

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes

for THURSDAY, JANUARY 08, 2026, 6:30 PM 206 Buck Street, Town Hall

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Crews called the meeting to order please rise for the pledge of allegiance.

(I, Jenelle Berthoud, Town Clerk acknowledged Councilmembers Bailey and Smith were present.)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

None

4. Approval of Minutes

Not tonight.

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Out of Cycle Claims for 12/22/2025, #20097-#20120

Mayor Crews: introduced out of cycle claims.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we accept the out-of-cycle claims.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Any public comments? None. Council.

Councilmember Smith: I want to ask the fire chief on here it says that there is a repair for rural fire for \$2,000.00 why would we be doing that for rural fire.

Jeff Motley, Fire Chief: so, that is the SCBA compressor that is owned jointly by the town and the rural and that invoice was billed to the district and then to us.

Gina Crowe: what claim number are you talking about?

Councilmember Smith: 20104.

Mayor Crews: further discussion from the council? Clerk would you please call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: (no comment)

b. Claims #20121-#20145

Mayor Crews: introduced claims, #20121-#20145. Any comment from the public on those claims?

Councilmember Smith: I move that we adopt claims #20121-#20145.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment on the claims? Hearing none, madam clerk would you call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries 2-0.

6. Administrative Reports

a. Airport

Brian Germane, Airport Manager: (report provided to the council and mayor at the meeting). Will be attached to the minutes of this meeting due to not being in the packet.

Mayor Crews: have you contacted any other airports that use this to see if there is a trend?

Brian Germane: I have talked to our engineer, and they have seen this and they are fighting it at Thompson Falls, and theirs is a grounding issue and that does not seem to be our cause.

Mayor Crews: is there a database where you can input that question and ask all of the other airports.

Brian Germane: there is not, unfortunately and that would be great, hoping that the manufacture can work through this, the downside is that this unit is not being made anymore, some parts still remaining. There are a couple of fence repairs that are needed and some siding on the SRE building. Some asphalt by the parking lot that has started to deteriorate. We will have to do a hot patch. Energi Systems has started on the new fuel tank. Fuel tank is to arrive around the beginning of March.

Engineers are looking on rebidding the taxi ways on the east side of the airport. Put it out and no bidders, so we are going to rebid that out. Leases are paid up except for one.

b. Building Department

Included in the packet.

c. Finance

Gina Crowe, Finance Officer: report in packet. you all have your cash report in front of you, we have received our big tax check. We are in good standing as far as our cash report goes. Overall, we have spent 46% and that is really good. If you go to the statement of budget the next report is for all of the other funds. Statement of revenue versus budget, looks on track there, nothing that is outstanding. Any questions on the reports.

d. Fire Department

Jeff Motley, Fire Chief: report in packet. (Chief Motley read through his report to the council). The missed calls is for the year; they are not a true representation to what we respond to. It is in the range of where we have been over the past few years. Tonight is testing night for our EMT's.

Mayor Crews: do you ever break these calls down into number of calls per month or per year, holidays, summertime and is there variation with age to what kind of calls you get.

Jeff Motley: we do not track it that way. We just don't have the way to break it down and track it.

Mayor Crews: what about cardiac calls?

Jeff Motley: those are tracked. And reported back to the state.

e. Police Department

John Boe, Chief of Police: report in the packet. Chief Boe reviewed his report with the council and mayor.

Councilmember Smith: the statistic that jumped out at me was traffic accidents. 43 for this year you said what for last year.

John Boe: 27.

Councilmember Smith: is there a specific area that these accidents are happening.

John Boe: E 2nd Street at Main to Eastside HWY. and last year the "S" curve but that has resolved itself.

Mayor Crews: are these kids coming or going to school?

John Boe: it ranges. Running stop signs, following too close and driving in the wrong lane.

f. Public Works

Stephen Lassiter, Public Works Supervisor: reports in the packet. Did have some wind damage at Riverside Cemetery, we are trying to fix those on our own. The pool fence is out, will have to get some help with that. SCADA is ongoing at the well house; it should be done by now. There is a discrepancy from the electrical contractor and is kind of holding up the software license, then we will have access to and from the water treatment plant.

Councilmember Bailey: sample water meters, have those been placed.

Stephen Lassiter: we had five of them and they are placed. It was more for admin, Andrena and I had a meeting yesterday on how to see them on the computer, it is interesting. She probably gained more from it than I did, that is her thing. There is a ninety-cent charge to the customer, we only have five right now, but as we get more we will have to meet on how to pass that cost along. They are very cool, you can see when you are using water and how much. Right now, they are in problem areas and a control area. The Senior Center has not read in years, so we put one there.

Mayor Crews: I know someone that would be very interested in this program.

Stephen Lassiter: I can order ten or so.

Councilmember Bailey: so, I understand those five were provided by the company free of charge to test them out and if we like them we can potentially purchase more.

Stephen Lassiter: we have to order more before the 90 days are up or we have to pay for the five.

Mayor Crews: what is the cost per meter.

Stephen Lassiter: about 260.00.

Councilmember Smith: how is the street sweeper doing?

Stephen Lassiter: did great on Main, trying to stay off of Main because it is the states. Doing good and everything works; in the spring you will see it work.

7. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Appointment of a Town Council President

Mayor Crews: we did receive one email from Councilmember Smith wanting to be council president. I would recommend to the council after we have a full council that you go back and repeat this.

Councilmember Bailey: I will make a motion to appoint Wally Smith as our town council president.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment? Council president in the absence of the mayor can act as the mayor. The council president takes care of council issues. Mayor has no authority over the council they police themselves. Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay we have a new council president. It is weird acting as a two-person member council. We do have a quorum. Right now, we have two members so that is the quorum and when we have three then two would be a quorum.

b. Discussion/Decision: Removal of Mayor Michalson from the Towns Bank Account and Add Mayor Crews

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item b. Removal of Mayor Michalson from the Towns Bank Account and Add Mayor Crews

Councilmember Smith: I move to Removal of Mayor Michalson from the Towns Bank Account and Add Mayor Crews.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion on the floor is to remove Mayor Michalson from the town's bank account and add Mayor Crews. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Hearing none, madam clerk would you please call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries, we will take care of this tomorrow?

> Gina Crowe: yes, tomorrow.

c. Discussion/Decision: Town's City Attorney Contract Termination

Mayor Crews: introduced item c. His resignation email came in on 12/31, read the email.

Mayor:

After thinking about it long and hard, I have decided to resign as Town Attorney. My law practice has grown tremendously, and I need to cut back.

It was an honor to serve three mayors, numerous Town Council members, and, most importantly, the people of Stevensville.

I will assist in finding the Town a new attorney.

I wish the new administration the very best.

Please convey my admiration for all of the Town staff. They do a great job.

Greg

Mayor Crews: I have responded to Mr. Overstreet and asking what is official resignation date would be and he responded with February 1st.

Dear Mr. Overstreet,

I have been advised that you have submitted a press release regarding your intent to resign as the Town's City Attorney.

If this is your true desire, what date would you prefer as your end date for your current contract. I know you have pending work that might take a bit to complete and we do not want to impeded your office workload unnecessarily. I believe the Council will acquiesce to your desire to terminate the contract. I also believe you will be missed.

Upon your request, we will modify the January 8th agenda to complete this action for you and we do seek you input at to a potential successor. In order to do this properly we need confirmation by the 5PM the 6th of January.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jim Crews

Mayor

Mayor Crews: read the press release. Public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Bassiti: is there a vice attorney.

Mayor Crews: right now, Mr. Overstreet will stick with us, we do have another attorney, and she is the prosecutor and I have not talked to her yet, but I will be talking to her to see if we can consolidate the office. I have also contacted another attorney that was previously an attorney for town, and he will notify attorneys in the group that we are seeking an RFQ for the position.

Christine Lindley: I just had a question; I am currently an attorney in Montana do you know when that RFQ will be coming out.

Mayor Crews: I do; it is next on the agenda.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we accept the resignation of Mr. Overstreet.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: I have a first and a second to terminate Mr. Overstreet's contract. Clerk will you please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries.

d. Discussion/Decision: Requesting an RFQ for a Town Attorney

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item d. Requesting an RFQ for a Town Attorney. Public comment? Council?

Councilmember Smith: I move that we request an RFQ for a town attorney.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: requesting an RFQ for a town attorney. Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion passes 2-0

e. Discussion/Decision: Business Associate Agreement Between the Town of Stevensville Fire Department and Bitterroot Health

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item e. Business Associate Agreement Between the Town of Stevensville Fire Department and Bitterroot Health.

Jeff Motley, Fire Chief: this is agreement from Bitterroot Health is about us going into an agreement with a doctor from Bitterroot Health. (reviewed the agreement with the council). The reason that is in front of you all is because you have to approve all agreements.

Mayor Crews: was this one of the items that Greg Overstreet reviewed?

Jenelle Berthoud: yes it was.

Mayor Crews: so, it has been through a review by the town attorney and had no comments. Public comment?

Councilmember Bailey: I make a motion to approve Business Associate Agreement Between the Town of Stevensville Fire Department and Bitterroot Health.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment, hearing none, I will ask the clerk to take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion approved.

f. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 578 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Declaring Certain Town Property as Surplus

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item f. Read Resolution No. 578 into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 578

**A RESOLUTION OF THE STEVENSVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL DECLARING CERTAIN
TOWN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS**

WHEREAS, the items herein of town owned property have served their useful life for the Town of Stevensville purposes and needs are no longer being used or operated by the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the Town does not anticipate using or operating said property at any time in the future; and,

WHEREAS, Montana Code Annotated 7-8-4201 authorizes the Town Council to sell, dispose of, donate or lease any property belonging to the Town; and,

WHEREAS, by this Town Council that if any property is sold to other than a county or political subdivision, bids will be taken pursuant to 7-5-4307 MCA;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, if any property is sold or transferred to a county or political subdivision, the sale or transfer shall be subject to provisions of Section 7-8-101 MCA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following items be disposed or donated:

SURPLUS FOR DISPOSAL

1. 3 old printers
2. 4 computer monitors/ 1 broken monitor/ Misc keyboards
3. 8 used computer hard drives (will be destroyed)
4. Misc WatchGuard monitor (outdated police car equipment)
5. Misc radar unit wires/ Misc radar parts (all outdated equipment)
6. Misc handheld radios and wires (all outdated equipment)
7. Misc duty belts/ Blue uniform shirts and pants (all used equipment)
8. 5 police light bars (outdated equipment) (law enforcement only) (will be destroyed)
9. 2 unknown car back seats
10. Unknown police car Plexi-glass divider
11. Projector (broken)
12. Speaker box (broken)
13. Unknown truck wheel (damaged/broken)
14. 2 unknown truck tires
15. 8 unknown car tires
16. Unknown cam shaft/ lifters/ pushrods (used/broken)
17. 3 misc. desks (partially broken/not used)

SURPLUS TO DONATE

1. 3 scooters (can donate to local bike shop)
2. 12 bicycles (can donate to local bike shop)

DATED this 8th day of January 2026, after motion and second at a regular meeting of the Stevensville Town Council.

Councilmember Smith: if I could address this to the police chief. Old belts and blue uniforms and all that, further done on the agenda we are talking about reserve officers wouldn't that.

John Boe: these items are not usable. The stuff that we could provide to additional officers we have kept.

Councilmember Bailey: I want to clarify we have an agenda item for surplus does this impact our operations. Is that okay that we have two agenda items?

Mayor Crews: yes, they are two different items.

John Boe: if it was evidence then I would have to get the judge to sign off.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we accept Resolution No. 578 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Declaring Certain Town Property as Surplus.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Any further council discussion? Public comment? Seeing none, we will call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay, thank you.

g. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 579 a Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Fire Department

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item g. Resolution No. 579 a Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Fire Department.

Jeff Motley: we were the recipients of a Christmas gift from the Rapp Family Foundation to help put our new ladder truck into service and operations for the fire department.

Mayor Crews: any public comment. Read Resolution No. 579 into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 579

A Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Fire Department

WHEREAS, the Rapp Family Foundation has awarded a grant/donation to the Stevensville Fire Department in the amount of ***Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00)***; and

WHEREAS, the Rapp Family Foundation has provided said grant for the purpose of supporting current non-budgeted expenses and operational initiatives of the Stevensville Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Stevensville Fire Department has recently received a donated fire apparatus, known as Truck 54, from the Corvallis Rural Fire District, which requires additional equipment, graphics, and related outfitting in order to be fully and effectively placed into service; and

WHEREAS, the Stevensville Fire Department has additional current and anticipated non-budgeted needs, including but not limited to the supplementation of communications equipment and other operational necessities; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of these funds will allow the Stevensville Fire Department to address operational priorities without impacting or reducing the Town's previously approved General Fund budget allocations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, that the Town hereby accepts the grant funds in the amount of \$8,500.00 from the Rapp Family Foundation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said funds shall be deposited and earmarked for use by the Stevensville Fire Department outside of and in addition to its previously approved budgeted amounts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that expenditure of these funds shall be at the sole discretion of the Fire Chief, for the benefit of the Stevensville Fire Department and in furtherance of its operational readiness, equipment needs, and departmental initiatives.

Dated this ____ day of ____ 2026, after motion and second at a regular meeting of the Stevensville Town Council.

Mayor Crews: any public comment, council.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we accept Resolution No. 579 a Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Fire Department. As it was written and read by the mayor.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? I think that it is great that the community members step up our fire department is a volunteer fire department. I pay attention when Jeff leaves the house for a fire, I have lived next to Jeff for 22 years. Hearing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries.

h. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 580 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Declaring Certain Town Property as Surplus

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item h. Read Resolution No. 580 into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 580

A RESOLUTION OF THE STEVENSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL DECLARING CERTAIN TOWN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS

WHEREAS, the items herein of town owned property have served their useful life for the Town of Stevensville purposes and needs are no longer being used or operated by the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the Town does not anticipate using or operating said property at any time in the future; and,

WHEREAS, Montana Code Annotated 7-8-4201 authorizes the Town Council to sell, dispose of, donate or lease any property belonging to the Town; and,

WHEREAS, by this Town Council that if any property is sold to other than a county or political subdivision, bids will be taken pursuant to 7-5-4307 MCA;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, if any property is sold or transferred to a county or political subdivision, the sale or transfer shall be subject to provisions of Section 7-8-101 MCA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following items be disposed:

SURPLUS FOR DISPOSAL

1. *2 Tough Book Computers*
2. *1 HP Z210 Convertible Minitower Workstation*

DATED this 8th day of January 2026, after motion and second at a regular meeting of the Stevensville Town Council.

Stephen Lassiter: not supported by Microsoft 11 updates.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we accept Resolution no. 580 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Declaring Certain Town Property as Surplus.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment? Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries 2-0.

i. Discussion/Decision: Regarding Implementing Reserve Officer Program

Mayor Crews: Chief Boe has asked that we table this item until next council meeting.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we table the item regarding implementing Reserve Officer Program until next council meeting.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Public comments, council comment. Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries until the 22nd meeting.

j. Discussion/Decision: Regarding Purchase Agreement for Three (3) New Toughbook's (computers) for Installation in Patrol Vehicles, Necessary/Vital for Officer response and Field Work

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item j. Regarding Purchase Agreement for Three (3) New Toughbook's (computers) for Installation in Patrol Vehicles, Necessary/Vital for Officer response and Field Work.

John Boe: you should have this in your packet. The purchase of three Toughbook's and three keyboards. As you can see in the contract it is for \$15,311.00 we have \$10,000.00 already raised from our previous benefit. It is also subject to a possible increase of up to 25% this accounts for market fluctuations. At a rate of 25% that would add an additional \$3,027.00. It could run anywhere from 0-25% so it might be 5% or 10% but I will give you the worst case. With the rate increase the amount could reach \$19,139.63 these Toughbook's provide a lifeline to our support structure, faster information times. In the field doing reports meaning less time in the office and more time on the streets. Which is a deterrent for criminal activity, in my point of view. We have been able to accumulate a \$10,000 check from the Reserve Association and will utilize those monies to purchase the Toughbook's; we will not know the total cost until Gina purchases them. Gina will reach out and talk to them about the price. The current Toughbook's they have reached their shelf life, I like to compare them to iPhones, they are no longer Microsoft operational, meaning that they will no longer service them, what that means is the current system or cad that we work off on our Toughbook's there are constant updates every month. If we are not able to receive those updates then we cannot do our job.

Mayor Crews: they call these a tough book for a reason, because they are able to take a beating in the field. If you do not have the correct equipment to withstand the conditions then you end up spending more in the end.

John Boe: we utilize them 24/7 every time that we are on the road.

Councilmember Smith: are the two Toughbook's that you want to buy, are they in stock?

Gina Crowe: I believe that if we order them they are.

Councilmember Smith: so, we will know when we order them what the bill will be.

Gina Crowe: I reached out Monday, because we have been working on this for some time and I have gotten three quotes from them and I am just waiting to see if they honor the price or there will be an increase. It is a cyber security thing and that is why they are not.

Councilmember Bailey: just clarifying that the vendor will also come out and set up the three computers, two monitors and the computer and keyboard and will install them in the cars for us.

Gina Crowe: they won't, they will send them to us, and we will work with our IT department to set those up.

Mayor Crews: any public comment?

Councilmember Bailey: I make a motion for approval of the purchase agreement for the purchase of 3 Toughbook's.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: any further discussion?

Gina Crowe: so, if the price goes up and right now we do not have this in the budget and will have to do a budget amendment are you doing some fundraising to cover that chief? We do not have that in the budget right now, I do not know how you want to do that. I can ask them for a different quote and then bring that back for another approval process. Or is it okay to say to buy them.

Mayor Crews: I think that council is saying that we can go ahead a purchase the equipment now, is that what I am hearing from the council?

Councilmember Bailey: I think so, I think that Gina is confirming we are not approving the \$15,000 but whatever quote they give us.

Gina Crowe: if it is \$18,000 I just say okay.

Mayor Crews: we may need to do a budget amendment.

Councilmember Bailey: but do we want to revisit this and get the quote and bring it back or do we want to wait on this and approve the concept, how do you do that.

Mayor Crews: we can adjust the amount now with a potential 25% increase.

Councilmember Bailey: I am approving a potential 25% increase.

Gina Crowe: I just want to make sure because we have been going back and forth with this company for several months, if they say that they want to honor this I will take it.

Mayor Crews: is that what council decides.

Councilmember Bailey: that is my motion.

Mayor Crews: any further comments, the chief is working to pay for this through his fundraising. Seeing no other comments from the council or the public, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries.

k. Discussion/Decision: Regarding Entering into Agreement for New Tasers as a Less Lethal Option

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item k, Regarding Entering into Agreement for New Tasers as a Less Lethal Option.

John Boe: we have three old tasers, they are currently six years beyond their shelf life, meaning that we no longer in a service contract and cannot purchase cartridges for them. Now anything that we can sell to another agency so we will look to destroy at some point. What I am asking from you is to potentially approve. (Chief Boe read through and referenced the information provided in the packet). Three tasers, training, 50 live cartridges, 30 training cartridges and a docking station for charging and updates. Licensure for storing that data. Customer service and extended warranty, if we damage a taser or get into some kind of altercation and we damage it we send it in and they send us a new one, there is no cost to us. On demand training certification, which means that they are going to train us. What some people do not know, every year we have to submit to POST that we have done our taser training. We will use the taser as a less lethal option and limit the department liability. (Read the memorandum of understanding provided in the packet under this agenda item.) the contract is also there to review, what they have provided us is a five-year contract with the accessories that I already mentioned. They would start with a one-time payment of \$200.00 in February, and then every year after that in November \$3,044.36 and then the contract would end in 2030.

Councilmember Smith: how long?

John Boe: 5 years. Many things could come up over the next several years, our goal is to use any funds that we raise to pay this off, without having to dip into the police department budget.

Councilmember Bailey: we are obligated to pay \$200 and then \$3,000 in November until 2030.

John Boe: \$3,044.36 starting in November in 2026 and ending in November of 2030.

Gina Crowe: at the end of that five years is that the shelf life of that taser, and then at the end of that five years we will have to replace?

John Boe: yes, at the end of that year, we would receive the upgrade, option to purchase the new one and turn the old one in.

Mayor Crews: public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Female in the audience: why only three tasers, you were asking for three. I am curious that when you say you can send it in and then they send it back to you, should you be buying four so that there is another one on hand.

John Boe: yes, what we would more than likely do is keep one of the old ones on hand, just like we have the extra patrol vehicle in case one goes down.

Craig Thomas: during the training of the tasers do they have to be tased?

John Boe: no, they take care of that during POST, and then we update training every year to them. There are standards that you have to meet. The simulator is in real time.

Mayor Crews: any further comments?

Craig Thomas: my nephew said that they are an invaluable tool.

John Boe: yes they are.

Mayor Crews: back in the old days when we did firearms training, we had to be able to induce stress into the shooter and you had video projection and you would be shooting live rounds, with this system everything is right here and they are not discharging anything. They can do the training right here in the cop shop.

John Boe: with this simulator you will be live in that moment. With the taser it does give us a less lethal option, the most important thing that Gina brought up earlier is we are going to utilize any funding that come from benefits and donations like we have the past few years. We have kind of changed the dynamics of how that comes in and works and how it is distributed out. The Toughbook's, we could also use any other funds to pay off the Toughbook's. To be honest with you both of these items are necessary to the department.

Mayor Crews: any further comment from the council or public?

Councilmember Smith: I move that we accept the agreement for new tasers as a less lethal option as presented by Chief Boe.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. further discussion? Jenelle, please take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: good job.

8. Board Reports

None.

9. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Smith: I would like to give an applause to everybody here, thanks for coming out and seeing how your government works glad that you are interested, keep coming and tell a friend. And I have a second for the, well there are two out of the three ladies, the town council now has a workstation and that was a great idea and that will be utilized, thank you.

10. Executive Report

Mayor Crews: I have been the mayor for four days now. Thanks to the staff for handling things this week because I have been out with this bug, you do not want to catch this bug. We are short two councilmembers however I do understand that at least there is one applicant for the seat that Cindy Brown termed out. When it is filled it will be until 2027. Did you put yours in Karen, it is right there, so we have another applicant coming in for the other seat, Karen is very vital as a member to

this council and looking forward to working with her. It will be a two-year term. As we get closer to February 1st we will be seeking a new town attorney or consolidate two offices into one office. You said that you brought your resume. We will be doing board replacements over the next few weeks. It is kind of hard to appoint councilmembers to a board when you only have two right now. They are a quorum and they cannot talk to each other. The town is engaged in various litigations, and I hope to be briefed about those in the next few weeks. As Councilmember Smith has stated, the town staff has created a workspace adjacent to the finance officers office for the council. The girls, the ladies worked very hard to put this thing together and I really appreciate it, thank you very much. I made a commitment when I ran for mayor that I would remain highly visible, Gina's old office space is vacant and I chose to take that as my office, and when you come into town hall if I am here, you will see me. If you want to talk to me just let them know and you can come in and shoot the breeze and if you need something more private you can come in here. That is what I did last time and that is what I intend to do this time. I appreciate that, staff has created a workspace and now we will work on an access protocol it is probably better that council comes in and goes through the hallway to go in that way it is not disturbing the flow in the office. You can bring in your laptops use the towns copier so that the staff is free from doing the work for the council. Town hall belongs to all elected officials and citizens we need to make sure that everyone is incorporated to learn and go and use our spaces effectively. There is no reason why to not ask questions, council needs to come in and ask questions of the staff. Gina is in her office busy, but she will take the time to talk to you. Ask about finances or anything that we have going on, she will take the time and the same thing for Jenelle and Andrena they are there to make your job easier. The power of this town rest with the four of you councilmembers it is not the mayor; the mayor is here to oversee everything and work with the staff to coordinate and make everything work. The council makes the decisions. I have seek councils permission to form a water and sewer committee so that the public can participate and study our process and see if there is a way to cut costs. A bunch of heads is better than one, I think we need to get on it and learn about the system and see what we do and maybe come up with a good idea on how to cut these costs, because they effect every single one of us in here. I have been out sick most of the week working here and there and appreciate your patience and understanding. As part of my executive report, it is my duty to read a letter of resignation I am not particularly happy about this, but I have to read it and I will. This is from Samantha Bragg on the 10th of December. Councilmember Bragg submitted her resignation she said

Hello Jenelle

I am writing to inform you that I will be resigning on December 29th, 2025. I am sad that I will not be working with you and everyone in town anymore, but it feels like the best decision for me right now.

Here is the public letter I would like to have read in January during the first council meeting of the year. If you think anything sounds off please let me know and I will make changes.

Dear Mayor and Members of the Town Council,

Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from the Stevensville Town Council.

I have served this town with dedication and integrity, and I had intended to continue working toward its progress. However, with the election of the new mayor, it has become clear that I can no longer serve in this environment.

The new mayor repeatedly disregarded my personal boundaries, including multiple explicit requests to keep my personal contact information private. This alone demonstrated a lack of professional respect toward me as both an individual and an elected council member.

Beyond that, I have witnessed behavior toward town employees that I believe to be unprofessional, hostile, and damaging to morale. I am also aware of incidents that resulted in the mayor being temporarily restricted from Town Hall due to the nature of his conduct. These situations have created a work environment that I consider unsafe and toxic, and I refuse to be part of a governing body operating under such conditions.

Leadership must set the standard for respect, professionalism, and integrity. When those values are not upheld by the town's highest elected official, effective and ethical service becomes impossible.

I am genuinely sorry for the impact this decision may have on the town and its residents. I deeply wish the circumstances were different, as I had hoped to continue contributing to the community's growth. However, I will not compromise my well-being or principles in order to remain in an environment that fails to meet fundamental standards of respect and professionalism.

Respectfully,

Sam Bragg

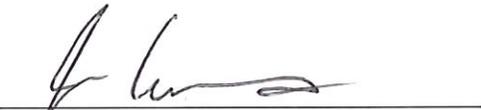
Mayor Crews: I am not going to comment on this letter it was my duty to read it to you. If you stand by and watch what we do the truth will show and I promise you that I will do everything in my ability as mayor to conduct in this office professional and legally and it will proceed that way through my entire term.

Councilmember Smith: motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

11. Adjournment

APPROVE:



James Crews, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk

Stevensville Airport Manager's Report

January 2026

1. Maintenance

- a. This past weekend, during the monthly inspection, it was noticed that one of the PAPI enclosures wasn't illuminating. The PCB was burned at the power terminals. This same enclosure experienced the same failure approximately two years ago. The other enclosure has not experienced this. We are working with the manufacturer to troubleshoot. Suspecting a failing voltage regulator.
- b. There are a couple locations where the perimeter fence was damaged during recent wind events. I have secured the fence temporarily, but need to still make permanent repairs.
- c. One panel of metal siding was also partially removed from the SRE building due to the wind. The siding has been resecured but it did sustain some damage when it was bent backwards on itself. Three short tears in the ribs are apparent and need to be sealed.
- d. There is a failure in the asphalt in Flying Lane, adjacent to the parking lot. This failure grew substantially this last year, and it is expected that it will continue to grow. It will need a hot patch and sealer to buy it more time.

2. CIP Projects for 2025/2026

- a. On Monday 1/5/2026, Energi Systems mobilized to begin construction on the new fuel farm. They will spend the next several weeks placing foundations and flatwork, installing underground utilities, and constructing the QC structure. The tank is expected to arrive in early March, and the fuel farm is expected to be online by the end of March.
- b. MM and I have been discussing strategy on when to rebid the asphalt rehabilitation project. We want to bid early, but need to balance that with when grant funds will be released. The 2025 grant cycle was several months behind.

3. Fuel Sales

- a. December saw similar sales volume to November. The unfavorable flying weather has continued, and aligns with previous year's volume. On clear, relatively calm days, we generally see a short spike in sales. In total, we sold 207 gallons, or \$1,115.31.

4. Leases

- a. We have one remaining lease that is unpaid for this FY.