good tract record with them. They are from out of state, and they just do this travel around and do these jobs. We presented this bid to the board, and they reviewed it and they voted to recommend CR Contracting.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we award CR Contracting LLC for asphalt maintenance for the Stevensville Airport.

Councilmember Brown: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? If you award this then they will come back with a contract and that will be reviewed by the attorney and follow all of the steps. Public comments? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

b. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 565 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Council Member Duties & Responsibilities for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced unfinished business item b, Resolution No. 565 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Council Member Duties & Responsibilities for the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Brown: I move that we approve Resolution No. 565 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Council Member Duties & Responsibilities for the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comments? Seeing none Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

c. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 566 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Zoning and Floodplain Administrators Duties & Responsibilities for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced unfinished business item c, Resolution No. 566 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Zoning and Floodplain Administrators Duties & Responsibilities for the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: I move that we approve Resolution No. 566 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Zoning and Floodplain Administrators Duties & Responsibilities for the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none,

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

d. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 567 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Building Official & Building Inspector Job Duties for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced unfinished business item d, Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 567 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Building Official & Building Inspector Job Duties for the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: I move that we approve Resolution No. 567 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Building Official & Building Inspector Job Duties for the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Bragg: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

8. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Special Event Permit for the 2025 Creamery Picnic

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item a, Special Event Permit for the 2025 Creamery Picnic.

Sean Doyle, President of the Stevensville Civic Club: same as last year. One thing that I did notice today is that last year I had 3rd street blocked we do not need that this year. Shorten the closure to 2nd Street-3rd Street.

Councilmember Smith: that is a lot of clean up.

Sean Doyle: I have good groups of people that help with the cleanup.

Councilmember Brown: since Chief Motley had a chance to review.

Sean Doyle: I don't know, we do not have anything that we are doing with the fire department, it is not like Country Christmas where we do fire pits. We do have Mr. Rebkee with the fire department, and he manages the electricity at the park and at 3rd and Main. We are not doing anything burn related. I do know that the fire department is participating in their games.

Councilmember Brown: has Chief Boe had time to review.

Chief Boe: like he said it is the same and I will review that.

Councilmember Smith: I move that approve special event permit for 2025 Creamery Picnic.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

b. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Ashley Hoffman as a Volunteer Firefighter Recruit

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item b, Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Ashley Hoffman as a Volunteer Firefighter Recruit.

Councilmember Barker: I make a motion for the approval of the mayors appointment of Ashley Hoffman as a Volunteer Firefighter Recruit.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

c. Discussion/Decision: Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Councilmember Sam Bragg to the TIFD/TEDD Board

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item c, Consent to the Mayor's Appointment of Councilmember Sam Bragg to the TIFD/TEDD Board. at this time the board is pretty much nonexistent, but there is talk about the use of the district area to be used for sewer. The commissioners are talking about using that area to set up for the pumper trucks to have a place to drop off. We do have a little of \$300,000 in that district. Robert is going to get with Julie Foster and Julie is going to steer us in the direction that we should go. The district sunsets in October so we need to get going.

Councilmember Brown: I move that we place Sam Bragg onto the TIFD/TEDD Board.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

d. Discussion/Decision: Close Town Hall on June 5, 2025, for Training Purposes

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item d, Close Town Hall on June 5, 2025, for Training Purposes. As you can see there are some Summit meetings happening around the state and there is going to be one in Hamilton. Jenelle, Andrena and Gina would like to attend.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we close town hall on June 5, 2025, for training purposes.

Councilmember Bragg: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Barker: I think that we should have the mayor at the front office working that day if he is not going to training.

Mayor Michalson: I am not bonded I can't take money.

Councilmember Barker: you are not bonded but you can be a person there letting people know that the office is closed.

Councilmember Brown: could we, do you have an agenda for the meeting and please share with the council what is in the meeting. Agenda for the meeting?

Gina Crowe: we can get that for you.

Jenelle Berthoud: let me see if it is attached to the email.

Councilmember Brown: if it is free maybe it is something that a councilmember would like to attend.

Mayor Michalson: from what Dan Clark said it is a brush up from Fairmont.

Jenelle Berthoud: I am not finding it; I just read it.

Mayor Michalson: unless something else came out since I got mine, I have not seen anything.

Jenelle Berthoud: I think all that it is doing is laying it out for the locations for the summer, Hamilton is the closest.

Gina Crowe: is it picking up off of the conference that you went to.

Jenelle Berthoud: I am not sure what they have picked to discuss. I will get that for you.

Councilmember Brown: please share that with the council, Sam was not able to attend.

Councilmember Barker: I found one, League review, MSU and MMIA. It has RSVP but not a deadline.

Mayor Michalson: Jenelle would you please send that out to all of the councilmembers. Any other comments from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

e. Informational: Denning, Downey & Associates, P.C. Memo

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item e, Denning, Downey & Associates, P.C. Memo

Councilmember Brown: starting May 13-June16th.

Gina Crowe: they are working on it now.

Councilmember Brown: issuing the report on June 16th.

Gina Crowe: also, on that report Robert Downing is retiring next year.

Jenelle Berthoud: that was not provided to them on that memo.

Mayor Michalson: any other questions.

f. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 568 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Hall Business Hours for Fridays 8:00am-12:00pm for the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item f, Resolution No. 568 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Hall Business Hours for Fridays

8:00am-12:00pm for the Town of Stevensville. I will say that when I was a councilmember this came forward and they wanted to shut a half day or a full day, that doesn't matter, but I not knowing what goes on in the inside I was not for it. But after being a mayor now for a year and six months and being there every Friday and checking in in the afternoons, a lot of time there is just no one coming in and sometimes we have closed at 3:00 for staffing issues. Because they are out of time and we cannot afford to pay overtime, the girls take their comp time, Jenelle with the hours that she puts in with the council and other things and now she is taking the minutes for the Planning & Zoning Board and she is busy most of the summer so she will be gone most Fridays, Gina with the auditing going on she will be over and that leaves Andrena, and she will be over sometimes also working with water department. I have to say knowing what I know now, and they came to me and said, "Bob, is there a chance that we can close town hall on Fridays at noon. That doesn't mean that we are going to shut down and nobody is there. Gina will sit in that office until 6:00 pm some Friday nights. I will say that Friday afternoons it is dead you might get one or two in the morning, Andrena has been keeping a cheat sheet.

Jenelle Berthoud: on one Friday her last person was at 11:00 in the morning and that was her last person. Can I speak to this?

Mayor Michalson: yes go ahead.

Jenelle Berthoud: we did some double checking with people that are outside of us that use our office and our space and one of these people was checking in with Construct MT. They do all of their building inspections Monday, Wednesday and Friday for our town, they do those before noon, and they are scheduled to do them between 9:00 and 12:00 and then they go to Hamilton and Darby. That was one that we really thought about. They come in and check in with us and they do that before 9:30. Another piece that I wanted to speak to was that this is not changing the core business hours for the town of Stevensville like we have in our personal policy those business hours are still 8-5 Monday through Friday. This is helping us to, well there is no one here on Fridays, it is dead and what the mayor said really watching the over time and the comp time and making sure that we are not going over those 40 hours and there are a lot of days and I come in and work until 10:00 on a Friday and you will work until 2:00 Andrena make it to 3:00 and we all hit our 40 so then we can't get overtime and comp time that is not in our budget and we don't want to see that. I respected the mayor that he listened to us and that he can see this happening.

Mayor Michalson: I check in on Friday afternoons after my walk, it is just Andrena and when she is out of time at 3:00 they come to me and say we are out of time.

Please put a sign on the door that says staffing issues, I have heard it before you should manage your time better, it is not fair to our water clerk to keep it open until 5:00 when there is not one person coming in that door. I think that Boe can attest to that. It doesn't mean that it is going to be closed, there will be some Fridays that Gina will be here with the auditors, it just gives us an option if we have to close it we can.

Councilmember Barker: I make a motion to approve Resolution No. 568 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Hall Business Hours for Fridays 8:00am-12:00pm for the Town of Stevensville.

Mayor Michalson: I think that this can change in the wintertime, not as much going on it slows down, but Planning and Zoning and Jenelle with her regular workload and Gina with the audit and Andrena with the water department.

Councilmember Bragg: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Brown: I understand the issues with the hours I wonder is maybe somebody can come in late on a Monday instead of the town hall closed on a Friday at noon. Maybe someone could do work all day Friday and then come in late on Monday, the other ideas that I had one time I believe that there is a green thumb program I believe that it is still out there, but I am not positive. There is another one at the mission we have a couple of people under the Easter Seals, we do not pay for them they have to have a minimum of ten hours per week why don't we look at someone like that working 10 hours, answering the phones, I know that they can not take payments, but they could direct them to use the drop box.

Gina Crowe: the issue is that there is just not that much traffic.

Mayor Michalson: Friday afternoons it is slow.

Gina Crowe: it is like this all year long. Some of the questions are very complex and somebody want to ask about a building permit or this or that some of those things I can't answer, and I have to ask her, putting a body at the window to just keep it open for five hours would do more harm than good. It is not like you are directing traffic, it is different and answering phone calls and they ask about finance they are not going to know anything about that. All I know and being new and taking some of those calls I don't know it all.

Councilmember Barker: I know that we are not the only town doing this. It was one of the discussion that we had at training, closing on Fridays and it is statewide not just our small little towns, it is helping with the staffing issues.

Mayor Michalson: there are towns smaller than us that are only open four days a week Monday through Thursdays, smaller towns, less people coming in the door, tighter budgets.

Councilmember Barker: I think that we are going to see that across the board in many towns.

Councilmember Smith: after reading Resolution 568 the first wear as, I totally agree with this and have no problem with this, but there may be a procedural issue, 74-102-1 it talks about public hearing, this has to go on before anything can happen. Do you want to see it?

Jenelle Berthoud: we are a town, so we read c. or number 3.

Councilmember Smith: but we have a general principal under number 1.

Councilmember Barker: can we get more clarification on this.

Mayor Michalson: would you like to table it?

Jenelle Berthoud: we are a third-class city or town, that is how we understood, but please have questions on it.

Councilmember Smith: I would like to look into this.

Mayor Michalson: I would recommend that we rescind to table the item.

Councilmember Barker: I would like to rescind my motion. Make a motion to table Resolution No. 568 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Town Hall Business Hours for Fridays 8:00am-12:00pm for the Town of Stevensville

Councilmember Bragg: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: I have a motion and a 2nd to table. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle would you please take the vote.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

g. Discussion/Decision: Schedule Budget Workshops for the Month of June

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item g, Schedule Budget Workshops for the Month of June. After discussing with Robert and Gina I think that we are getting pretty close and Robert seems to think that it might take one more meeting and we should be done with it by the end of June.

Jenelle Berthoud: we currently have a P&Z meeting on June 4th, a council meeting on June 12th.

Mayor Michalson: we could do June 3rd?

Gina Crowe: I cannot do June 3rd.

Mayor Michalson: how about the 10th?

Brian Germane: we have an Airport Board meeting on the 10th.

Mayor Michalson: June 11th 5:30 pm.

Councilmember Brown: I move that we schedule a Budget Workshop on June 11, 2025 @ 5:30 pm.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Smith: reluctantly aye.

Councilmember Bragg: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

9. Board Reports

Councilmember Barker: P&Z Board met on May 14th, and all members were in attendance but one. Met with Dani Arps via Zoom and discussed survey and adding survey questions for the younger youth, hoping that we will get those finalized for final approval and will be pared as well with posters that we can distribute out to the public with a QR code for taking the survey at home. Talked about up-and-coming

events where we can set this up and help engage the community on what is coming up with our growth policy and engaging the public. This has been a very informative process, and we are looking forward to the next up and coming meeting which will be held on June 4th. We encourage all to be involved in the meetings that are coming down the pike and encourage the public to be involved. We did have a couple at the last meeting and that was helpful.

Councilmember Smith: on the Airport Board, Brian gave a good enough report, but I do not think he mentioned that we discussed prices of the fuel and that was a large discussion there and making a dollar a gallon and looking forward to having our own tank and making money.

10. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Barker: Mayor Michalson and myself attended the MMIA Conference in Anaconda from May 6-8. Jenelle our town clerk was also in attendance which met with many of the clerks around Montana. These conferences that we as elected officials are always informative this years information was geared around policies and how important these are to having in place. I know as a town we have started going back and reviewing many of these changes but so much more work to be done, I would also like to encourage our elected officials to be careful on what we say on social media. Remember we are elected by the public and I know that is hard to not engage in conversations where there could be a conflict. There is freedom of speech however side with caution, we represent our parties with the town not social media which can also be very crural and hateful. If more than two start communicating as well that is considered a quorum. So, be careful and represent the town with dignity.

11. Executive Report

Mayor Michalson: as Councilmember Barker stated we attended the Montana Elected Officials training in Fairmont, as always it is always informative I got quiet a bit out of it as far as hiring, they had a great session on hiring from Derrik Sheperd. We had one on progressive discipline, roles and responsibilities, the last day we had one that I think was very eye-opening Kelly Lynch came, and she works with leagues of cities and towns. She goes back and forth with the legislature business, and she came and gave a report that basically says cities and towns are pretty well off this year, but we want to warn you that next year and the year after with the property taxes being reduced and everything with our general fund is going to be down. That is why they had a seminar about consolation, and one of the bills that was passed

was HB 333. It has to do with consolidations for police departments with the county and they also mentioned fire departments consolidations. On May 20th I had a zoom meeting with Max Wolf regarding Twin Creeks, the situation that we have out there, I had some phone calls from the residences at Twin Creeks Phase 1 and in the summer months when they are watering their lawns they have very little water pressure, so I brought that up to Max Wolf and at first he said is that we do not have to put in a lift station, that is not on us. I went back and forth, and he agreed to put it in writing that all of the homes that he is building out there he will supply the mini boosters like they have in Phase 1 in some of the house, we said that we wanted it in writing and we mentioned that if the water pressure goes down in phase 1 that he would work with the town on a booster station, after the meeting tonight and her going to the DEQ.

Jenelle Berthoud: we have some investigating to do.

Councilmember Bragg: I thought this was maybe the creek.

Mayor Michalson: I am going to go out and walk it myself. If there is something we need to look into this and take care of it.

Councilmember Bragg: it looked like to me that the common area was set up in a fork I think that is where they intended the creek to go, but if they did not and there is not enough space.

Mayor Michalson:” May 21st, Steve and I had a meeting with Rick about the Pickle Ball Court he wanted to meet with us and he was very cooperative and whatever it takes he is willing to work with the town, there is something that came up on the maintance, he would have no problem paying for that, it came up with MMIA and Jenelle looked into it, MMIA insurance can not cover them if one of them got hurt. Jenelle fired off an email to him today basically saying if you want to continue you will have to show proof of insurance. There are two other things, but they are on the agenda for the park board meeting. last night I attended a rural fire meeting regarding the interlocal agreement, I just said that we had some issues with the two agreements that they did not jive. Numbers, utilities, insurance things like that, I suggested that Bo Anderson attend our next meeting to discuss and to do that I will suggest a COW meeting in an email out to you so that we can get that going, we also discussed consolidation, and I mentioned that to the rural, they all said that we are basically consolidated now. I think that it is a serious discussion going forward.

Councilmember Smith: we are talking about consolidating with the county.

Mayor Michalson: just the rural. I mentioned earlier about the public works, Matt is working another job in Hamilton, we need someone that is knowledgeable with the splash pad and the pool.

12. Adjournment

Councilmember Smith: move to adjourn.

Councilmember Brown: 2nd.

APPROVE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Michalson", written over a horizontal line.

Bob Michalson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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

Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk