

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING  
HELD ON AUGUST 2, 2016**

The August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 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 called to order by Acting Mayor Novakovich at 7:00 pm. Council members present were George "Butch" Wilm, Cliff Schultz, Mark DeRudder and Randy Novakovich. Others present were: Library Director Krystal Zentner, Judge Bert Kraft, Amy Kraft, Linda Eckerman, Eugene Sticka, Shala Cullum, Pat Salvesson, Melva Lightburn, Ronnie Aasterud, Town Attorney Hope Freeman, Police Chief Mike Buechler, Public Works Director Tim Goldsberry and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

Acting Mayor Novakovich asked for any public comment regarding the Mayor appointment. There was no public comment. Councilman Wilm made a motion to appoint Councilman Schultz as Mayor. Councilman DeRudder seconded the motion. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman Schultz – abstain, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye. Mayor Schultz was sworn in by Clerk Sweet and then he took over the meeting.

Clerk Sweet read the minutes of July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting. Councilman Novakovich motioned to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Councilman DeRudder and the motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye. Clerk Sweet read the minutes from the July 19, 2016 Special Meeting. Councilman DeRudder motioned to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Councilman Novakovich. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

The claims were the next item on the agenda. There were some questions from the council regarding the claim to Fisher Sand and Gravel. PWD Goldsberry explained it was for the hot mix for paving the streets and commented that it had worked well! It was motioned by Councilman Wilm to approve the claims. The motion was seconded by Councilman DeRudder. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

Next on the agenda was committee reports. Diane Keller with the Parks and Rec Committee presented the proposed calendar for the remainder of the pool season. Discussion ensued regarding staying open later in the season and the hours they would be open. Councilman Novakovich pointed out that the Parks and Recreation Committee is paying the bills, with that comment Mayor Schultz gave the committee the thumbs up.

There were no citizen advisory reports.

There was public comment on items on the Agenda by Eugene Sticka regarding the council member appointment. Some discussion ensued regarding letters of interest and deadlines to submit those. Mayor Schultz would like to accept letters of interest again for the council position. The deadline to submit the letters will be Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 5 pm. Attorney Freeman stated that anyone whom had applied for the Mayor position could just submit a cover letter referring to their previously submitted documents. Councilman Wilm motioned to hold a special meeting for the appointment of the council person on August 23, 2016. The motion was seconded by Councilman DeRudder. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

There was correspondence from Judge Kraft regarding the increase in speeding violation fines. The letter was read by Clerk Sweet.

There were no zoning applications for consideration.

Next on the agenda was the consideration of changing the swimming pool rules. Councilman Wilm described the issue many are having with the current rules. Discussion was had regarding the issue of taking young children into the deeper water as long as they are with a parent or guardian. It was thought that the rules

Wilm motioned to buy 4 signs for Main Street. The motion was seconded by Councilman Novakovich. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye. Next discussion was had regarding the possible purchase of solar powered signs that show the speed a passing car is traveling. It was thought that the cost of such sign could be shared with other towns such as Fromberg and then split the use of the sign. The topic will be put on the September agenda.

Next on the agenda was the appointment of a new library board member. Library Director Zentner asked for this topic to be tabled until next month.

Ronnie Aasterud had public comment on items not on the agenda. He currently leases the grounds around the factory building and he would like to change his lease to include the name of a new company that he will be working with. He stated that it would increase the amount of activity on the grounds but they would not need any additional space. Attorney Freeman asked if the increased activity would interfere with the other tenants and Mr. Aasterud stated that it would not. Mr. Aasterud was advised to give the new company's name to Clerk Sweet and the item would be added to the September Agenda. Next was a question for Chief Buechler regarding the distance one needs to park from an intersection on side streets? Chief Buechler stated that one cannot block the view of drivers passing through the intersection. Some discussion was had regarding vegetation blocking a driver's view at an intersection.

Attorney Freeman had nothing to report.

Public Works Director Goldsberry asked the council about the possibility of closing off the office areas of the Factory building so as to create a secure area for Carbon Equipment Repair. He did not want to create a fire exit issue for the tenants using the office space. Mayor Schultz will look into it. PWD Goldsberry stated again that some of the bridges in Town need work. We need to talk to the County and find out whose responsibility it is to repair and maintain bridges? The matter will be looked into further.

Chief Buechler presented the stats from July. He informed the council that his patrol car was damaged when he hit a family of racoons on the highway. A claim had been filed with MMIA and the repairs will be done soon.


Clerk Sweet informed the council that the Facebook page was up and running and was used when the water pumps were down to inform residents not to run their sprinklers.

Mayor Schultz had nothing to report.

There being no further business Councilman DeRudder motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Novakovich. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

  
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Clifford Schultz, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk