

Council Meeting
June 2, 2020
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was available via zoom and there was public attendance.

Council Present: Mayor John Bigart III, Cori Miranda, Jaime Odell. Joe Hanson was absent.

Brandon Prior had turned in his resignation on May 6, 2020. Jaime made a motion seconded by Cori to accept Brandon's resignation.

Appoint New Council Member: The town had two applicants for new council member. Marvin Garding and Anna LeDuc. The vote was cast silent and Marvin Garding was the winner. The Clerk swore in Marvin.

Minutes: The Clerk read the minutes. A motion was made by Jaime seconded by Cori to approve the May 5, 2020 minutes with correction. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Claims: The claims were discussed. A motion was made by Marvin seconded by Cori to pay the claims from check number 15834 through 15847 in the amount of \$125,510.49. All were in favor.

The Council received and reviewed the bank reconciliation and cash report. They have access at the Expenditure to Budget and Revenue to Budget financial reports.

Fire Department: Chief Joe Calnan was not at the meeting.

Sheriff Department: The Sheriff was not at the meeting.

County Planner: Andy Short was not at the meeting.

Water Sewer: James Claxton was at the meeting. He updated on the department. The water is good the lagoon numbers are high because of the weather.

Paul Montgomery from Anderson-Montgomery was at the meeting via zoom. He updated on the current water project. The project was awarded to MJD Contracting, LLC out of Clancy, MT for \$128,000.00. He also updated on the phase 2 project. They had submitted the DNRC application. The TSEP application will be submitted on June 12, 2020. He wanted to know if the council would like to add the variable frequency drive to the current project. The valve is \$5,500.00. After discussion Jaime made a motion seconded by Marvin to approve the valve. Laura Acker wanted to know if there would still be chlorine. Yes, however it will no longer be chlorine gas, it will be hydrochlorination and will be done with the current project.

New Business

Purchase Feed Store Building: Jaime stated that she had been the one to initiate the possible purchase of the feed store building. She thought that it would be good for the community to have a place to hold large gatherings and possibly also for some locals to sell their products. The town office could also be moved there. Laura Acker stated that she was startled when she found out that the town wanted to spend taxpayer dollars on a building that currently gives the town taxable income. She thought that there were more important places to spend the towns money. Robert Tweeten wanted to know if this would increase property taxes. The clerk stated that no there would not be an increase unless the town pursued a SID and that would need to go up for vote. Josh Acker thought that this should have been on the agenda as a discussion item then the people would have been more informed. Keren Wolhort wanted to know who would make the decision to purchase the property. The Mayor stated that it would be up for public comment before any decision would be made. Connie Acker stated that she thought the center needed more upgrades then anything else. Jaime stated that the community bathrooms were up earmarked to upgrades this summer. RC Askew stated that they should be torn down and completely replaced. Discussion on the feed store will be tabled until further notice.

Library Floor: Connie Acker stated that the floor in the library needs replacement. She had an estimate from the people who had done the floor in the kitchen for \$8,000.00. She would prefer wood to carpet because of the foot care that is done in there. The Clerk stated that because of using taxpayer dollars there would need to be at least two bids before anything could be done. Connie thought that the Friends of the Library might donate some money. Mike Taapken wanted to know if anything special needed to be done because the building is on the historical society. Not as long as it is being done inside and the structure is not being changed.

Public Comment:

John Zunski from the Sportsman Bar reported on an incident that happened in his bar on March 14 with a patron and a gun. He stated that a high ranking official for the town had overused his authority to assist the patron. He found it to be egregious from a town official and that he should be removed from office. The Mayor stated what had happened that night.

Anna LeDuc from the Railroad Day Foundation stated that she was giving Andy Short the County Planner a plan of action for Railroad Day this week for him to look over.

Keren Wolhort wanted to know when the radar speed signs would be going up. The Clerk stated that she was working on an encroachment permit application with the state highway department.

Josh and Laura Acker wanted to know if the Mayor would resign. The Mayor stated that he would not.

Mike Taapken updated on the vet memorial. Beginning on Saturday the 6th they will start the project. They figure on having it completed by June 26th. On July 4th they plan to raise the flags and have a potluck.

The Mayor read a letter from Callie Olson regarding the sidewalks in town. The sidewalks need to be repaired and replaced throughout town. There are some with overgrown vegetation on them and they are impassible. She thought that at the least the property owner could take care of the vegetation that had become overgrown. Jaime stated that the town had received a bid done the year before and it would take around \$750,000.00 to do the sidewalks.

Josh Acker wanted to know if the meeting was recorded. Yes, it is.

Brad Koon from Triple Tree Engineering wanted to know if the council would be discussing the engineering bids for the Church water and Parkway Drive sewer. This was on the agenda and had been overlooked. After discussion Jaime made a motion seconded by Marvin to move forward with the engineering.

Jaime made a motion seconded by Cori to adjourn.

Being no further business, this meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

Attest:

Clerk

Seal