

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes
for THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026, 6:30 PM 206 Buck Street, Town Hall

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Crews called the meeting to order, Councilmembers Bailey, Ross, Wandler and Smith were all 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

Mayor Crews: introduced town council, COW meeting and Special town council minutes.

a. Town Council Meeting Minutes 02/12/2026

b. Town Council Meeting Minutes 02/26/2026

c. Town Council Meeting Minutes 03/12/2026

d. C.O.W. Meeting Minutes 03/18/2026

e. Special Town Council Meeting Minutes 03/19/2026

Councilmember Smith: make a motion to approve all of minutes at one time.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. To approve all five sets of minutes. Questions from the council. Public comments? Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay.

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims #20268-#20291

Mayor Crews: introduced approval of bi-weekly claims #20268-#20291. Council discussion, public comments?

Councilmember Smith: I move that we approve bi-weekly claims #20268-#20291.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd

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

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay, thank you.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 415A, a Resolution Amending Resolution No 415 to make the Land Donation to the Town of Stevensville via Ravalli County Resolution 3600, a Permanent Part of the Stevensville River Park

Mayor Crews: introduced unfinished business item a. Resolution No. 415A, a Resolution Amending Resolution No 415 to make the Land Donation to the Town of Stevensville via Ravalli County Resolution 3600, a Permanent Part of the Stevensville River Park. Resolution is in the packet, the adoption of this piece of property into the park is not a commitment to go out and do any physical work besides clean up the property because it is dirty, ultimately the long-term goal would be to improve the property with park benches, but that is not the purpose of this resolution. The purpose of this resolution is to adopt that part of the park into the Stevensville River Park, just a minute councilmember Smith. There are some

concerns on the property and the treasurer discussed with MMIA today and I will read those.

Deed Restrictions: the property came from the county with no deed restrictions.

Setbacks: "Are there required setbacks from the river for placing benches or tables?" We are not discussing placing benches and tables tonight we are simply discussing adoption of the park into the park boundary.

State Involvement: "Would the State need to approve or be involved in placing benches and tables?" We are not discussing that tonight, if we need to do that we will bring those forward as a separate action.

MDT Considerations: "Are there any restrictions related to access or right-of-way issues involving MDT?" I do not think so because there is a road right there. There is a road on the west side of the river and people already use that. We are not supplying parking or a road to the property. We just want to adopt the property at this time.

Parking: "Is parking available? What if the parking is being used for overnight camping, is that allowed? Who monitors it?" You can park on the state property at this time; we are not providing parking.

Agency Coordination: "Would DNRC or Fish & Wildlife need to be consulted or involved?" We are just adopting the piece of property into the park, so no.

Flood Zone: "Is the property located within a flood zone?" No, it is above the flood zone, and part of the property is under water already. If you look at the land, half of that property runs into the river.

Gina has done a good job going through MMIA and talking about this sort of stuff but for our purposes of tonight we just want to adopt this piece of property into Stevensville River Park. Later on, when we want to do improvements it will come back to council. To follow this up and why I brought this forward. I was the mayor in 2017 that accepted this piece of property, and I have some obligations and I think that the town does too. (Mayor Crews read a statement that he had prepared, it will be included in the minutes of this meeting). in addition to that, by making it part of the Stevensville River Park, the land cannot be sold or traded without public consent. That is my presentation regarding 415A.

Councilmember Smith: I move to adopt Resolution No. 415A, a Resolution Amending Resolution No 415 to make the Land Donation to the Town of Stevensville via Ravalli County Resolution 3600, a Permanent Part of the Stevensville River Park.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Bailey: you mentioned that we honor to maintain the property as well what is going to go into that maintenance as soon as we obtain the property?

Mayor Crews: it might not happen tomorrow or the next day, our goal is to clean up all of the trash on the property. There are people that have been throwing garbage, that is the primary to clean up the trash and make it look like it belongs to Stevensville, later on as time and money allows we can start mowing and making the property a little more presentable.

Councilmember Bailey: if there were to be any benches placed or a railing like that, that would all come through council or just the town.

Mayor Crews: it would come back through council, and I will give you my word on that because it will cost a little bit of money, not much I have actually checked into some of our used benches, and if we have some I have volunteered to refurbish them myself, out of my own pocket, this how much I believe in this. This can be a nice little piece of property where people can go and sit. There are possibly permits that we will have to get. In 2017 we developed the Stevensville River Park fishing access site,, I had to get a flood plain permit to go through some of that work back there, we are going to be above the flood plain so I am not sure if I have to do that or not, that will be something that the mayor's office will pursue and also we will coordinate with our insurance to make sure we are covered. The property is covered by our general liability policy, am I correct Gina.

Gina Crowe: the property itself is covered under the general liability, but like I said in the email there is a difference between a park and a recreational park status. And what that does is, right now it is being used as a recreational status where people can go and enjoy the park and if they get hurt we are not liable, they could file a claim but depending on the outcome of this we are more protected under the recreational statue. If we designate it as a park and we are doing things, that recreational use puts the town at more risk because we are inviting people to come. That would change the insurance on that, but anything that the town of Stevensville has without structures it is covered under the general liability.

Councilmember Bailey: could we label it as recreation instead of park. Or are we set on being part of the park. Will we benefit.

Mayor Crews: the benefit would be that it can't be sold.

Councilmember Bailey: so, if we incorporate it into the town as recreational land, it is still public land that has to come before the public before it is sold.

Mayor Crews: I don't see where that would gain us anything, I don't.

Councilmember Smith: I was just thinking that this is just an extension of what we already have.

Mayor Crews: who in here has never walked the River Park? Who in the public has never walked the public park? Who has walked it in the past year? So have I, you go along the west side of the park on the trail and there is a point where the trail drops off into the river. As a matter of fact, one of our benches has moved from the upper part all the way down to the river. We have in our River Park we have half a dozen park benches and picnic tables. It looks like someone has cut through and put a new bench down there and someone has been going down and putting pea gravel on the east trail which I don't mind but the town should be cognitive that these things are going on. I don't see any difference between the west bank of the river and the east bank of the river except there is a river in the way, we are not going to go out right away and put benches and make other improvements other than to just clean up the park. That is the goal right now, and if we keep it as part of the River Park property it cannot be sold. We declared that in 2017 and we did extensive research and declared the Stevensville River Park as a park by resolution and it cannot be sold, and if we incorporate this piece of property it cannot be sold. I don't know about you but if someone gives me a piece of property I don't think I am going to give it away I am going to try and take care of it, we have already been negligent on this for four years, let's not continue down that road, let's take care of this piece of property, that is my opinion.

Councilmember Smith: my questions was answered by Gina, so I am alright there.

Councilmember Wandler: how much impact will it have with the garbage, will we put a garbage.

Mayor Crews: we are not going to put a garbage can over there we will just occasionally go over there and pick up the trash. I know that if we put a garbage can over there, and Gina has made this very clear, we are going to have to pay to recover the trash, we are not going to do any improvements to that property right away, not until we do a full evaluation of the impact of what we plan to do, my primary emphasis tonight was to get that piece of river property as River Park.

Mayor Crews: public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Brown: I don't have to do my address because I learned that at convention and everybody can look it up on the internet anyways. This did come in front of the council before it was a 2-2 under Mayor Gibson as a safety problem. Is this more of a safety problem then the issue at the skate park or down at the splash pad? To me it is not because you have kids crashing and burning all of the time, so. You might want to review the prior vote and be careful what you hear from former members, but I don't see any former members here tonight. Do we know what path the river might take, no we don't. we don't know which way the river is going to go there is a few people here tonight that do remember the change in the river at Bass Creek several years ago. I know Karen and Don where here, me myself was here and watched and watched the river change its course, that was the first river course change that I have witnessed in my life and that was several years ago. There are no deed restrictions because it came from the county as a resolution does your park board feel that this is a good piece of property to keep, the park board did approve this before as an acquisition. Does the park board see this might be a piece to improve? Probably, I can't speak for the park board but yes, maybe so. So, the really the only piece of advice that I can give the council tonight is what I received from a former town councilmember who is not 92 years old. Yes it is my father and that advice to me was be careful on giving any property away because the town does not have money to purchase property and get that back. Think about the future and is this something that could enhance the town, I feel that yes it could, have you looked at the piece of property on the south side of the bridge? How many go by it every day, there is a fence up there, there is a guy that has pulled his trailer in, he has cut off the public access. How did he receive that property? How many of you know how that happened? He received it by a tax deed. Many years ago. So, is it beneficial for the town to keep this little track, it might not be very big, it is small in size, but does it keep the town with access on that side of the river. Yes it does. So that is about all that I have to say tonight I want to thank everybody for their time and dedication to be on the council as I well know is a very thankless job. That is all that I have to say be very careful on what you do because prior councils have a vision for this piece of property and it does give the town access to that side of the property and remember on the other side of the bridge that guy has cut off the public access. Thank you for your time tonight.

Mayor Crews: any other public comment?

Gina Crowe: I have a silly question I just don't know, the property was deeded to the town, so we already had that property so basically we just want to designate it as a park, is that right.

Mayor Crews: we need to follow through with what the deed said, or the dedication of the property to the town said, for park land and river access and recreational purposes.

Gina Crowe: so, we are already doing that. because it is already considered recreational right now, so that part is being met. So are we trying to say that this is going to be the River Park, I guess I don't understand.

Mayor Crews: we have a 27-acre park when you turn and go down the road, that is River Park, it was dedicated in 1994 by the governor and in 2017 we did a resolution to make it sure that it is town. It was a trade, 7 acres for 3 acres, so when the owner of that property cut that access to the river off, we the town took it upon ourselves and created the Stevensville River Park Fishing Access by cutting a road through the park to the river and the sandy area where all of the floats have stacked up, we did that in one day and Fish Wildlife and Parks said that it would never last, you know what it has been nine years and it is still there. It is not going anywhere but at the same time the county thought that we could use that piece of property across the river to create a fishing access sight on that side of the river because we had people dropping their boats in on the county property at that time launching them right there at that steep bank and then they would try to bring their boats out and they were not always using proper techniques to bring the boats out, I watched a bullnose fly off the end of one of the those boats and just about take a guy out, and that is when I said that is it we have to do something over there, I watched probably fifty launches over there. The county gave us the property because they did not know what was going on over here with the river access site and they just wanted to help the situation. That river usage out there is about a forty-two-million-dollar industry. It is important, whether or not we further develop the property will be up to the council, but I think because we own the property on that river and incorporating into the River Park itself is protecting it. And that is what we said we would do in 2017, and our word that we would do it; we are only as good as our word nothing else counts in life, if you cant live up to your word you are not worth anything.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon Gee: the quick claim deed, that was signed over in 2017 does there need to be a new quick claim deed.

Mayor Crews: no.

Sharron Gee: that was my question, if something did happen in the budget.

Mayor Crews: the county had a chance to take it back and they do not want it; this will lock it in permanently for us. Any further public comment, council comments. Hearing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: passes 4-0

7. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Accept Montana Department of Transportation Funding for Tractor/Mower for the Stevensville Airport

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item a. Accept Montana Department of Transportation Funding for Tractor/Mower for the Stevensville Airport.

Brian Germane, Airport Manager: in your packet is the official grant offer, this is being presented to get final approval, money probably not until late summer. This is just a formal step to accept it.

Mayor Crews: any questions from the council.

Councilmember Smith: so, the check is ready?

Brian Germane: like I said it is probably mid-summer. The only obligation that we have is whatever we do not spend we have to give back.

Mayor Crews: this is a very unique thing to get a lawn mower.

Brian Germane: yes, it is, they have not funded a mower before.

Councilmember Smith: as I understand it has been voluntarily mowed.

Brian Germane: that is correct, mowing is done by volunteers and with volunteer equipment as well. Craig Thomas has brought his equipment over to do this; we do have a smaller mower to do the smaller areas.

Councilmember Smith: that is also the landing zone for the skydivers.

Brian Germane: yes. The forest service land use agreement and all of that has to be mowed, it is about 74 acres that need to be mowed.

Mayor Crews: any public comment, entertain a motion.

Councilmember Wandler: I move that we accept Montana Department of Transportation Funding for Tractor/Mower for the Stevensville Airport

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Any further council discussion? Jenelle, please call for the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

b. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 585, a Resolution to Sell Town-Owned Property to Purchaser

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item b. Resolution No. 585, a Resolution to Sell Town-Owned Property to Purchaser. As you know we put a few items up for bid and there were two trucks that did not sell and we had a private bid for \$500 per truck and I believe that we should sell them. Any questions from the council? Public comment?

Councilmember Bailey: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 585, a Resolution to Sell Town-Owned Property to Purchaser.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Further council discussion? Jenelle, please call for the vote.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

c. Discussion/Decision: Approve Greg Overstreet for Temporary Engagement to Support Berta's Farm Litigation

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item c. Approve Greg Overstreet for Temporary Engagement to Support Berta's Farm Litigation. As you know our former counsel, Mr. Overstreet, was fully involved in the litigations and one of those is Berta's Farm litigation. It would probably cost us more money to get our current town attorney up to speed because he has all of the background information about the property so the conclusion between the town attorney, myself and Mr. Overstreet is that we should engage Mr. Overstreet to help finish out this litigation.

Councilmember Bailey: will this engagement be at the same rate as his prior engagement.

Mayor Crews: I think it is \$165.00 per hour instead of \$150.00.

Councilmember Bailey: the current one is \$165.00.

Mayor Crews: yes.

Councilmember Bailey: is there a time limit on that agreement.

Mayor Crews: until litigation is complete. We only get charged for when he is on the project.

Councilmember Wandler: I do not understand what a Berta's Farm litigation is.

Mayor Crews: there is a lawsuit on the property at 3rd Street and Park that is what this litigation is about, getting that property cleaned up.

Councilmember Ross: Gina, do you see any impact to the town financially.

Gina Crowe: no, I don't for her to get caught up on the Berta's Farm is a lot, there has been a lot and Greg has been heavily involved, and I would recommend that he continue on. I think that it would cost us a lot more to get her caught up.

Mayor Crews: further council comment, public comment.

Councilmember Wandler: I move to approve Greg Overstreet for Temporary Engagement to Support Berta's Farm Litigation

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. any further council discussion, Jenelle call for the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay.

d. Discussion/Decision: Approve Task Order No. 5 Between the Town of Stevensville and Morrison-Maierle

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item d, Approve Task Order No. 5 Between the Town of Stevensville and Morrison-Maierle

Tyler Reed, Morrison-Maierle: task order no.5, this is for asphalt rehab for the taxi lanes. We just bid the project, and our services will include project management, grant administrative services, construction management services. The project is 28 working days, this will also included our bidding services and closing out of the grant, this was included with the project, the FAA will be covering 90% of the project and Montana Aeronautics will be covering the local match as well.

Mayor Crews: council any questions, public comment.

Councilmember Smith: I move to approve task order no. 5 between the Town of Stevensville and Morrison-Maierle.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. further discussion by the council. Hearing none, Jenelle please call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you motion carries 4-0

e. Discussion/Decision: Approve Service Order No. 8 Between the Town of Stevensville and Geosyntec Consultants. This is part of our water rights project, this would give us an on-call service as we need it, it is only \$5,000.00 Jenelle anything that you have to add to that.

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item e, Approve Service Order No. 8 Between the Town of Stevensville and Geosyntec Consultants. This is part of our water rights project, this would give us an on-call service as we need it, it is only \$5,000.00 Jenelle anything that you have to add to that.

Jenelle Berthoud: it all comes back to our water rights; they work alongside the town and our water rights attorney Ross Miller.

Councilmember Bailey: I make a motion that we approve Service Order No. 8 Between the Town of Stevensville and Geosyntec Consultants.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. further council comment or discussion, hearing none Jenelle call for the vote.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

f. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Updated By-Laws for the Stevensville Planning & Zoning Board

Mayor Crews: introduced approval of Updated By-Laws for the Stevensville Planning & Zoning Board.

Tamara Ross, P&Z Board Chairperson: thank you for your time everybody I am here to answer questions you may have about our bylaws. This is fostering us to have a member on the board that is not allowed to be on the board and also to be better aligned with our Ravalli County and Town jurisdictions. Those changes are in your packet.

Mayor Crews: any questions for Ms. Ross. What this does is we are limited to seven people on the board this allows us to expand our base and Stevensville is growing and we need people in and outside of the community. Public comment?

Councilmember Bailey: I make a motion that we approve Updated By-Laws for the Stevensville Planning & Zoning Board.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. further council discussion? Jenelle call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: carries 4-0

g. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Catana Miller to the Planning & Zoning Board

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item g, Approval of Catana Miller to the Planning & Zoning Board.

Catana Miller: you can call me Kate, have you all read my letter, I was raised here, I want to be part of the growth here.

Mayor Crews: any questions for Ms. Miller, I appreciate you stepping up the problem that we have in and out of town is that we do not have enough volunteers.

Catana Miller: I do not live right in town but pretty close.

Mayor Crews: any comments from the public?

Tamara Ross: I would also like to show my gratitude for the volunteer, and we are more than happy to accommodate and will respect your perspective on the board.

Councilmember Smith: I move for approval of Catana Miller to the Planning & Zoning Board.

Councilmember Wandler: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. any further council discussion?

Councilmember Bailey: quick question, so has Kate already been approved at the planning and zoning board as a member. I am assuming that we approve the bylaws tonight and that the recommendation of the zoning board that we approve her.

Mayor Crews: yes.

Councilmember Smith: I am just glad to see a face to the paper.

Mayor Crews: no further comment, Jenelle please call for the vote.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

h. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Special Event Permit for the Circus

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item h, Special Event Permit for the Circus. Jenelle would you please explain this one.

Jenelle Berthoud: not my event. (laughter) there is a representative here and it is his event he can explain better.

Eli Madero, SCC President: requesting that we get the approval for the park to hold the circus on June 8 and 9. They do need to come to town a few days before and there is camping requested on the permit. Boards approval to bring the circus back to town it was a huge success.

Councilmember Ross: how late is it open?

Eli Madero: the circus is going to run two shows, one at five and one at seven-thirty and they are about one and a half hours long.

Councilmember Bailey: page three of the application is blank as far as rates for anything like that.

Mayor Crews: not yet, he is primarily here to get the dates approved and the overnight camping approved. The permit will come back again. it is a big event, wait until you see the next one, we are already looking at modifying how we do these.

Councilmember Smith: do you have any idea of how much overnight camping there will be, RV's?

Eli Madero: I am not sure how many, they essentially come in the night before and maybe two days. We are providing trash cans and dumpsters, and they are providing sanitary stations. I think that Chief Boe can attest to it that you could not even tell that they had been there, it was a huge success and money maker for the town.

Councilmember Smith: what I am getting at is the number of employees and what have you, does it pretty much take up the whole parking lot so there is no parking.

Jenelle Berthoud: they are not set up in the parking lot; they are set up in the south section of the park in the grass. Last time that they were here I believe that there were only two campers as everyone else shows up later on to complete it.

Councilmember Bailey: I am, where are the dates listed on page 1, I just want to make sure for the minutes and our consideration the exact dates are.

Eli Madero: I came in to fill out the permit and you guys had just revised it and I think that there are some things that need to be cleared up and the same thing will apply to the Creamery Picnic.

Councilmember Bailey: so, the dates they are in June.

Eli Madero: the dates are June 8th and 9th I requested for Friday the 5th-10th. That is incase they come in early, and from what I understand from last time they were gone early the next day.

Mayor Crews: any further comments.

Councilmember Bailey: I make a motion that we approve Special Event Permit for the Circus, June 5-10th 2026.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. June 5-10 and to approve camping. Any further discussion by the council? Call for the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you, we are still learning on our new form, we still have some changes.

i. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Special Event Permit for the Creamery Picnic

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item i, Special Event Permit for the Creamery Picnic.

Eli Madero: this is a request for the Creamery Picnic, August 6-9th actual run dates are the 7th and the 8th at Lewis and Clark Park. There will be road closures, and we will be getting all permits completed, there will be electricity usage and anything that you can think of we are going to take advantage of.

Councilmember Bailey: the dates for this one are.

Eli Madero: August 7th and 8th. Asking for 6th-9th.

Mayor Crews: any questions by the council, public comment?

Councilmember Ross: I move that we approve the special event permit for the Creamery Picnic.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. any further discussion.

Councilmember Bailey: I want to provide some transparency on the permit application that we had tabled in early February and make sure.

Mayor Crews: okay, items like applications for special events and permits they are office generated forms and we take and make sure that we are in compliance with our ordinance. We had originally brought this in front of our council and then the clerk and I discussed this, and we went back to the old way of doing this business where we would generate this form on the fly to make sure that we are covering everything. We will be modifying the form, and we also had a discussion today with the chief of the fire department because we do not have a comment block where

they can make recommendations. We are going to back and add those things back in, when we get the form finalized it should function well. We may end up with two types of forms because we have special events and community events which are probably a little larger than special events, it will help us manage our resources (fire police) we had tabled it and we realized that we need to keep it until it is done, it is not the only form that we use, we have a business license application, a building permit and we find errors in those and fix them.

Councilmember Ross: with approving of this form and in three months we go and change the form do we honor this form?

Mayor Crews: yes we do.

Jenelle Berthoud: reminder what you are approving tonight for Creamery Picnic is the date and times for his MDT permit and alcohol and then you will see this come back for street closures and the sign off by the chief for the alcohol permit.

Mayor Crews: any further comments? Jenelle call for the vote.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Wandler: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

8. Board Reports

NONE

9. Town Council Comments

NONE

10. Executive Report

Mayor Crews: I did not file an executive report, because has some of you are aware I had a medical incident, I had a stroke, two, Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Went to the hospital, had a scan, went to Missoula and then into surgery. Came through it okay, no permeant damage. April 20th I go back to my surgeon and have a serious of tests hopefully everything will go fine, I am taking it easy and that is why

you have not seen me much at the office. I need to destress. I will continue to do the best job that I can, and if I can't I make ask the council president to step in. We do have a resolution coming up that we should have had in place, thanks to Gina and Jenelle working hard to get this done, to make sure that we have continuity of government. If I cant fulfill my job the council president would step in and we are making sure that we are taking the legal previsions to have additional signers, assistant finance and council president on the bank account. We will bring this on the next council meeting. any questions for me?

Councilmember Smith: who is the assistant finance officer?

Mayor Crews: Robert Underwood. Thank you for taking the time to come.

11. Adjournment

Councilmember Smith: motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

APPROVE:



James Crews, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk

Regarding Resolution 415

Reference § 7-2-203 of the Montana Code.

Duties of the executive - The Executive shall:

1. Enforce laws, ordinances and resolutions

Sec. 2-83. - A *resolution* is a statement of town policy and may be adopted at a single meeting of the town council. *Resolutions* shall be approved by the mayor or the person acting in the mayor's stead and shall be numbered sequentially and filed by the town clerk in a *resolution* book to facilitate future access. (See 7-5-4201)

Resolution 415 is not being and has not been implemented or enforced as directed by the Town Council

2. Perform duties required by law, ordinance or resolution

The Mayor is trying to implement Resolution 415.

3. Administer the affairs of the local government

The Mayor is trying to administer the affairs of the local government by obeying 7-2-203(1).

4. Carry out policies established by the commission

The Mayor is trying to carry out Policy established via Resolution 415

5. Recommend measures to the commission

The Mayor is making a formal recommendation to the Town Council regarding the use and maintenance of property belonging to the Town of Stevensville.

On August 14th, 2017, the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville passed Resolution 415 accepting the donation of a small tract of land to be used as a Park or Recreational Ground and to allow access to the Bitterroot River. The Town Council found it to be of the best interest of the town to accept the property as Parkland and River Access Land and to take such necessary steps to create river access. The property is regularly used by local citizens who go there for coffee, eat their lunches and often fish from the bank.

The property is no more of a hazard than the northwestern footpath of the Stevensville River Park which has had its bank eroded and fallen away making it somewhat perilous to travel the foot path.

Resolution 415A was written and presented to follow up on the council's resolution to incorporate the land donation into and as part of the Stevensville River Park.

The property is safe and has been in use since the donation for almost 9 years with no incidents but has fallen into a state of non-maintenance as the town has neglected this gift to the people.

In 2017 it was intended to be incorporated into the park as per paragraph 4 of Resolution 415. In order to see that it is properly maintained for the public the mayor feels that it is necessary to designate it as part of the Stevensville River Park and make very inexpensive improvements on the property so that citizens of our community may use the property safely and comfortably.

I did indeed ask Commissioner Chilcott if the county wanted the property back and there was a negative response. The Town of Stevensville needs to honor its word to the Citizens of the town and county by doing the right thing, which is to incorporate the property into the Stevensville River Park, maintain the property and make it available to all citizens for use as a recreational gift.

Therefore I encourage the council to adopt Resolution 415A in order to carry out the original intent of the county gift and acceptance by the Town Council in 2017.

With all due respect,

Jim Crews

Mayor-Town of Stevensville