

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes

for THURSDAY, JULY 23, 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 and Smith were all present, Councilmember Wandler has an excused absence.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

NONE

Councilmember Smith: I would like to suspend council rules to move item a before approval of minutes.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

New Business

a. Informational: Commendation Letter

Mayor Crews: Chief Boe.

Chief John Boe: read letter of commendation regarding Sergeant Franklin. (letter is included in the minutes of this meeting) Great work on his part, we rely heavily on him in the role as sergeant for the Stevensville Police Department.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes 07/07/2026

Mayor Crews: introduced Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes 07/07/2026

Councilmember Smith: I move to approve the budget workshop meeting minutes 07/07/2026.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. Public Comment? Council comment? Jenelle call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims #20506-#20528

Mayor Crews: introduced bi-weekly claims #20506-#20528. Council questions, public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Michalson: good evening councilmembers and Mayor Crews. I came before you tonight to discuss the bi-weekly claims on page 20, Claim #20527. Lindley Law I see that the total amount is for \$9,210.68. I did come in the other day and talk to Gina about the claims a little bit, the Burnt Fork Estates one I believe that one the invoice had Mel Cook on it, am I right Gina. \$440.00 Mel Cook. I have an issue with that one.

Jenelle Berthoud: Mel Cook is not Burnt Fork; it is Berta's Farm.

Bob Michalson: that is correct, Berta's Farm.

Gina Crowe: Berta's Farm is \$2,400.00

Bob Michlason: correct.

Jenelle Berthoud: (to Gina) he is asking if Mel Cook was associated with Berta's Farm claim.

Gina Crowe: Mel Cook, yes. Berta's Farm \$2,400.00

Bob Michalson: \$2,400.00 I have an issue with that one because Mel Cook, Pat Groninger, Sue Evans and Loey Knapp have their own attorney. Don't get me wrong, I

think Mel did a smart thing getting their attorney to get done what they needed to do. I know that it is in litigation and they came to you and then you had to get an opinion. I have an issue with for legal services matters \$4,585.00. Do you care to elaborate on that Mr. Crews, and what that is about.

Mayor Crews: what is that claim for?

Jenelle Berthoud: (to Gina) he wants to know what that claim is for.

Gina Crowe: it just says, general matters town of Stevensville.

Mayor Crews: these are for Christine? They are for personnel issues.

Bob Michalson: personnel issues? So, for personnel issues don't you think you would have so suspended that session and let the council know what they are voting on regarding personnel issues. They have a right to know; they are approving it.

Mayor Crews: we can do that. we can close the council meeting to discuss personnel issues.

Bob Michalson: that would be the proper way to do it mayor.

Mayor Crews: is there a motion on the floor.

Bob Michalson: I am not done yet. I will go into from July of last year to December 31st, Overstreet Law charged the town \$2,957.00 for legal services. From February to July, under Lindley Law, she has charged the town \$16,000. That is a lot of money. Hell of a lot of money, I looked at her contract \$150.00 per hour she is paying her legal assistant \$50.00 per hour. So, when I see a claim for \$2,400 or \$4,500 that is a lot of research. As far as Berta's Farm Greg has only charged the town \$214.00 for Berta's Farm where Lindley Law has charged the town \$4,195.00. we entered into a contract on March 9th for Berta's Farm, so wouldn't make sense that he would take the lead, it would be much cheaper. Instead, we send opinions to her and every opinion that she makes is over \$1,000.00. you guys are working out your budget right now, I think that \$25,000.00 is what Robert said you are budgeting for, between your prosecuting and your town attorney. I believe that you have gotten yourself into a conundrum here Mayor and I don't mean to be critical man that is a lot of money. A town our size can't keep paying her \$1,000.00 a shot every month. I would nip that in the bud, and I would seriously consider hiring Greg for Berta's Farm unless she needs to absolutely be in the loop, because \$214.00 compared to \$4,400.00 is a lot of money. We do have a short fall I do know in our budget this year, so every penny needs to be accounted for just trying to help you out, I am concerned about her

expenses, \$16,000.00 in six months opposed to \$2,000.00 something last year. I know it is two different animals but her rates. Thank you for your time in this matter.

Mayor Crews: thank you for coming in I appreciate it. Would the council like to close the council meeting for a short executive session so that we can explain the legal fees.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we close the council session so that we can convene on the personnel matter and legal dispute.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. to close this section of the meeting to explain this claim to the council.

Gina Crowe: there are no hours provided on this and there should be before we pay this claim, she has not provided any hours for the claim.

Mayor Crews: would you like to table it?

Councilmember Smith: I am agreeing.

Gina Crowe: whenever I process a claim I have to have proper documentation to back it up. I did ask Christine for this information, and she did not want to give it to me said that it was confidential. I talked to the mayor and said I need hours, I am not sure if you have reached out to her or not.

Mayor Crews: I have not yet, I will send out an email.

Gina Crowe: for me to not process a complete claim for almost \$10,000.00 is not a good thing to do. It just says invoice, date and billed.

Mayor Crews: how would council like to proceed? Table it until we get the hours or break for an executive session to discuss the claim.

Councilmember Smith: I would like to rescind my motion and make a new motion to table this until we get the hours.

Mayor Crews: can we split that. motion on the floor is to withdraw the motion to go to executive session.

Councilmember Bailey: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Ross: don't we still have to discuss it?

Mayor Crews: when we get the tabling of it we can discuss the issue. Public comment. Jenelle, please call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: no.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: motion carries 2-1

Councilmember Smith: I move that we table this claim until we get all the hours to the finance officer.

Mayor Crews: is there a 2nd. motion dies on the floor.

Councilmember Bailey: I make a motion that we table claim #20527 and that we get the additional information required and that will be the hours and required paperwork and at that time we take an executive session to discuss and review the claim.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. council discussion, public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brinda: at the same time that you are getting the hours and you going to ask her what service she performed.

Mayor Crews: that information will be confidential and shared with the council not the public. Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: very good can we address the rest of the claims.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we approve claims #20506-20528 leaving out #20527.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you

6. New Business

b. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Stevensville Harvest Valley Farmers Market for 08/08/2026

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item b, Approval of Stevensville Harvest Valley Farmers Market for 08/08/2026

Councilmember Ross: I move that we approve SHVFM for 08/08/2026.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. public discussion, council comment.

Councilmember Ross: have we made any progress on changing the ordinance.

Mayor Crews: we can but we have not initiated the change. Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: (no comment) Stacie have you come up with how much power you have been using?

Stacie Barker: yes, we have a running total of that. Jess has it all mapped out on a spread sheet. Looking at our kilowatts, we are actually under what is used.

c. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Sign Permit for The Hat Edit

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item c. approval of sign permit for The Hat Edit. The town has an ordinance where if you put signs up in the public way you have to get a sign permit and it hasn't been done for a long time, so we have restarted the process to do that, it does not cost the vendor any money it just has to be approved by the council.

Hat Edit Owner: provided the council with pictures of their signs. (described the signs and where they are placed).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stacie Barker: I have a question, obviously you have come before with the permits to council is this going to be something that Farmers Market has to do, we are within our parameters.

Mayor Crews: if it is in your parameters and not in the public way it should not be a problem. You can put a sign up at the building as long as you leave space between the building and the walkway.

Councilmember Bailey: I looked at our website today and I could not find an application for a sign permit; I was curious how are we enforcing it and raising awareness about it. is there a time limit.

Mayor Crews: no, and how you enforce them is I am the mayor I see that you have a sign can you come and get your sign permit.

Hat Edit Owner: can I make a suggestion that it get added to the business license.

Mayor Crews: it will be, with the review of the business license. Before it gets approved I will call you and get that on the agenda and get that approved.

Stacie Barker: can I ask why the code was not added to this particular agenda item.

Mayor Crews: it is. 22-201.

Stacie Barker: a lot of people don't know where to look for that, it would be nice to have those posted to the packet.

Mayor Crews: it is a good idea; we probably should have. That is probably my oversight.

Stacie Barker: it is on the building permit fees.

Jenelle Berthoud: that is for a sign that is going on a building, like on Main Street.

Councilmember Ross: clarification how long is this approved for?

Hat Edit Owner: every year I get a license.

Mayor Crews: yes but we would not have to ask you for it. Jenelle, please call for the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

d. Discussion/Decision: Approval of Sign Permit for the North Valley Public Library

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item d, Approval of Sign Permit for the North Valley Public Library

Donna Bainbridge: I am on the board of the North Valley Public Library. We have big events to raise money. I thought lets put up some yard signs. We put up some on private party and some on the bike path that have disappeared and some of the ones in town. I want to clarify where we can put the signs and future signs.

Mayor Crews: council discussion, public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stacie Barker: putting it on private property how can you do that.

Mayor Crews: not mandating on private property only on the public domain.

Donna Bainbridge: if we were to put up our signs what would be considered private property and city property.

Mayor Crews: the boulevard downtown the bulb-outs on the sidewalks, you can put them on secondary streets in the easement.

Councilmember Ross: I know on my street that I do not have a sidewalk where would the easement be.

Mayor Crews: you would have to look at the cadastral and see where your property line versus the easement.

Donna Bainbridge: I have one in the bank lawn is that okay?

Mayor Crews: in there lawn it is fine. Have a question give us a call.

Brinda: would it be a good idea to put an approval code on the signs to let people know.

Mayor Crews: if they want to do that it is okay, but it would cost the town money.

Brinda: but they are getting them printed.

Mayor Crews: they would have to pay for that extra wording, if someone has a question if someone has approval they can call town hall.

Councilmember Ross: could you describe where you are thinking of putting them for this event.

Donna Bainbridge: they are already there, so this is in retrospect. Outside of Farmers State Bank, one on the corner of 3rd and Main and two on a building ACE and Stevi Hardware. And the rest are missing.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we approve the sign permit for the North Valley Public Library.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

e. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 457F a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Town Council Amending Water & Sewer Billing Policies

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item e, Resolution No. 457F a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Town Council Amending Water & Sewer Billing Policies.

Jenelle Berthoud: there is an addition of #8 about meter reading and when a meter does not read and what the policy will be.

Mayor Crews: (read the change that is being made for #8). We have had on occasion the billing clerk going out to read meters and sometimes they do not read. This is all this is for.

Councilmember Bailey: so, how are we notifying people that we were not able to read their meter.

Jenelle Berthoud: that would show on their bill. Just have the base rate of \$133.00. And then the next bill will show it.

Councilmember Bailey: if I used under 3,000 gallons and paid my bill, I thought that I paid for June, then comes the next bill and I have a huge bill. I wasn't told that I did not have a reading.

Jenelle Berthoud: your reading is on your bill; you could tell that you had a zero read on your bill.

Councilmember Bailey: are you highlighting that?

Gina Crowe: we can't highlight that because it is electronic. The bills are sent out by a third party.

Jenelle Berthoud: it is very rare; this just recently comes back up again as we short handed and utility billing clerk had to go out and do that meter read. Inside the town we do not understand some of the ins and outs of that, there were some that came up has zero read meters.

Gina Crowe: but the water is still going.

Councilmember Bailey: it would be nice if we had a little flyer on their door to say hey you are going to be charged your base rate and next month your bill will be higher.

Jenelle Berthoud: who is going to deliver that?

Councilmember Bailey: if it only happening to two or three a month I would expect that they could knock on their door and let them know.

Jenelle Berthoud: it does not show until they pull a report. If they could see that when they were reading the meters, they cant stop and get out, they cant stop that process of reading the meters. When the report is pulled by Andrena when they come back.

Councilmember Bailey: so that is when we know and we still make no effort to let them know. I wish there is a way to get them to pay attention.

Gina Crowe: I can tell you that Andrena does make a lot of phone calls and she normally, I don't know if she has called 130 people. Some of the meters you can't read because they are in their house it is very difficult to get them; we still have to do our business and send out our bills.

Councilmember Bailey: I am just concerned; you bill goes from 3,000 gallons to 9,000 that is going to be a huge bill.

Mayor Crews: I wish the system was better, sometimes the equipment just doesn't work. How many did we have last time?

Gina Crowe: 130.

Mayor Crews: 130 misreads.

Gina Crowe: there were 130 zero reads. Last month there were 20. It is hard to drive around and get them she did not have all of that stuff.

Mayor Crews: there are solar events that have been occurring and they could effect this also.

Councilmember Smith: do you happen to know if some of these meters are so old that they are starting to shut down.

Mayor Crews: I don't know.

Gina Crowe: it varies, these ones have read before, it is all about how you drive around and that is why we want to change over to cellular meters.

Councilmember Bailey: I do not have a problem with this resolution I just wish we had a way to let them know about their increase.

Mayor Crews: I believe that Andrena is already doing this, we are doing what we can.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stacie Barker: I agree with Melissa, just a phone call or a door hanger, we have to come up a conclusion.

Councilmember Bailey: if you can make a flyer I would spend my time delivering them.

Brinda: another option would be to get with the paper and put something in there that this might happen, at least publish it somewhere.

Mayor Crews: how much does it cost to put an ad in the Bitterroot Star.

Jenelle Berthoud: you don't want to know.

Gina Crowe: this is a one off, it is so rare.

Mayo Crews: how about this, how about we put a notice on the website and let them know. When you start doing door hangers you have costs, and if we go to the newspaper there is cost and we just don't have the money to do that.

Councilmember Bailey: I think that the website is a start my preference would be that we have a way to hand personalized letters to say that we did not read your meter last month, next month could be a significant increase. I understand if we cant do that, but I am willing to donate my time to do it.

Mayor Crews: I appreciate that. one of the reasons that we do not put out code violations is because of the cost of the letter and the postage, sometimes that has to be sent certified mail. I think putting it on the town website in the news section. How much does 3,000 gallons cost?

Jenelle Berthoud: it is part of your base rate.

Mayor Crews: after that.

Jenelle Berthoud: \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons.

Mayor Crews: so maybe \$7.50, so how much do we spend for that notification.

Councilmember Bailey: I think that it is worth it. that is just my opinion.

Mayor Crews: any other council comment, motion?

Councilmember Bailey: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 457F a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Town Council Amending Water & Sewer Billing Policies

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

f. Discussion/Decision: Resolution NO. 533A a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Lewis & Clark Park

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item f, Resolution NO. 533A a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Lewis & Clark Park. You passed a resolution to close the park from sundown to sunup, well we are a bit short-handed, and we do not have anyone coming in at 6:00am. So, we need to amend those hours until 7:30am when we have staff coming in. Right now, those parks are getting closed at sunset either one of the policeman or I do it and on the weekends I do it. We had a complaint the other day that they wanted to get in before 7:30am so that is why this is here, we don't have anyone to do it.

Councilmember Ross: can we suspend council rules to vote on both item f and g.

Mayor Crews: you sure can.

Jenelle Berthoud: they are two different resolutions sir.

Mayor Crews: you are right.

Councilmember Bailey: will we set it back to sunrise when we are fully staffed again.

Mayor Crews: it depends on whether or not we have an individual coming in early or not, normal business hours for public works is 7:30-4:00 we had an individual on flex hours that was coming in at 6:00 I am not going to guarantee that will happen again.

Councilmember Smith: when this is adopted will we be changing the signs as well.

Mayor Crews: no, and here is why, these could be seasonal. Approaching winter sunset is going to be getting earlier and earlier.

Councilmember Bailey: make a motion to approve Resolution NO. 533A a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Lewis & Clark Park.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Crews: motion and a 2nd. public comment, council comment. Jenelle call for the vote.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay.

g. Discussion/Decision: Resolution NO. 582A a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Stevensville River Park

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item g, Resolution NO. 582A a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Stevensville River Park.

Councilmember Ross: I move that we approve Resolution NO. 582A a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Stevensville River Park.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Mayor Crews: carries 3-0

h. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 593 a Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Pool

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item h, Resolution No. 593 a Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Pool.

Councilmember Bailey: motion to approve Resolution No. 593 a Resolution Accepting Donated Funds for the Town of Stevensville Pool.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: thank you.

i. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 594 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council for the Creation of a Water and Sewer Advisory Board, and for the Designation of the Powers and Duties of the Water and Sewer Advisory Board and the Terms of Members

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item i, Resolution No. 594 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council for the Creation of a Water and Sewer Advisory Board, and for the Designation of the Powers and Duties of the Water and Sewer Advisory Board and the Terms of Members. If you remember I created a mayor committee, at right at 6 months I asked the council if they wanted to make it a board. We do have some members that used to be on that committee.

Councilmember Bailey: I will make a motion to approve Resolution No. 594 a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council for the Creation of a Water and Sewer Advisory Board, and for the Designation of the Powers and Duties of the Water and Sewer Advisory Board and the Terms of Members.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Crews: very good.

j. Discussion/Decision: Appointment of a Councilmember to the Water and Sewer Advisory Board

Mayor Crews: introduced new business item j, Appointment of a Councilmember to the Water and Sewer Advisory Board

Councilmember Smith: I would like to move to appoint Councilmember Bailey to the water and sewer advisory board.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

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

Councilmember Ross: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Bailey: aye.

Mayor Crews: okay.

7. Board Reports

NONE

8. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Smith: I would like to go on record and thank former councilmember Stacie Barker for being here.

9. Executive Report

Mayor Crews: we have been busy this week and have been looking at a lot of things, parking in town. Parking has become the prize commodity, and we have to look at our side streets, town parking is generally diagonal parking like downtown, generally on the side streets, it is passenger side to the curb. Today I had a discussion with Skyfish, Church Street when park on Church Street by town ordinance we are required to leave 20 feet between one vehicle and the other side so that vehicles can pass. The problem with it is the street is only 20 feet wide. I have asked them to please park parallel. If everyone is parking head in it does not leave enough room for two cars to pass. We may have to bring that back to council and look at the parking regulations. Long term RV parking, we have people parking RV's and boats in the easement and leaving them there for a long period of time. The town is not an RV storage unit. They need to be moved at least occasionally along with the weeds and grass that need to be cut. That leads me to the next situation, lawn cutting, people are responsible for their house and if you live on a corner you are responsible out to the easement including the easement and in front of the house to the easement. Corner lot would have two areas, if you are in the middle of like College you have your lot and out into the boulevard. I have not tried to waste money sending letters out I prefer to call people and discuss with them about their lawns. It can get expensive sending out a lot of letters. Everyone needs to take care of their property; the town needs to also. Higgins Avenue, how many people know where that is, we

had to go and cut that area. On 2nd Street we need to look at that area. We need to look at our parks; we have been locking the gates and the damage at River Park has reduced. The problem with closing the gates at sunset is there are still some people in the park, it took an hour the other night to get people out of the river. If you are in there and I have to lock the gate you will have to call the sheriffs department. Fish Wildlife and Parks is looking for public comment because they are looking at increasing the fees to everything including the fishing access site. Just be aware.

10. Adjournment

Councilmember Smith: motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Ross: 2nd.

APPROVE:



James Crews, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk

Town of Stevensville
Stevensville Police Department
Chief of Police John Boe



July 19, 2026

Letter of Commendation

To Sgt. Kenneth Franklin,

It is my pleasure to formally commend you, Sergeant Ken Franklin of the Stevensville Police Department for your exceptional professionalism, dedication, and investigative skill during a recent incident that deeply affected a resident of Stevensville and created significant fear and concern throughout the community.

From the outset, you demonstrated the qualities that define outstanding law enforcement. Rather than rushing to judgment or making a hasty arrest, you remained committed to conducting a comprehensive and impartial investigation. You diligently gathered physical evidence, interviewed witnesses and victims, and carefully followed the facts wherever they led.

Throughout the investigation, the Stevensville Police Department faced considerable public criticism regarding how the incident was being handled. Despite the external pressure and negative public comments, you maintained your professionalism, integrity, and focus on ensuring that the investigation was conducted thoroughly and correctly.

Your persistence and attention to detail ultimately led to successful suspect interviews that resulted in confessions from both primary suspects and the identification of additional associates involved in the incident. Your commitment to a methodical, evidence-based investigation not only brought those responsible to justice but also helped restore confidence and reassurance within the community.

Your dedication to upholding the principles of justice, calm leadership under pressure, and your unwavering commitment to doing the job the right way are deserving of the highest praise. Your actions reflect great credit upon yourself, the Stevensville Police Department, and the law enforcement profession as a whole.

It is with sincere appreciation and respect that I offer this letter of commendation in recognition of Sergeant Ken Franklin's outstanding service and exemplary conduct.

A copy of this letter will be placed in your personnel file.

Respectfully,

John M. Boe
Chief of Police

cc: Sgt Ken Franklin
Mayor Jim Crews