

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

The September 5, 2023 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 at 7:00 pm by Mayor Shultz. Other council members present were Dustin Taylor, Shala Cullum, Mark DeRudder and Doug Asbury. Others present were Dale Bemis, Eva Havens, Brenda Wham, Dylan Sedlacek, DES Coordinator Cyrina Allen, Judge Bert Kraft, Library Director Krystal Zentner, Public Works Director Randy Novakovich and Chief Mike Buechler.

The first item on the agenda was public comment. No public comment.

Next on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the August 8, 2023 regular meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman DeRudder, seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item of business was the approval of claims. The department heads answered questions regarding the claims. Councilwoman Cullum made a motion to approve the claims including check #34402 to #34437. Also, electronic checks #-98120 to #-98114. The motion was seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was the Payroll Summary. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to approve the payroll summary including check #34319 to #34328 and #34379 to #34400. Also, electronic checks #-85570 to #-85514. Councilman DeRudder seconded the motion. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next was Carbon County DES Coordinator Cyrina Allen. She presented a completed application regarding the Sand Creek Canal Project. A motion to approve the application was made by Councilman DeRudder, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was Special Applications. The only application was from Guns vs Hose. It is for a softball game to be held at the Bridger Baseball Field. Mayor Shultz reviewed the application. A motion to approve the application was made by Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was approval of a shed to be placed on Town property to hold the Scouting for Veterans items that are displayed along the highway. Eva Havens spoke to the council about where the shed would be placed. Public Works Director Novakovich stated that he can find a place in Jim Bridger Park that will work for the shed. A motion to approve the shed being placed on Town property was made by Councilwoman Cullum, seconded by Councilman DeRudder. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next was the public hearing for the fiscal year budget for 2023 -2024. Mayor Shultz asked for public comment on the budget. No comment was offered.

Resolution #263 to set the Tax Mill Levy for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Mayor Shultz reviewed the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman DeRudder, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Resolution #264 to set the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024. Mayor Shultz reviewed the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilwoman Cullum, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next agenda item was to approve a timeline for a utility rate increase. A motion to approve the timeline as presented was made by Councilwoman Cullum, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Resolution #265 for a water rate increase. Mayor Shultz reviewed the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Asbury, seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Resolution #266 for a sewer rate increase. Mayor Shultz reviewed the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Resolution #267 for a garbage rate increase. Mayor Shultz reviewed the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman DeRudder, seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The first reading for Ordinance 2023-01 was next on the agenda. Mayor Shultz reviewed the ordinance. A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Councilwoman Cullum, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The Library credit card limit was next on the agenda. Library Director Zentner asked to have an increased limit so that ordering from Amazon will be easier and she will not hit her limit so often. Clerk Sweet suggested a \$4,000 limit. A motion to approve the limit increase was made by Councilman DeRudder, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion regarding a potential grant application for the newly annexed property's utility services. Clerk Sweet reported that she had a meeting with Great West Engineering. They said that there are not any grants available for extending utility services. The only suggestion that Great West Engineering offered was to create a Special Interest District to allow the upfront costs to be put on the taxes and paid annually with the property taxes.

The next item was a discussion regarding the need for a new town hall building. Clerk Sweet also spoke to Great West Engineering regarding potential grants for a new town hall. The grant writer suggested that the Town speak to the Senior Center about combining into one building. If that occurred, there would be grant money to help with the costs of the new combined building.

Attorney Kuntz gave the council an update on items he is working on.

Judge Kraft presented the stats for the month of July.

Library Director Zentner had nothing to report.

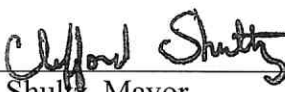
Public Works Director Novakovich updated the council on projects the public works crew is working on.

Chief Buechler presented his stats for the month of August.

Clerk Sweet had nothing to report.

Mayor and Town Council: Free Food Delivery will be September 28, 2023 in Bridger.

There being no further business, Councilman Taylor motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.



Clifford Shultz, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk