

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 7, 2017**

The February 7, 2017 meeting of the Bridger Town Council was held at 108 South D Street in Bridger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting was brought to order by Mayor Shultz at 7:00 pm. Council members present were George “Butch” Wilm, Shala Cullum, Mark DeRudder (late due to weather) and Randy Novakovich. Others present were: Judge Bert Kraft, Library Director Krystal Zentner, Town Attorney Hope Freeman, Police Chief Mike Buechler, Public Works Director Tim Goldsberry and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

The first item on the agenda was public comment on the agenda. There was no public comment from the gallery.

Due to bad weather and the wish for her to travel home safely, Attorney Hope Freeman was moved to the top of the agenda. Attorney Freeman explained Marsy’s Law and how it would impact the Town. Also discussed was a conversation she had with County Attorney Nixon regarding funds that may be needed from the Town to implement these changes. Attorney Freeman will look into the matter further.

Next on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the January meeting. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Novakovich. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – absent and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

The next item of business was the approval of claims. Clerk Sweet and Public Works Director Goldsberry answered questions regarding claims. Councilwoman Cullum moved to approve claims. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilm. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – absent and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

No committee reports.

No correspondence.

Only one zoning application was presented for consideration. Joan and Chris Miller submitted an application for an outdoor deck and sunroom. Mayor Shultz read the application. Councilman Wilm motioned to approve the application. Councilman Novakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – absent and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

Next on the agenda was a variance for a coffee kiosk. Tara Schwend was not present with her variance so no action was taken.

The next item for discussion was the Town’s street lights. Clerk Sweet reported what she had found out from Northwestern Energy. The street lights are subject to a usage rate not a flat rate. The contracts in place are very old and NorthWestern Energy would like to re-do them when when they get all their information together.

The next item on the agenda was sprinklers for Town parks. Councilman Novakovich reported that we cannot use ditch water with automatic sprinklers as they will clog. We will need to use the Town’s water supply for any automatic sprinklers installed. There was some discussion regarding which parks would benefit from automatic sprinklers first. It was thought that Memorial Park should be first since most Town events take place in that park. The park adjacent to the swimming pool would be second.

Next was the lease agreement for the Food Bank. The council would like to renew the lease for a 3-year term and add a clause that requires the Food Bank to clean the areas used by them including the bathrooms.

The lease at the rodeo grounds was next on the agenda. The council would like to renew the lease for a 3-year term. There was some discussion about the need to re-invest the rent money collected back into the rodeo grounds. Clerk Sweet will check into having plans for a crow’s nest drafted and report back at the next meeting. There was also discussion about the electricity used by special events and how that should be handled since lessee’s, Jess and Lana Matt, pay the electric bill.

There was no public comment on items not on the agenda.

Judge Kraft presented his stats for January. He also explained some new reports that he has provided the council.

Library Director Zentner discussed with the council an issue she had with the Library roof. Some shingles were lost in a recent wind storm and she would like to consider filing an insurance claim. Clerk Sweet will reach out to M.M.I.A. and discuss options.

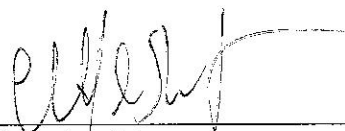
PWD Goldsberry explained to the council that we need to have confined space air and it will cost around \$1,500.00. It is required and necessary for safety. Next, he explained to the council the need for a permit to bore in our community. Recently there was a company who started boring in Town without first contacting Tim about the location of the Town's water lines.

Chief Buechler presented the council with stats for the month of January 2017.

Clerk Sweet had nothing to report.

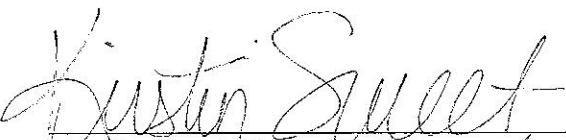
Mayor Shultz informed the council that he may attend the M.M.I.A. Executive Forum in Helena in March.

There being no further business Councilman Wilm motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman DeRudder. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.



Cliff Shultz, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk