

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting of the Evansville Town Council, Evansville, Wyoming

November 27, 2023

The regular meeting of the Evansville Town Council of the Town of Evansville, County of Natrona, State of Wyoming, was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Edwards at 7:00 p.m. and upon roll call the following were present: Council Members Candace Machado, Dacia Edwards, Greg Flesvig and Phil Gierke, Town Attorney Scott Murray, Fire Chief Leo Malsom, Public Works Director Robert Lewallen, Town Clerk Janelle Underwood, and interested citizens.

Police Chief Mike Thompson asked to be excused.

Mayor Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Greg Flesvig to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting November 13, 2023, and Work Session November 20, 2023.
- b) Approval of Business License – Precision Roofing Pros

Motion was made by Greg Flesvig and seconded by Phil Gierke to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

STEVE KURTZ – CATC SETTLEMENT: CATC Representative Steve Kurtz advised the Governing Body that he had spoken to them a while back and proposed that if the Town purchased city tokens for the residents that CATC would reimburse the town for that expense. He stated that CATC has since settled their lawsuit with the City of Casper and has moved forward with assisting six local agencies for reimbursement of route bus tokens and has assisted other agencies in the purchase of transportation vehicles. He stated that if the Town were interested, CATC could assist the Town in the purchase of the next bus when the time comes to replace it.

Mayor Edwards stated that he very much appreciates the letter that Mr. Kurtz sent and is interested in CATC assisting Evansville with the purchase of the next bus when the time comes and thanked him for the offer.

ORDINANCE #6-2023: An Ordinance Granting a Franchise to Qwest Corporation. Third and final reading. Town Clerk Janelle Underwood read Ordinance #6-2023 by title only and advised that a copy of the Memorandum of Insurance has been attached.

Council Member Phil Gierke stated that he saw the Memorandum of Insurance and believes he read that if it is part of the agreement, it does not necessarily have to be on the certificate.

Town Attorney Scott Murray stated that he spoke to a representative with the Qwest Corporation, and they advised that once the Governing Body approves and signs off on the ordinance, the Qwest Corporation will provide Evansville with an actual Certificate of Insurance that will have Evansville's name as additional insured.

Motion was made by Phil Gierke and seconded by Greg Flesvig to approve Ordinance #6-2023 on third and final reading. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY WORK – TOWN HALL SEWER LINE: Town Clerk Janelle Underwood advised that the sewer line in the Town Hall needs to be replaced. She stated that the sewer line inside the building is cast iron that is in bad shape and once it leaves the building it turns to PVC and has a lot of low-lying areas where a lot of waste is held up in the sewer line. She stated that there have been two different floods in the basement of the Town Hall. She stated that Flood #1 took place in June when we had heavy rains and that Flood #2 took place on October 31, 2023, when a flush valve on a toilet broke and the sewer line could not handle all the water. She stated that the Town has received bids from two different contractors and both contractors can replace the sewer line and make the needed repairs from both flood damages, but they want all the job or none of it.

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She stated that they do not want to have to try and work around each other. She advised that Crown Construction provided an estimate to replace the sewer line at two hundred twenty-three thousand seven hundred ninety-five dollars (\$223,795.00) with an additional seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000.00) in repairs from both floods. She stated that Andreen Hunt Construction provided an estimate to replace the sewer line at two hundred seven thousand two hundred twelve dollars (\$207,212.00) with an additional one hundred ten thousand five hundred fourteen dollars (\$110,514.00). She stated that Andreen Hunt Construction came in lower for the sewer line repair but if you factor in the flood repair costs, Crown Construction has the overall lowest bid. She also stated that this has disrupted the entire Police Department and feels that the repairs need to be looked at doing as a whole.

Mayor Edwards added that the Police Department flooded twice within a week because of the condition of the sewer line, and this is something that needs to be taken care of.

Town Clerk Janelle Underwood stated that on Flood #1 claims have been submitted to FEMA and the property insurance and on Flood #2 a claim has been submitted to the property insurance so the Town hopefully will see some coverage from the damages.

Council Member Phil Gierke stated that he called and spoke to Greg Pope, and he stated that both companies are reputable companies.

Council Member Greg Flesvig stated that he understood that Crown Construction could start this week.

Town Engineer Shane Porter advised that was his understanding but that the Contractor expressed that everyone would need to be out of the Police Department. He stated that there will be a lot of dust from saw cutting and jack hammering, and it will not be a good environment for the Police Department to work in. He stated that it will speed up the repair process if the Police Department is moved out.

Mayor Edwards agreed that for safety and health reasons, it would be best if the Police Department moved out. He stated that he feels getting the issue resolved is important.

There being no further discussion, motion was made by Phil Gierke and seconded by Greg Flesvig to approve the emergency work at the Town Hall by Crown Construction in the amount of two hundred ninety-three thousand seven hundred ninety-five dollars (\$293,795.00).

Mayor Edwards called for a vote. Council Member Machado – aye, Council Member Flesvig – aye, Council Member Gierke – aye, Council Member Edwards – nay.

Motion carried to approve the emergency work at the Town Hall by Crown Construction in the amount of two hundred ninety-three thousand seven hundred ninety-five dollars (\$293,795.00).

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Town Engineer Shane Porter advised that the Town advertised and took bids for the Lathrop Road Pathway Project. He said that they received five bids ranging from eight hundred forty-three thousand six hundred ninety-eight dollars and seventy-five cents (\$843,698.75 to one million three hundred thirteen thousand one hundred fifty-one dollars and twenty cents (\$1,313,151.20). He stated that the low bid was about twenty-seven percent (27%) higher than the engineers estimate that he completed in May 2023 and about forty-one percent (41%) higher than the engineers estimate that was conducted about two and a half years ago when the Town applied for the grant. He said that construction prices have increased a lot in the last two and half years. He stated that based on these numbers his recommendation is to reject all bids and reconsider some different options such as coming up with some additional funds or grant monies or reducing the scope of the project and rebid.

Motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Phil Gierke to reject all bids for the Lathrop Road Pathway Project. Motion carried.

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Engineer Porter stated that he needed authorization for the Mayor to execute Draw Down Request No. 6 for the Lathrop Road Pathway Project in the amount of five thousand five hundred thirty-three dollars and forty-eight cents (\$5,533.48).

Motion was made by Greg Flesvig and seconded by Phil Gierke authorizing the Mayor to execute Draw Down Request No. 6 in the amount of five thousand five hundred thirty-three dollars and forty-eight cents (\$5,533.48). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Greg Flesvig to approve the Engineer's report. Motion carried.

COUNCIL UPDATES: Council Member Phil Gierke stated that he has been in constant contact with someone from the railroad to get the crossing repaired. He stated that he is supposed to have a conference call with the railroad later this week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Greg Flesvig to adjourn at 7:29p.m. Motion carried.

APPROVED: 

Chad Edwards, Mayor

ATTESTED: 

Janelle Underwood, Town Clerk