

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD JANUARY 3, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE  
SARATOGA TOWN HALL

Mayor Ed Glode called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were Councilman Will Faust, Councilwoman Judy Welton, Councilwoman Susan Howe and Councilman Richard Raymer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman Raymer made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions of an Executive Session under New Business and Mr. Robert Johnson under the Community Garden report. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2016 meeting as presented. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Treasurer Sammy Flohr read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$42,382.20; Payroll and FICA in the amount of \$49,164.25; and manual checks including the December Liabilities in the amount of \$92,596.77 for a total of \$184,143.22.

Councilman Faust made a motion to pay the R.G. Raymer Construction bill in the amount of \$338.60. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried. Councilman Raymer declared a conflict and abstained.

Councilman Faust made a motion to pay the remaining bills in the amount of \$183,804.62. Councilman Raymer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Nothing to report

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC: Kate Sherrod on behalf of the Valley Service Organization addressed the Council and stated that they have been trying to get the ball rolling on the Sgt. Tyler Picket Park project. Ms. Sherrod indicated that they had met with Mayor Glode and Councilman Faust last year to discuss plans for the project. Ms. Sherrod added that for the public record, they would like to know what progress has been made, what the town's commitment is, if funds have been placed in an investment fund for the park project as noted before, and what kind of bookkeeping has been done to determine what the actual accurate budget for the project is.

Mayor Glode responded by saying that he received a call from Terry Creekmore offering to bring in a National Guard Unit to begin the physical and manual work to start on the project. Tony Seahorn has also contacted the town to offer to help where needed including coordinating with the National Guard.

On the funding issues, Mayor Glode added that he is still waiting to work with the American Legion to see what funding they have in place for the project. The town currently has approximately \$10,000.00 in an investment fund for the project, plus the town purchased the property as an annex to the Veteran's Island park and recently paid \$1800.00 for the survey [ Clerk's note: and \$1500.00 for an appraisal] of the property.

Discussion followed over the development of a design or a plan. Mayor Glode indicated that Jon Winter would be the contact if the Valley Service Organization wanted to contact someone at the town level.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

Town Hall: Mayor Ed Glode presented Councilwoman Welton and Councilwoman Howe with flowers and a sincere thank you and well wishes as they completed their terms of office. The sitting Council and audience expressed their appreciation as well.

Mayor Ed. J. Glode gave the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilwoman Jennie Lou Ivory and newly elected Councilman Steven Wilcoxson. Following the Oath of Office the new Councilwoman and Councilman joined Councilman Will Faust and Councilman Richard Raymer.

Mayor Glode indicated that he would be postponing the board and representative appointments until the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mayor Glode read the letters of interest from the current depositories and requested the council consider designation of the Bank of the West, the Rawlins National Bank and the Bank of Commerce as the official depositories.

Councilman Faust made a motion to designate the Rawlins National Bank as an official depository of the Town of Saratoga. Councilman Raymer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Faust made a motion to designate the Bank of the West as an official depository of the Town of Saratoga. Councilman Raymer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to designate the Bank of Commerce as an official depository of the Town of Saratoga. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Glode asked the council to consider designating the Saratoga Sun and the Rawlins Daily Times as the designated newspapers.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to designate the Saratoga Sun as the official newspaper of the Town of Saratoga. Councilman Faust seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to designate the Rawlins Daily Times as the official newspaper of the Town of Saratoga. Councilwoman Ivory seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Glode read Resolution 2017-01 for financial assistance from the Wyoming Department of Transportation to help with the cost of cleaning and maintaining the storm sewers, sweeping and washing all streets and highways and for snow removal from streets and highways within corporate limits.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-01, a Resolution for financial assistance from the Wyoming Department of Transportation. Councilman Raymer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department: No report

Police Department: Police Chief Bifano reported that Officer Tyler Christen is rescheduled to begin his fourteen week training at the academy in April. He will continue training with Officer Lehr and then will be released to begin patrolling.

Recreation Department: No report

Department of Public Works: Director Winter reported the following:

Street Department:

- o Ordered additional ice slicer
- o Snow plowing and sanding as needed
- o Completing the Street Dept detailed inventory
- o Serviced equipment as needed
- o Ordered lights for the Bridge Street light poles at a cost of approximately \$1,118.00 for twenty poles
- o Trouble shooting the water volume for the Bridge Street heating system
- o Modifying a snow plow to be used on the loader

Water & Sewer:

- o Repaired the control box in the wet well at the treatment plant
- o Completed the electrical and staging work for installation of the level sensor equipment
- o Had the light at the top of the water tower evaluated and ordered a new rotation motor
- o Held a meeting with Sunrise Engineering and tour of the Lagoons for the upgrade evaluation project
- o December TC reports and annual SEO report has been submitted
- o General service calls on sewer and water system

Weed and Pest:

- o year-end report prepared for subdivision

Hot Pool / Parks / Lake:

Hot Pool/Good Times Park

- o Routine Maintenance

Parks

- o Nothing to report

Lake

- o Nothing to report

River Project

- o Received five bids for the removal of river gravel, three contractors will be interviewed next week

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Airport Board: Councilman Raymer reported that the next Airport Board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Community Center Joint Powers Board:

The next meeting of the Community Center Joint Powers Board will be held Monday, January 9, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board: Councilman Raymer reported that the next meeting of the Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board will be Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill Board: Landfill Chairman Randy Raymer reported that work is completed on the transfer station and they will be advertising for substantial completion and forty-one day advertising.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in Encampment.

Medical Foundation: No report

Planning Commission: Councilman Faust reported that the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on January 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Commission: Recreation Director Lisa Burton reported that the next meeting is Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Community Garden Board: Volunteer Robert Johnson addressed the Council on behalf of the board and pointed out a few points of interest:

1. The Town and Community Garden Board entered into a legal agreement with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture
2. The town should take pride in the garden rather than criticizing the board
3. Dept. of Ag provided a primary contact as indicated in the agreement. That contact has made site visits and provided overview of the project
4. The initiative originally came from suggestions that were made by the Voices of the Valley during their review of conceptual plans for the valley
5. Reviewed work performed by several individuals volunteering their time, hours worked, accomplishments, the student that was hired and the work that was performed
6. The importance of education for the students and public
7. The cost to the town is minimal; most of the start up money came from grants, donations and volunteers time. The town provides water, the land (which is no different than the land and water used for a city park)

Mr. Johnson stated those were his comments, expressed to encourage the town council to proudly endorse and support the Community Garden.

Mayor Glode stated that he believes the fundamental question the council is considering is; should the town be the financial agent for the community garden? If someone wanted to donate to the community garden, that donation would not be written off at this time. However, if the community garden was associated with a non-profit (501c3) any donations that were made it would be tax deductible.

Councilman Faust indicated that his full intention was to bring this out to start a public conversation and if it makes sense to look at a 501c3 and if the town makes a decision to move in that direction there would still be time to move in that direction.

Councilman Faust reported that the Department of Ag explained to Clerk Suzie Cox that the remaining grant monies could be transferred to the community garden as a non-profit organization. The town would not be in jeopardy of defaulting and being required to reimburse the Dept. of Ag for any spent or remaining funds.

Discussion continued with no action being taken.

The next meeting of the Community Garden Board will be Monday, February 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

South Central Emergency Medical Services: Nothing to report

New Business:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Councilman Faust made a motion to move into executive session at 7:13 p.m. to consider information considered confidential by law, in accordance with W. S. 16-4-405(a) (ii) and (iii). Councilman Raymer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to move out of executive session at 7:55. Councilman Faust seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Faust made a motion to approve the minutes from the executive session and to put the minutes of the executive session in a sealed envelope in accordance with State Statute 16-4-405(b). Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Glode reported that no action was taken.

Adjournment: Being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Faust made a motion to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Councilman Raymer seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Saratoga Town Council will be held on January 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

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Ed J Glode, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Suzie Cox