



## **TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**MAY 07, 2024 at 6:00 PM**

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Saratoga Town Hall, 110 E Spring Ave, Saratoga, WY 82331

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### **MINUTES**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

- 1) Opening Ceremony  
Meeting called to order by Mayor Chuck Davis at 6:00 PM.
- 2) Roll Call: \_\_Mayor Chuck Davis \_\_Councilman Cooley \_\_Councilwoman Beck  
\_\_Councilman Jerry Fluty  
All members of council are present

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion to approve agenda for May 7, 2024 made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- 3) Minutes from April 16, 2024, Council Meeting  
Motion was made to approve minutes from the April 16, 2024 made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

Motion to approve financials from May 7, 2024 made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

- 4) Deposits - \$169,014.61
- 5) Accounts Payable - \$121,990.05
- 6) Transmittals \$19,537.49
- 7) Payroll \$42,415.35

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8) Bigfoot 99/High School Graduate Sponsorship  
Motion to approve Bigfoot 99 2024 Graduation radio spot in the amount of \$99.00 made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

- 9) Letter of Interest Visitor Council - McCall Bureau  
McCall Bureau submitted her Letter of Interest for the Carbon County Visitor's Council. Mayor Chuck Davis stated the application deadline will be May 21, 2024 as the appointment must be made by the 1st of June.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- 10) Council Letters of Interest

Letters of Interest for the vacant Council seat were submitted by Chia Valdez and Bub Barkhurst. Both parties were present, read their letters and then answered questions pertaining to their interest in the vacant seat.

Councilwoman Kathy Beck, asked why Chia is she is interested in serving on the Town Council, what she hopes to accomplish, and what experience do you have that qualifies you for the seat you are seeking? Chia Valdez replied by saying that she is "doing this because I've always had a servant's heart, this is something I've done for ever, and ever. I've been in politics since the 90's". She hopes to be supportive and help make the decisions that need to be made in the community. She believes she is qualified by being a third generation Wyoming resident, she has been an on-air personality for 30 years, and has her own business, Saratoga Land Company.

Councilwoman Kathy Beck then asked Bub the same questions. Bub stated, "I would like to help shape the community, to make sure we are keeping this community headed in a direction that we want to be in". He has served on several different boards over the years, has been a business owner for several years, and has had multiple management positions over the last 30 years.

Mayor Chuck Davis stated that this appointment will be only until Dec 31, 2024. There is time to get on the ballot and run for this seat and encouraged both to run.

Motion to appoint Chia Valdez to the vacant seat was made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. No second. Motion failed

Motion to appoint Bub Barkhurst to the vacant seat by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.

Bub Barkhurst was sworn into office by Mayor Chuck Davis

## **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS**

### **Town Hall**

- 11) Mountain States Invoice #140327 Audit 2022-2023 \$21,184.00  
Motion to approve Mountain States Invoice in the amount of \$21,184.00 by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.
- 12) 2024/2025 Budget Ordinance 869 1st Reading  
Motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 869 - 2024/2025 Budget was made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

### **Police Department**

Chief Mike Morris stated there have been 204 calls for service, 13 citations since the last meeting.

Motion to approve invoice for vehicle maintenance in \$2519.62 made by Councilman Bub Barkhurst, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.

Public Hearing for the combined dispatch date is changing from May 13 to a date that will work better with council members, Mayor Davis would like to have as many council members as possible there. Josh Wood will be getting a notice out in the paper.

13) Part time officer wage

Motion to approve Officer Tyler Christen wage change to \$24.00/hr. made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Jerry Fluty to raise the other part time officers to \$24.00/hr. All three part time officers will have the same rate of pay of \$24.00/hr., second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

14) Dispatch Employee - Stephen Fletcher

Motion to approve Tiffany Moore into a part time dispatch position made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

Motion to approve employment of Stephen Fletcher as a full-time dispatcher at a rate \$17.00/hr. made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

15) Joshua J Mathieu Resignation from Dispatch

Chief Morris stated that Mr. Mathieu has put in his resignation letter ending his employment as a fulltime dispatcher May 30, 2024, he is requesting to stay on as part time for the time being, he is aware there will be a wage decrease to \$17.00/hr. Motion to accept letter of resignation made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.

Motion to hire Josh Mathieu as part time after May 30 at \$17.00/hr. made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.

## **Fire Department**

## **Recreation Department**

Next meeting is June 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Director Kim Hemenway stated yesterday (May, 6) the pool was drained and cleaned. She has set a tentative date for opening as June 1. Spring soccer season will be cancelled, this was largely discussed at last night's rec board meeting. The board discussed ways of postponing, did not come up with a good solution. Felt like they did an adequate job of getting word out to the community. Rawlins will be offering free enrollment for kids from the Saratoga and Encampment area to be part of their program. Will continue to get feedback from the community as to when a good time would be to host a season. There was discussion on a short-term camp or workshop to accommodate the kids that were interested. The board is drafting a sheet to get community feedback as to what they would like to see. This was a group decision, and every angle was approached. Josh Wood inquired if both schools were, stating that his son did not receive a letter or an email from the school. Director Hemenway stated she emailed Encampment school the sign-up form as well as delivered them in person.

They have received applications for lifeguards, and cashiers, certification will be here at the pool June 1st and 2nd

Motion to approve Gunner Henrie as open gym supervisor at \$12.00/hr. to start this week made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.

**Department of Public Works**

- 16) OV Invoice 2970 - \$31,428.75 - TAMP Grant  
Motion to approve invoice in the amount \$31,428.75 to OV Consulting for the TAMP grant made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.
- 17) Plattoga Aggregates Invoice #SI-1500 - \$60,201.83  
Motion to approve invoice in the amount of \$60,201.83 from Plattoga Aggregates made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.
- 18) Sierra Madre Road Improvement  
Motion to approve road construction on Sierra Avenue by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.
- 19) Pool ORP System  
Motion was made by Councilwoman Kathy Beck to purchase the Control Package ORP system for not more than \$5000.00, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.
- 20) Concrete Drainage Improvements  
Motion to approve work on Myrtle St, CJ Ave and the valley pan at the post office, with funds from Sewer Capital Improvements and Streets made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilman Jerry Fluty. Motion carried.

**REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS****Water and Sewer Joint Power Board**

Next meeting is May 8, 2024 at 5:30 PM at the PVCC

Director Emery Penner stated they have had the preconstruction meeting for the River St project. Will be starting work next week and should be completed in August.

Lead service line inventory survey. There will be some items in the paper asking if you know what the waterline is under your house and if you are willing to check to see what it is. This will really help the town with our service inventory that we have to do. There will be some advertisements coming out with water bills and in the paper.

**Planning Commission**

Next meeting is May 14, 2024 at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Director Emery Penner stated at the last meeting there was a discussion about chickens, it was a very controversial topic. They have decided to open it up to the public, will have a public meeting May 14, 5:30 at Town Hall.

**Community Center Joint Powers Board**

Next meeting is May 13, 2024 at 4:30 PM at the PVCC

**Recreation Commission**

Next meeting is June 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Councilwoman Kathy Beck stated the commission is still working on the bylaws, they will be sending out surveys for feedback on soccer and general public engagement, they are also preparing for the adult softball season.

**Saratoga Airport Advisory Board**

Next meeting is May 13, 2024 at 3:30 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

21) NAVAID (Maintenance) Reimbursement

Mayor Chuck Davis stated we have received 3 reimbursements from the 2024 NAVAID grant all in the amount of \$747.20.

**South Central Wyoming Emergency Medical Services Board**

Next meeting is May 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM in Saratoga

**NEW BUSINESS**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to move into executive session at 7:24 to discuss personnel issues made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

Motion to exit Executive session at 8:28PM minutes sealed, and no action taken by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene regular meeting at made by 8:28 PM made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.

**FURTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:29 PM made by Councilman Jerry Fluty, second by Councilman Mike Cooley. Motion carried.

**THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON  
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 AT 6:00 PM.**

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Mayor Chuck Davis

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Jenn Anderson, Town Clerk