SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING September 01, 2020 7:00 PM Town Hall



Mayor:
Seth Coleman
Council President:
Sara McCarthy
Council Members:
Darla Ives
James Hollander
Ron Wales

MINUTES

Mayor called the Meeting to Order at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Mayor Seth Coleman Council President Sara McCarthy Council Member Darla Ives Council Member Jim Hollander Council Member Ronald Wales

1. <u>Resolution 2020-38</u>: A Resolution Authorizing the Town of Mills Wyoming to Take Certain Actions in Regards to the Wardwell Water and Sewer District to Facilitate the Dissolution of the Wardwell Water and Sewer District and to Assume Operation of the Wardwell Water and Sewer District's System

Motion made by Council President McCarthy, Seconded by Council Member Ives.

The Mayor asked if there was any questions. Councilman Wales stated he wanted to know what all this was about. He was not sure what is happening. Councilman Wales wanted to know what all this means. He can't remember talking about this. Mayor stated that there is two town involved with this. The Town of Mills and Town of Bar Nunn. Usually, when a town is established the special district is to be absorbed. Like what we did in Mountain View. The Mayor stated that the Town of Bar Nunn was established in 1982 and Wardwell was formed in 1969. The Town of Bar Nunn tried to do that before but Wardwell had to much debit at that time. You cannot take over a system if it has debit. The rates that Wardwell charges are much higher than anywhere else. Plus an extra 8mills of property tax is being charged to the home owners. So like in the Town Mills, the property owner only pays 8mills, where in Bar Nunn they pay 16 mills. Wardwell takes that extra 8mills and puts in a reserve account. They have about 2 to 3 million in reserves. The water pressure in Bar Nunn is low. The residents and business have no support. The tanks need work. The Fire Department in Bar Nunn went to hook onto water hydrant and got negative pressure. They then received a letter from the attorney of Wardwell saying that they have negative pressure on the main and that cannot happen. When it is Wardwells fault. Matt Williams the Town of Mills Engineer and Ray Cavalier the Town of Bar Nuns Engineer have a plan on how to operate the system and get it working for everyone. Mayor showed a map of the areas that were being discussed. Councilman Wales wanted to know what we will have to pay to get this all done. Councilman Hollander as well wanted to know what tank is feeding them. Mayor again, showed on the map where the tanks are and where the flumes are. The flumes measure the volume of water in the areas. Councilman Hollander stated how this would be split up. Mayor stated that 80% would be Bar Nunn. 10-15% would be unincorporated and 5-15% would be Town Of Mills. Mayor talked about the battle the Town of Mills has had with Wardwell. They have been trying to get out plants shut down. Our tanks in Mills will in the future need to be upgraded because it will be undersized. But we have lots of time for that. If Dempsy Acres was to come in then we will have to look at doing something. Councilman Hollander asked do we need to put more people on and what will the cost be. Mayor stated that we will have to add personnel at some point. It will be bring in more revenue to the town. What is being done now is that tonight we need to pass this resolution before you and Bar Nunn is doing the same. A petition is going around with a cover letter stating what is

happening and need to get people to sign. Then we will take this back to the County Commissioners and show them what we have done. Bar Nunn is doing the heavy lifting in this. We will be here for support and gain our 5-15%. Councilman Hollander asked what will happen to the unincorporated areas. The Mayor stated that can stay with Wardwell. It is in Casper's growth boundaries. Councilman Hollander explained that the infrastructure in the unincorporated area is horrible. We do not want anything to do with that. County does not put a dime into that area and we should not as well. It should not be the town's property to take care of. Hollander stated as well that it will only be water and sewer not roads right? Mayor stated right. The area we will have the pipes and infrastructure is not bad there will be some repairs but hopefully not much. Councilman Ives stated that at the end of the day we will be making more money than we are losing. Mayor asked if there was any more questions. Councilman Wales thanked him for a good speech and feels he know more about this situation now.

Voting Yea: Mayor Coleman, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Ives, Council Member

Town Clerk, Christine Trumbull