

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF  
THE SARATOGA TOWN HALL

Unedited audio recording of the November 19, 2019 meeting  
is on our website at [www.saratoga.govoffice2.com](http://www.saratoga.govoffice2.com)

Mayor John Zeiger, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were Mayor John Zeiger, Councilman Jon Nelson, Councilman Steve Wilcoxson, Councilwoman Judy Welton, and Councilman Bob Keel.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the agenda a submitted, seconded by Councilman Nelson and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilman Keel made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2019 meeting as presented, Councilwoman Welton seconded.

The November 5<sup>th</sup> minutes were questioned by Councilman Nelson who indicated his comments were not reported correctly in the report for the airport. Councilman Nelson was asked to submit his concerns in writing. Councilman Keel made a motion to amend the minutes to included Councilman Nelson objections, re-seconded by Councilwoman Welton the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Mayor Zeiger questioned the reimbursement check approved at the last council meeting in the amount of \$85.00. Discussion followed and the council approved the payment as approved at the last council meeting.

Treasurer Samuel Flohr read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$184,231.09; Net Payroll for 11/12/2019 in the amount of \$31,327.30; and Payroll Liabilities for 11/12/2019 in the amount of \$19,699.11.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to pay the bills, as presented, in the amount of \$184,231.09 and Net Payroll and Liabilities in the amount of \$51,026.41, Councilman Wilcoxson seconded, and the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None presented

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor Zeiger commented, as a point of fact, that this Council has been taking criticism on the FY 17/18 audit issues. He would like to point out that the audit issues were created by the former Council and Mayor and not the current Mayor and Council.

Councilman Nelson requested a breakdown of premiums for Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the next meeting.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Black Hills update on gas line installations:

Jon Winter introduced Black Hills Energy representative Michael Howe, service manager for Black Hills Energy, along with Gary Hogan, area operations manager, Heather Mortenson, area supervisor, and Damion Parks, area planner who attended the meeting to answer questions or concerns and give an update on the gas main project.

It was reported:

- The project is down to the last few services
- Will complete a walk through to make sure everything is cleaned up
- Will come back next year to finalize old meters and lines
- Will complete areas before moving on to a new area
- Apply cold patch in alleys as needed and replace with asphalt in the spring

Patty Bartlett, a local daycare provider, addressed Black Hills with a concern she has about a gas leak in the alley behind her daycare residence. Not only is there an odor from the gas leak but the shrubs in the back yard have succumbed to the contamination in the soil as well.

The response from the Black Hills representatives was that they go through a process of identifying the location to see if it is their responsibility. Then they have six months (by industry standards) to monitor the severity of the leak, classifying the leak, monitoring and reclassifying the leak if necessary and monitoring with periodic checks. Black Hills takes all reports and concerns seriously, they don't like carrying them to the next year nor do they like to reclassify them, but they do work on them by the severity of the leak.

Following Mayor Zeiger's request that they look at the problem since it is in the area of a daycare Black Hills noted that they will follow up on the concerns noted.

The Update continued with the inclusion of the fire department and procedures to be followed by the Fire Department and Black Hills under random scenarios. Chief Pat Vining reviewed several issues the fire department has faced and what their role will be.

- Contact Black Hills
- Evacuate to a safe location
- Monitor the area
- Determine mitigation standards
- Activate regional response team if necessary
- Will not mitigate leaks at the source
- Educate the public
- The fire department will work closely with Black Hills, but only in a support role

#### Kiwanis Club:

Susan Marich, President of the Kiwanis Club addressed the Council and explained that as a service project, the club has funds dedicated to purchasing an ice rink and donate it to the town, if the town could provide a location suitable for the installation of the skating rink.

Discussion followed about location, safety issues, liability concerns, size of the area needed and storage. The Kiwanis Club will include the purchase of a storage unit for storage of the bladder when not in use.

The council thanked the Kiwanis Club for their proposal and asked them to work with Jon Winter on the project.

#### Health Care Update:

Will Faust addressed the council stating that a selection committee has acquired property to build the facility, the location is between the Forest Service and the Whistle Pig; currently working with engineers and surveyors to take care of utilities; contacted the county planner; will be going to the Planning and Zoning Commission and to the water and sewer JPB. They are also in the process of submitting the application to the USDA. Part of that application is a request for support from surrounding municipalities and governing bodies, and they would request a letter of support from the Town of Saratoga.

Councilman Wilcoxson read a letter of support for the Critical Care Hospital project and requested council support in the form of a motion with permission for the Mayor to sign, seconded by Councilwoman Welton.

The question was called; Councilman Nelson voted yes, Councilman Wilcoxson voted yes, Councilwoman Welton voted yes, Councilman Keel voted nay, Mayor Zeiger voted nay and the motion carried.

Mr. Pesognelli noted that they are still in negotiation with Ivinson Memorial Hospital and all is going favorably, in negotiations with two doctors; Premier Bone and Joint was here last Wednesday. They have been seeing approximately eight patients on each Wednesday's visit, every other week.

Bob Quist, Memorial Hospital of Carbon County, addressed the council and expressed the hospital board's intention to build a clinic in Saratoga to treat what is now the vast majority of residents of the valley. They have looked at several potential properties, one is currently owned by the city and they would like the town to consider putting it up for bid. The site is across the street from the ambulance barn (SCWEMS) on River Street, believing that the location would be appropriate for a clinic.

Discussion followed, outlining the way the town property purchase would be handled:

- Appraisal
- Sealed bids
- Published for three consecutive weeks
- May accept highest bid or refuse all bids submitted

No action was taken.

#### REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

Town Hall: Mayor Zeiger reported that a Public Hearing for the liquor license renewals was held prior to the council meeting with one license holder in attendance. Clerk Cox noted that all applications for renewal had been completed, publication requirements were met, and all fees paid.

Councilman Keel made a motion to approve the Limited Retail (Club) Liquor License renewal for the American Legion. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Councilman Wilcoxson declared a conflict and abstained.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the Bar & Grill Liquor License renewal for Bella's Bistro. Councilman Nelson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to approve the Retail Liquor License renewal for Duke's Bar and Grill. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the Restaurant Liquor License renewal for Hugus & Co. Councilman Nelson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the Bar & Grill Liquor License renewal for Firewater Public House. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the Retail Liquor License renewal for the International Resort Properties [Saratoga Inn Resort]. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to approve the Microbrewery Permit renewal for the International Resort Properties /Snowy Mountain Brewery. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the Retail Liquor License renewal for Valley Liquor. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the Retail Liquor License renewal for the Rustic Bar. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried. Councilwoman Welton declared a conflict and abstained.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the Retail Liquor License renewal for the Wolf Hotel. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Zeiger reviewed the LGLP official board ballot that was included in the council packets. Councilman Nelson noted that Jessica J. Weaver was the only candidate to submit her resume requesting support in her nomination for the At-Large position and made a motion to vote for Ms. Weaver for the At-Large term, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson. The question was called; Councilman Nelson voted yes, Councilman Wilcoxson voted nay, Councilwoman Welton voted nay, Councilman Keel voted yes, Mayor Zeiger voted nay, and the motion did not carry.

Discussion followed and Mayor Zeiger recommended that the council nominate Brad Basse for the three-year term At-Large position and Richard C. Grant for the three-year term County Commissioner position from Converse County.

Councilman Councilwoman Welton made a motion to vote for Brad Basse for the three- year term At-Large position, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson, the motion carried.

The question was called; Councilman Nelson voted yes, Councilman Wilcoxson voted yes, Councilwoman Welton voted yes, Councilman Keel voted yes, Mayor Zeiger voted yes and the motion carried.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to vote for Richard C. Grant for the unopposed three-year County Commissioner position, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson, the motion carried.

The question was called; Councilman Nelson voted yes, Councilman Wilcoxson voted yes, Councilwoman Welton voted yes, Councilman Keel voted yes, Mayor Zeiger voted yes and the motion carried.

Stacy Crimmins reported on the Special Event Permit Application and an Open Container Permit submitted on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce for the Ice Fishing Derby scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at Saratoga Lake.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the Special Event Application and Open Container Permit for the Ice Fishing Derby on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, contingent upon all department signatures, with permission for the Mayor to sign, Councilman Wilcoxson seconded, the motion carried.

Police Department: No report

Fire Department: Chief Pat Vining reported as follows:

- Five search and Rescue calls
- One rollover accident
- Gas leak at 607 W. Rochester in the alleyway
- An alarm call to the Community Center
- Fire prevention week with interaction with the schools
- Fundraising efforts have brought in around \$175,000
- Monies have been used on purchasing equipment

- Bunker gear is next on the list at a cost of approximately \$48,000
- Grants applied for will help with extrication equipment and communications equipment for each truck

Recreation Department/Commission Report:

Ben Spaulding brought back the baseball field Lease and MOU. The proposed lease was reviewed, and a memorandum of understanding was created to replace the lease agreement.

Discussion followed debating the pros and cons of a lease and an MOU. The concerns of the location at the old ball parks above the library were debated, as well as options for the town's support and obligations to the ballpark once it is developed.

Councilman Keel made a motion to give permission the Little League Association to make improvements and prepare the baseball fields above the library for next year's baseball season. The town will be responsible for the maintenance and operation of the fields, Councilwoman Welton seconded.

The question was called; Councilman Nelson voted yes, Councilman Wilcoxson voted yes, Councilwoman Welton voted yes, Councilman Keel voted yes, Mayor Zeiger voted yes and the motion carried.

Director Lisa Burton updated upcoming events.

- Co-ed volleyball league -6 teams will play through December 5<sup>th</sup> and tournament games will be the week of December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>
- Ladies-Night Out is scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. followed by another meeting to discuss Utah Jazz

Saratoga Airport:

Snow Removal Equipment:

Councilman Nelson reported that WYDOT Aeronautics approved the amendment to purchase the snow removal equipment and included a motion to allow the Mayor to sign all the necessary paperwork for the project, Councilman Wilcoxson seconded, and the motion carried.

Apron Project:

Councilman Nelson reviewed the independent fee estimates that were received. The independent fee estimates came in at \$204,750 and the bid submitted by Sage Engineering came in at \$134,795, therefore, the project could be awarded to Sage Engineering.

Councilman Nelson noted that the next step is to issue a record of negotiations to FAA updating them on the results of the independent fee study bids.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to issue a Record of Negotiations to FAA, subsequent to the fee estimate, with permission for the Mayor to sign, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson, the motion carried.

Terminal Demolition:

There is a change order to change the location of the fence. There will be no cost to the town for the change order, it is simply changing the location of the fence.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the Change Order to replace the fence, seconded by Councilman Keel, the motion carried.

Hanger Leases:

The annual ground lease invoices were sent out on November 15<sup>th</sup> to each lease holder.

Councilman Nelson did make note that there were corrections that would need to be made to the 3% increase on a couple of those invoices.

The next regular meeting of the Airport Board will December 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.

Department of Public Works:

DPW Director Jon Winter provided the council with a written report for the department of public works.

Streets:

- The crew plowed and sanded the street as needed
- Met with Black Hills Energy/NPL Construction to review the gas line and service project, they will finish up services and clean up alleys and storage yard. Anything remaining will be done next spring
- Continue to clean storm drains and sweep as necessary
- Replace decking on walk bridge over Sage Creek by the Not-So-Hot Hot Pool

Water/Sewer

- Completed repairs to the Airport water tower beacon
- Constructed safe access stairs to Effluent #3 sample point at lagoon
- Discussed installation of 2# meter on irrigation at Saratoga Hylands
- Reviewed water bill on Safari Drive, finding homeowner responsible
- Working with Wyoming Rural Water to develop Source Water Protection Plan, public workshop scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the town hall
- Developing specs for well field generators under SHSP grant agreement

Hot Pool/Parks

- Installed Hot Pool signage on south side of swimming pool building

Lake

- Workshop scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to discuss the Saratoga Lake water and sewer project with Council and water and sewer JPB

Community Center Joint Powers Board: Councilwoman Welton reported that the board met on the 18<sup>th</sup> and discussed getting a design plan for remodeling of the kitchen area and landscaping funded through fundraisers, and reviewed upcoming events and activities, The next meeting will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board:

Councilman Nelson reviewed the JPB minutes from the last meeting to report on the upcoming Wyoming Rural Water to develop Source Water Protection Plan, public workshop, which he will attend. The next meeting will be on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill Board:

Councilman Wilcoxson reported that the report from James Childress does not indicate that there is not a surplus following the FY 17/18 Audit. The findings will be addressed in the Childress final written report.

As noted by Councilman Wilcoxson, the landfill is paid what the town bills for landfill use, the town only receives what is paid for those services, all delinquencies are a burden on the town.

Additionally, the board indicated that they were not given the landfill customer lists as requested nor the delinquent customers list and addresses. It was noted by Attorney Tom Thompson that all information requested has been provided.

The next Landfill Board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on December 4<sup>th</sup> in Saratoga.

Planning Commission:

Councilman Keel reported that two representatives from WLC were in attendance and were asked if it would be feasible to hire an outside engineering agency to do building inspection for the town. Their overall input was that the town cannot afford to do it that way. The planning commission will continue to advertise for the zoning officer through the Saratoga Sun statewide through the Wyoming Press Association.

Councilman Keel made a motion to advertise for the zoning officer through the Saratoga Sun statewide through the Wyoming Press Association, Councilwoman Welton seconded, the motion carried.

A Variance for a shop at 1210 Rangeview using the same setbacks as the home and 100% of the necessary signatures were attached and reviewed by the Planning Commission. The planning commission was recommending the Council approve the Variance.

However, the variance was not placed on the agenda and for public review it would be better to have it placed on the agenda. The variance will be placed on the December 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

SCWEMS Board: No report

Adjournment: There being no additional business to come before the meeting, Councilwoman Welton made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 p.m., Councilman Wilcoxson seconded, and the motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the Saratoga Town Council will be held on December 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

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John Zeiger, Mayor

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Suzie Cox