

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL
HELD JULY 3, 2018, 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, Councilman Steve Wilcoxson, Councilwoman Jennie Lou Garland and Councilman Richard Raymer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilman Faust made a motion to approve the Agenda with the Executive Session removed. Councilman Raymer seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Councilwoman Garland made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting as presented. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Treasurer Sam Flohr read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$77,843.91; Payroll and FICA for 6/26/18 in the amount of \$61,049.70; and manual checks including June liabilities in the amount of \$52,246.21, for a total of \$191,139.82.

Councilman Faust made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$191,139.82. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Glode read an invitation that would allow an elected official to attend Cheyenne Frontier Days. The invitation included tickets for one person and one guest.

Mayor Glode also read an email from Geri Doherty expressing her support for upcoming events at The Yard and the benefit of said events to the community.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC: nothing to report

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor Glode reported that the final payment voucher has been submitted for the Community Garden's Department of Agriculture grant. At this time the grant will be closed out and the garden board can move forward with the creation of the 501 C3 status.

Mayor Glode reported that there will be a change in the law firm that the town utilizes. Previously David Erickson and Mike Roberts handled all aspects of the legal representation. David Erickson passed away last year, so going forward, Mike Roberts will continue to handle the criminal cases, but Kylie Rangitsch will take over the civil work.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to approve Kylie M. Rangitsch, P.C. as the town's civil attorney. Councilman Faust seconded.

Discussion ensued with Councilman Wilcoxson inquiring as to why Tom Thompson, who was the town attorney for over 20 years, was not considered. He also expressed concern as to why someone with very little experience was to be appointed. Mayor Glode indicated that Ms. Rangitsch would be mentored by Kurt Kelly, an experienced attorney for whom Ms. Rangitsch worked.

The vote was called for and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Wilcoxson also commented on the number of executive sessions being held and stated that in his opinion, there should only be three times to hold executive sessions: 1) To discuss individual personnel 2) To address litigation and 3) To discuss the purchase or sale of town property. All other discussions, including employee raises, a reduction in work force, etc. should be made in an open meeting to allow the public to know why the council members made the decisions that they made. Mr. Wilcoxson stated he believes that government at any level should be more transparent and fewer decisions made behind closed doors.

Councilman Faust added that the town picnic (Saratoga Reunion/Friendship Day) was in progress and invited everyone to attend after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Glode reviewed the Special Event Application for the Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce for the Steinley Cup to be held on August 18th, from 1 - 6 p.m., at Veteran's Island including an Open Container Permit. He indicated that all signatures had been obtained.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to approve the Special Event Application for the Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce for the Steinley Cup to be held on August 18th, from 1 - 6 p.m., at Veteran's Island including an Open Container Permit. Councilman Faust seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Glode reviewed three Special Event Applications from Toga Productions, noting all three were filled out completely and submitted 30 days in advance. All signatures were obtained, except the Mayor's. The first event scheduled for August 11th is a family wedding from 2 - 10 p.m., the second event is Girl's Night Out on August 24th from 2 - 10 p.m., and the third event is a concert on September 1st scheduled from 3 - 10 p.m.

Councilman Raymer made a motion to approve the three Special Event Applications from Toga Production, including a family wedding on August 11th from 2 - 10 p.m., Girl's Night Out on August 24th from 2 - 10 p.m. and a concert on September 1st scheduled from 3 - 10 p.m. Councilwoman Garland seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymer thanked Toga Productions for having the applications submitted 30 days in advance and filled out completely.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

Town Hall: No report

Police Department: Acting Chief of Police Rob Bifano reported that two officers worked the Togi Days Concert without incident. Three officers are scheduled to cover the Cancer Run and Parade and take calls on July 4th.

Recreation Department: Mayor Glode reported that going forward in this budget year, the town will no longer have a full time Recreation Director. The mayor stated that it was not a reflection of who was in the position at the time, it was strictly a budget related decision. Lisa Burton has accepted a part time position to oversee the swimming pool in the summer and other activities in the winter.

Department of Public Works: DPW Director Jon Winter reported the following:

Streets:

- Weed eating alleys, right of ways, and mowing along the highway
- Trash pickup, cleaning bathrooms and watering
- CAT mechanic evaluated the backhoe swing frame to assess the continual problem of the pin working loose. The hole that the pin sits in has gotten bigger allowing the pin to work itself out. After evaluation, the mechanic's recommendation is to replace the swing frame or re-mill the swing frame. The cost to replace the swing frame is \$7,800, however, CAT offered a loaner backhoe while repairs are made. The town would need to cover the travel expenses to bring the loaner to Saratoga and also to pick up the loaner when repairs are finished. This would be \$1,000 per trip, for a total of \$2,000. Also, the town would be billed \$18 per hour for each hour the loaner is used.
- Have loaded a 1,000 cubic yards of rota-mill for Carbon County Road & Bridge, 200 cubic yards for a private citizen and started loading 1,000 cubic yards for the Old Baldy Club.
- Hauled, spread and rolled approximately 70 cubic yards of rota-mill on Maple Street as a test for streets work.

Water and Sewer:

- Lagoon Improvement Project
 - All systems (C12, Bisulfite, Air VFD's/DO's and sonic and Mag meters are up and running.
 - Training of all systems is complete
 - Currently trouble shooting issues with C12, Bisulfite and DO/VFD systems
 - Remaining items include the pole barn over contact chamber, walk pads in front of the lift station, C12 building and Tech shed, and minor punch list items.
- Employees have been jetting and doing camera work in town. The crew has put in approximately 620 man hours over the past 4 months on cleaning and recording camera footage of the lines. Some lines have not been cleaned in years.
- Last week the sewer camera broke down and the problem was identified as a corroded pin connection between the camera and tractor. Estimated cost of repair is \$960.

Weed & Pest:

- Air Time Aerial completed two morning aduenticide applications in town on June 20th and 27th.
- Notified by the WY Department of Agriculture that they received a complaint on the mosquito fogging operations, stating the fogging was killing bees. Shane Howe and Polly Cross were in town on June 27th and visited with the person filing the complaint, as well as Chuck McVey and Jon Winter. The efforts taken to avoid spraying the alley location where the bee hive is located, including turning the fogger off prior to the property line and

continuing with the fogger off until passing the property boundary at the end of the alley, were explained to WY Department of Agriculture employees. They indicated that the town had put forth a good effort to avoid damage to the bee hive. They took samples of the dead bees back to Cheyenne to test them and will be in touch in a few weeks. They also reviewed the operation logs and application rates with no issues identified.

- There were also complaints of the aerial application, 1 in town and 1 out of town, and they requested not to be sprayed on the June 20th. When Air Time sprayed on the 27th, spotters were positioned on the ground to verify that the plane was not spraying over those properties.

Councilman Raymer commented on the status of the mosquito fogging program, stating that the program is designed to be a public safety program for the prevention of West Nile Virus, but with the spot application in certain areas it has made the program very ineffective and not beneficial to residents of the community. In his opinion, if someone has livestock or bees that they don't want sprayed, they should move that stuff out of town. Each month, residents receive a weed and pest charge on their water bills and it is not fair for one person in their neighborhood to dictate how the application is completed and consequently, the residents not receive a service that they are paying for each month.

Councilman Wilcoxson stated there has to be a balance between the requests of the citizens and the public health concerns.

David Worthington addressed the council with concerns on the toxicity of the chemicals used for mosquito control. As a beekeeper, he had requested that the town not fog his property as it does kill the bees. Going forward, he will move his bee hives out of town while the fogging program is active and move them the hives back when the fogging is done for the season.

The council thanked Mr. Worthington for his efforts.

Parks

- Routine cleaning of bathrooms and repair of sprinklers as needed.

Councilwoman Garland inquired as to the status of the lawn care contract and whether it had been reviewed, since they were no longer doing the baseball fields. Mr. Winter stated that he had visited with the contractor and until the contract is renegotiated, their price would be the same. The contract, which is supposed to be an annual contract, has not been renewed since its inception.

Further discussion ensued, with Mayor Glode stating that originally Veteran's Island and Good Times Park were not in the contract but the contractor had been mowing those areas. Councilman Raymer indicated that it was his understanding that everything that is being serviced now was in the original contract including Veteran's Island and Good Times Park. The price charged included those areas, but now the lawn contractor is not responsible for the baseball fields (Wood's Field) and the town is still paying the same amount. Councilman Raymer stated he felt it was necessary to renegotiate the price of the contract.

Councilwoman Garland added that with all the tough budget decisions facing the town, it is important to look at every dollar being spent.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Airport Board: Mayor Glode reported that he attended a workshop with WDOT and discussed FAA programs, the increased amount of traffic over the last two years, and the future of the airport.

The next Airport Board meeting will be on July 11, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. There will also be a conference call with WACIP on July 17, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

JOINT POWERS BOARDS:

Community Center Joint Powers Board: The next meeting of the Community Center Joint Powers Board will be held on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board: Councilman Raymer noted that Kevin Boyce from Wyoming Water Development and Forsgren Engineers will be here for the next meeting on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill Board: The next landfill board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on July 11, 2018 in Encampment

Medical Board: No report

Planning Commission The next planning commission meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on July 10, 2018

Recreation Commission: Councilwoman Garland announced that the recreation commission meetings will be moved to the town hall on the second Monday of the month.

The next meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held on July 9, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

South Central Emergency Medical Services: No report

Old Business: Councilman Wilcoxson thanked everyone for the successes of Togi Days, stating that the planning for the car show and the street dance activities were very successful.

Adjournment: Being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Faust made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Councilman Raymer seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Saratoga Town Council will be held on July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

Ed J Glode, Mayor

Suzie Cox, Clerk