

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 4, 2016**

The October 4th, 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 brought to order by Mayor Shultz at 7:00 pm. Council members present were George “Butch” Wilm, Shala Cullum, Mark DeRudder and Randy Novakovich. Others present were: Julia Jones, Susan Decator, Katie McNeely, Dana Zier, Melva Lightburn, Kellie Hoskin, Delphine Coon, Donovan Thomas, Library Director Krystal Zentner, Judge Bert Kraft, 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.

Next on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the September 9, 2016 meeting. Clerk Sweet read the minutes. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to approve the minutes as read, 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.

The next item of business was the approval of claims. Discussion was had regarding some of the claims. Councilman Wilm moved to approve claims. The motion was seconded by Councilman Novakovich. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

Next was committee reports. Melva Lightburn was present for Parks and Recreation District. She asked the council about organizing a group of volunteers to clean up garbage in the city parks. Some discussion was had regarding the possible need for workman’s compensation coverage for such event. It was asked if a waiver could be signed in lieu of coverage. Clerk Sweet will check with M.M.I.A regarding a waiver. Attorney Freeman stated that when permission is asked that it sets off a chain reaction which could cause liability.

There were no citizen advisory reports.

No correspondence this month.

And no zoning applications for consideration.

The next item on the agenda was a special event application from the Dry Creek Saloon. Mayor Shultz read the application. The application asked for alley closure from 3-6pm on 10-29-16. Katie McNeely explained the event to the council. Councilman DeRudder moved to accept the application without restrictions. The motioned was seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

Julia Jones from Republic Services was present. She wanted to check in with the council to make sure all is well. She also explained the recycling services that will soon be available in Bridger.

Next on the agenda was Dana Zier with a presentation on art sidewalks. She presented her packet of information to the council and explained what the project would entail. She would like to apply for a tourism grant to fund this project but would like to apply in the Town’s name. She was given the thumbs up by the council.

The next item of business were letters regarding the maintenance of bridges. Mayor Shultz summarized the letters written by Attorney Freeman. The council discussed the need for more information on this project and pointed out that the maintenance could not be completed until spring so we have some time to discuss further and speak to the commissioners.

Next was a letter regarding the odor nuisance discussed in September. The topic was again discussed. Kellie Hoskin reported that the smell was bad again a few days after the September meeting. Julia Jones offered information regarding prices for swapping out the dumpster for a clean one as well as suggesting that there are rendering companies that will pick up such waste if throwing it in the dumpster is causing issue. There was discussion regarding the potential need for a more comprehensive ordinance to deal with this issue. Attorney Freeman will draft the ordinance.

Storm drains were next on the agenda. Discussion was had regarding prices of different kinds of pipe, how far to go with the new pipe and the need to work with the state department as to how close to a state highway we are allowed to dig. The topic needs more investigation but the Town needs to stay on top of it.

Next were updates to the old bulk plant building's electrical. The council does not have issue with the power being turned back on but the tenant will be responsible for the electricity costs. Discussion was had regarding upgrades needed. It was stated that upgrades should be at the expense of the Town. Councilman Novakovich motioned to spend up to \$1000.00 to make improvements on the bulk plant building. 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.

The next agenda item was a light for the ice skating rink. Discussion ensued regarding what lighting is needed and the expected costs associated. Melva Lightburn from Parks and Recreation committee stated that the Parks and Recreation Committee voted at their last meeting to pay for the monthly cost of the light. As for the costs of installing the light, the committee had not discussed that. Lib director Zentner stated that she has looked into installation of lights in her parking lot and maybe the projects could be completed at the same time. Mayor Shultz will look into the costs associated with installation and report back.

Next was a gift a land to the Town. Clerk Sweet reported that the back taxes on the property were \$163.21 and will accrue a few dollars a month until paid. Discussion was had regarding the Town incurring the cost of back taxes and what would be needed to transfer the property into the Town's name. Attorney Freeman stated she can draft a deed. Councilman DeRudder motioned to accept the gift of land which would include paying the back taxes and the costs incurred to transfer the deed to the property. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye.

The next item for discussion was sprinklers for Town parks. Discussion ensued regarding using the municipal water supply versus filtering water out of the ditch and the possibility of changing watering hours for those with automatic sprinklers. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to table the topic until February 2017, the motioned 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.

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

Attorney Freeman had nothing to report.

PWD Goldsberry informed the council that the concrete patch on Main Street will be done Thursday. The asphalt patch on Carbon was completed. Councilwoman Cullum asked about the pile of concrete on 5th Street. She was informed that it was essentially a waste pile sometimes used for projects.

Chief Buechler presented the council with stats for the month of September and discussed the recent racoon issue. There was also discussion regarding the new crosswalk signs and how they are working.

Clerk Sweet asked the council for a motion to formally add Mayor Shultz to the bank accounts and to remove former Mayor DeRudder. Councilman Novakovich so moved, 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.

Mayor Shultz asked that we give Judge Kraft his own line on future agendas so that he may present his reports. He also asked that citizen advisory reports be removed from future agendas.

There being no further business Councilman DeRudder motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilm. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Novakovich – aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.



Cliff Shultz, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk