

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

The February 6, 2024 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 DeRudder. Other council members present were Shala Cullum, Dustin Taylor, Cliff Shultz and Doug Asbury. Others present were DES Coordinator Cyrina Allen, Ron Allen, Justin Ericksen, Justin Pape, Brad Caton, Angela Getchel, Phil Lambert, Dana Zier, Sgt. Codi Peters, Judge Bert Kraft, Library Director Kyrstal Zentner, Public Works Director Randy Novakovich and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

The first item on the agenda was public comment. Dana Zier spoke to the council regarding grants for historical buildings. Mayor DeRudder asked that Dana provide some more information. Cyrina Allen, Carbon County DES Coordinator gave a quick update on the Sand Creek Canal Project. Angel Getchell from Red Lodge Area Community Foundation updated the council regarding the workforce housing study that they plan to start in the Bridger area. Phil Lambert updated the council on the response that he received from the MDT and the Carbon County Commissioners. He also wanted to express his frustration with the engine brakes. He asked that the council consider moving the 25-mph sign to the edge of Town limits. Some discussion was had regarding the engine brakes.

Next on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2024 regular meeting and two public hearings. A motion to approve all the minutes was made by Councilman Shultz, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – 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 #34565 to #34596. Also, electronic checks #-98084 to #-98079. The motion was seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was the Payroll Summary. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to approve the payroll summary including check #34537 and #34562 to #34563. Also, electronic checks #-85367 to #-85334. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Correspondence was next on the agenda. Clerk Sweet presented the two letters of correspondence to the council.

Next on the agenda was the committee reports. No committee reports.

The Bridger Baseball Complex was next on the agenda. Brad Caton from Red Lodge Area Community Foundation was present and spoke to the council regarding surveys that have been done and the upgrades that would be necessary if Bridger would be the host site. He asked that the council consider being the host site for Carbon County Baseball. A motion to approve the Bridger Baseball Complex being the host for the Carbon County Baseball pending the draft and passing of an agreement was made by Councilwoman Cullum and seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Lease Agreements were next on the agenda. Discussion was had regarding the utility clause in the lease agreements as the total utility bills are higher than the clause allows. Discussion was had regarding the utilities and what the percentage increase should be for rent for the upcoming year. A motion to raise the rent amount 5% for each renter was made by Councilman Shultz. The motion was seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item on the agenda was Resolution #274 calling for an election on the question of conducting a local government review and establishing a study commission to do so. Mayor DeRudder reviewed the resolution and noted a date correction. A motion to approve the resolution as amended was made by Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next agenda item was request for proposals (RFP) for a garbage contract. The current contract expires on June 30, 2024. Clerk Sweet presented the RFP to the council. Discussion was had regarding a 10-

year contract versus a 5-year contract. A motion to approve the RFP with the change from a 10-year contract to a 5-year contract was made by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion was seconded by Councilman Asbury. Clerk Sweet presented the RFP to the council.

Next on the agenda was the property renewal schedule. Discussion was had regarding some of the listed values. Clerk Sweet and PWD Novakovich will work on it and bring it back to the council next month. A motion to table the item was made by Councilman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Shultz. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item was a discussion regarding the need for a new town hall building. Clerk Sweet had presented the letter from the Bridger Senior Center during correspondence. Some discussion was had regarding the letter and where we go from here. Clerk Sweet will again reach out to the grant writer at Great West Engineering, and she will mention the tourism grant suggested by Dana Zier.

Attorney Kuntz updated the council on items he has been working on.

Judge Kraft presented his stats from January.

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 was not present but left his stats from January for the council to review.

Clerk Sweet asked the council for dates they would be available for a work session with the County Commissioners. She will reach out to the Commissioners and set a date.

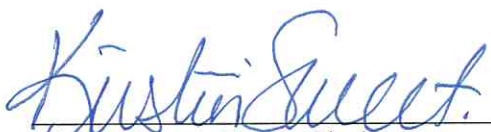
Mayor and Town Council: None.

There being no further business, Councilwoman Cullum motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.



Mark DeRudder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk