

TOWN OF BASIN

Council Meeting – Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Town Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order Regular Session

Pledge of Allegiance

A Regular Meeting of the Town of Basin Council was held at Town Hall in Basin, Wyoming on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Council Members Present: Mayor CJ Duncan, Brent Godfrey, Carl Olson, Stuart DesRosier, and Chuck Hopkin.

Also present were Clerk/Treasurer Deaun Tigner, Sergeant Drewry, Town Attorney Kent Richins, Town Engineer Jesse Frisbee, and Gene Grose.

Public Comment: Gene Grose presented the Council with the raw water rate ordinance that he would like explained to him as it looks like the more water you use the higher rate you will pay. The Council said it was based on the size of the taps. Gene Grose told the Council that the rates are unfair for most of town with the open ditch people. Mayor Duncan asked Gene why he is now having an issue with this property and not 15 years ago and Gene stated that it was because his wife didn't want to sue the town then. Mr. Grose suggested the council redo the ordinance regarding no flood irrigation within 200 feet of a neighboring dwelling and the other was to give the flood irrigation properties a 3-inch tap so they could sprinkle instead of flood. Councilman Hopkin asked Gene if he had water coming up in his basement and not draining out. Mr. Grose said it does not drain out and that there is a direct correlation to flood irrigation and water coming in. Mr. Grose said there were two sump pumps that are running nonstop and not keeping up with it as well as a French drain that is a 4-inch and a 6-inch. He said it was dumping into the sewer line. Mayor Duncan did state that it was against town code to dump his wastewater into the city sewer. Councilman Hopkin asked what would happen if we put dye in the water and found out where it was running. Mayor Duncan didn't think it would show up because there is a lot of soil that it goes through. Mayor Duncan told Mr. Grose that two weeks ago we discussed this and the town would start monitoring the water and that we could restrict the usage. Councilman Olson stated that the agreement says we should monitor the flow and he feels like we should monitor the flow. Mr. Grose asked the council if they could make the rates more in line with each other. The council said that they were.

Building Permits: None.

Approve Consent Agenda/Additions/Deletions:

Councilman Godfrey made a motion to approve the agenda, Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Conduct of Business:

Appointments: The appointments are remaining the same on the appointment list, except removing the community center ad-hoc, adding Tracy Harper as the municipal court clerk, Councilman Olson over the wastewater planning committee, and Councilman Hopkin will be over the Cemetery and Parks and Rec. Councilman DesRosier made a motion to accept the appointments as modified, Councilman Hopkin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Duncan did contact the independent contractors and asked if they would still serve the town and they all said yes that they would continue to serve.

Security State Bank Depository of Funds: Councilman Hopkin made a motion to approve this, Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

24-Alcoholic Beverage Sales Permit/Special Events Permit: Sergeant Drewry said Chief McClure reviewed the permit and has no issues. Councilman Olson made a motion to approve the 24-hour Alcoholic Beverage Sales Permit/Special Events Permit, Councilman Hopkin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ice Skating Rink: Councilman Olson would like to ask the Rec Department to maybe start looking for a place to start putting up an ice skating rink. There was a previous discussion about putting it at Henderson and then upgrading the bathroom to have a warming room and better bathroom or maybe also putting it at the west end of Lions Field. Councilman Hopkin asked how big of a rink we were talking about and he was told it would be anticipated to be the same size as the old one. Councilman Hopkin stated that since the school has their track on town property, perhaps they would allow us to put an ice-skating rink where the old elementary school was would be a good spot to go. Jesse will find the information that was discussed at a previous council meeting and send it out to everyone.

Vacate Easement: Kent Richins and Jesse Frisbee are working on this.

Eagles: There was a discussing about advertising this building for a rental, to rent for meetings, nightly fees, etc. Councilman Olson stated he was fine with that but that he didn't want it to compete with the Basin City Arts Center.

Sewer Project: Jesse Frisbee has started monitoring and measuring. Both sides have flumes on them so it has been pretty simple. He said it is good.

North Street Tree: Mayor Duncan stated we had some money left in the cemetery budget that will probably not be spoken for that we can transfer to pay to remove the tree on North Street, but would like to talk to Mike about it as it is in his budget. It was budgeted for cemetery expansion at \$10,000.00. Councilman Olson said he would talk to Mike. The council would like to move forward with cutting the tree as we are asking Carol Kestner to take care of her property as well. Councilman Godfrey thought that North Street was vacated in 1990 or 1992.

Electric: Councilman DesRosier discussed the meeting he had with Mayor Duncan and Big Horn REA. Councilman DesRosier stated that what was discussed at the meeting was that the town is looking to develop our own department. The REA is wanting to know a date when they will be stopping the day-to-day maintenance. They also talked with the REA about providing backup and working for further agreements for major maintenance such as transformers. The REA was told the Council would talk about possible end dates at this meeting. The survey was brought up and the REA stated they would be willing to sell us that information for around \$50,000, but also stated they would entertain an offer as it is not doing them any good. They made it fairly clear that they did not like to do the day-to-day maintenance for the Town of Basin and they would prefer that we have our own employee as it messes with their daily schedule when stuff comes up.

Town of Basin Head Gates: Mayor Duncan thanked Jesse Frisbee for bringing all of the information to the Council. He was asked if he had a recommendation. Councilman DesRosier made a motion to set the head gate and regulate it, Councilman Olson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Community Center: Lock Box. Councilman Hopkin thought the lockbox was going to be push buttons and not a key. He was told that there is one key that will open it that works for the school and other places. Councilman Olson will have Mike Dellos' crew mount it at the new community center, mounted next to the door where the handicap access/stairs are, because that is where the electronics will tell them where the fire is at.

Ordinance 704 – Gas Franchise Fees: Town Attorney Kent Richins explained that this is a 10 year franchise fee with Wyoming Gas and they would pay us 5% based on the gross of the previous year. This will be retroactive to January 13, 2023. Councilman Godfrey made a motion to move forward with Ordinance 704 – Gas Franchise Fee on the first reading, Councilman DesRosier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

North 8th Street: Jesse Frisbee told the Council there is a pre-bid meeting next week. He wanted to know where we wanted to haul the material that we are taking out of North 8th Street. Councilman Olson thought it would be good to put by the pond.

Councilman DesRosier made a motion to move out of regular session at 8:15 and into executive session for contract negotiations and personnel, Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Olson made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:10 p.m. Councilman Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Olson made a motion that we go forward with obtaining an electrical supervisor on a part-time basis with a monthly salary, Councilman DesRosier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Town of Basin Mayor/CJ Duncan

Deaun Tigner – Town Clerk