

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 3, 2017**

The October 3, 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 and Chris Miller. Others present were: Melva Lightburn, Library Director Krystal Zentner, Judge Bert Kraft, 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. No public comment from the gallery.

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

The next item of business was the approval of claims. The department heads answered questions regarding claims. Councilman DeRudder moved to approve the claims with the associated check numbers #30952 to #30992. Also, electronic checks # -98502 to -98499. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Miller – aye.

The next item was the Payroll Summary. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to approve the Payroll Summary including check numbers #30938 to #30951. Also, electronic checks #-87920 to #-87895. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Miller – aye.

Melva Lightburn was present for Parks and Rec. They have not talked about the MOU for the ice rink. It will need to be on a later agenda.

For correspondence, a letter was sent from Mary Sink regarding the medical marijuana store outside of town. The letter will be available at Town Hall.

Next was Resolution #205 to set Judge Kraft's Salary. Judge Kraft asked that his salary be set at \$2,625.00 / month. He was originally set at \$875.00 / month and expected to work 1 day / week. He is now working 3 days / week. Discussion was had regarding what the judge is currently paid as well as when his salary was last set. Judge Kraft explained the reasons behind why he feels he needs more per month. His workload warrants 3 days a week and his current salary was figured on 2 days per week. The judicial standards commission requires a certain amount of work and Judge Kraft must complete those duties regardless of whether or not he is paid for the extra hours. Discussion continued regarding maybe a middle ground approach, more than he is paid now but maybe not triple his original salary. Mayor Shultz read the resolution. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to accept the resolution and set the salary at \$2,625.00, effective 10-01-17. 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 Miller – aye.

Next was Bridger Volunteer Fire Department. They submitted a bid for new doors for the Fire Hall but are now considering other options and would like to postpone any decision on this matter to a later time.

Next on the agenda was discussion regarding the civic center and what is provided. Clerk Sweet and Mayor Shultz explained the reason for placing this on the agenda. The current contract to rent the civic center was reviewed by the Mayor and Council. Attorney Freeman suggested that we not charge churches different to keep separation of church and state. She also suggested that we have one flat fee and allow organizations to ask the council to waive the fee for community service events. Clerk Sweet will work on a new contract and the subject will be placed on the next agenda.

Attorney Freeman asked the council to put the proposed variance and zoning ordinances on the December agenda as she will be gone in November.

Judge Kraft presented his reports and stats for September.

Library Director Zentner informed the council that they will now have story time on Tuesday mornings at the Library. The roof is still a work in progress.

PWD Goldsberry asked for the council to decide if a SCADA well control system should be installed for the pumps that fill the water tower. The existing wire is failing on a regular basis and is very old and outdated. PWD Goldsberry presented the council with a bid from Ace Electric. The cost would be around \$15,000.00. Some discussion was had regarding the pros and cons. Councilman Wilm made a motion to accept the bid presented from Ace Electric for the SCADA well controller system for the water pumps on the water tower. 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 Miller – aye. Next PWD Goldsberry was asked about the sewer under 4th street. He said eventually it will need to be replaced and it will need to be done by a contractor and engineer. We need to start the process and get RFP's out.

Chief Buechler presented the council with stats for the month of September.

Clerk Sweet informed the council that she attended Montana League of Cities and Towns Conference in Great Falls last week. She learned some new things that the Town should consider implementing.


Mayor Shultz had nothing to report.

There being no further business Councilman DeRudder motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Wilm – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Miller – aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.



Cliff Shultz, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk