

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL
HELD JUNE 17, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE
SARATOGA TOWN HALL

Mayor John Zeiger called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Councilman Mike McWain, Councilwoman Susan Howe and Councilwoman Judy Welton. Councilman Steve Wilcoxson was absent from the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the agenda with the change of the sale of town property from Planning Commission Reports to Town Hall Reports. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Councilwoman Howe made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2014 meeting as presented. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Councilwoman Welton read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$80,344.76; Payroll and FICA for 6/16/14 in the amount of \$67,244.95; and manual checks in the amount of \$231.33, for a total of \$148,820.94.

Councilwoman Howe made a motion to pay the Platte River Pizza bill in the amount of \$51.00. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried. Councilman McWain declared a conflict and abstained.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to pay the remaining bills in the amount of \$148,769.94. Councilman McWain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Zeiger read a letter from Chuck Larsen, General Manager of Carbon Power and Light indicating that he had attended a meeting held at the town hall with the entities respective legal counsels where in an agreement was reached to continue operating under the terms and current status of the existing Franchise Agreement. The respective legal councils will be jointly reviewing the issues associated with the new proposed Franchise Agreement and it will once again be placed on the council agenda for the July 15, 2014 meeting for first reading.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

Town Hall: Mayor Zeiger read **ORDINANCE 825** for third and final reading.

Joe Shanks, System Manager of Vyve Broadband addressed the council and explained that the local counsel and counsel for Vyve Broadband had worked together to bring all federal regulations into the agreements and all major modifications within the agreement had increased the franchise fees from 2% to 5% which is a substantial increase in the revenues to be paid to the Town of Saratoga and allows the cable franchise to maintain operate within the town for another ten years.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve **ORDINANCE 825** – the Vyve Cable Franchise Agreement on third and final reading. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Zeiger read **ORDINANCE 826** – an ordinance providing income necessary to finance the 2014-2015 Budget of the Town of Saratoga, Carbon County, State of Wyoming on third and final reading.

Councilwoman Welton reported on the budget workshop held on June 12th which was attended by Councilwoman Welton, Councilwoman Howe, Councilman Steve Wilcoxson, Chuck Bartlett and Lisa Burton, Officer George Phillips, Michael Dunn from the Saratoga Sun and three local individuals.

Councilwoman Welton noted that the council and department heads went over the budget line item by line item and had prepared a list of items discussed and changed for which they had questions. Clerk Cox was asked to address the changes and concerns that were noted.

Clerk Cox had prepared a list of those items and the responses to each. And that information is available at the town hall. Some of those issues were merely corrections made to the excel formulas for the calculations; line item additions for departments to make the accounting more accurate and visible; a change from one department to another to make the budget more realistic; changes which

increased some departments to cover grant funding and expenditures for projects that will be beginning early next spring and for which a budget is necessary; a change to a line item that had a word capitalized and highlighted in red for last budget but which was not necessary in this budget; correction to make revenues and expenditures equal. The outfall project and manhole project was added and increased the sewer budget from \$509,200 to \$1,561,200 and changed the total on Ordinance 826 to \$4,186,002.80.

Discussion: It was noted that the Airport Expenditure page was missing from the copy on the web site; increases in budget line items were discussed and ways to cut department expenses was given. Councilwoman Welton explained that the town had held numerous budget workshops and the department heads have made cuts where possible. Additional comments were made comparing last year's budget with this year's budget.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve Ordinance 826, an ordinance providing income necessary to finance the 2014-2015 Budget of the Town of Saratoga, Carbon County, State of Wyoming, on third and final reading. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chuck Bartlett addressed the sale of Lot 1 and Lot 2, Block 25, of the Crawford Addition to the lone bidder, Triple D Construction for the appraised amount of \$33,000.00.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the sale of the town property located behind the Senior Center for the appraised amount of \$33,000.00. Seconded by Councilman McWain the motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department: No report

Police Department: Chief Knickerbocker reported that the Dispatch Agreement with the Town of Encampment has been approved signed and returned for our files. The agreement increases the amount to be paid to the Town of Saratoga from \$12,000 per year to \$15,000 per year.

Chief Knickerbocker reported that he has completed his second TIPS training with thirteen participants and he has scheduled an additional training for Monday June 23rd at the Community Center beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Recreation Department: Director Burton also reported that the Saratoga Swimming Pool is open with the first swimming lessons and approximately fifty children signed up. Two more sessions will be offered through the summer.

Recreation Director Burton requested permission to order 2 sets of portable bleachers to be used for soccer and baseball games. The bleachers were approved by the Carbon County School District #2 Recreation Board at a cost of approximately \$3,506.00 with the town's share being \$706.00. The bleachers need to be invoiced by June 30th to meet the requirements of the grant.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the purchase of two sets of portable bleachers at a cost of approximately \$3,506.00 under the CCSD#2 grant. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Department of Public Works

- Street Department: Chuck Bartlett reported that the street department has been removing sandbags and filling pot holes. Mayor Zeiger thanked the DPW crews for their hard work and flood preparations.

- Water & Sewer: Mayor Zeiger read a letter from Wyoming Rural Water congratulating the town water system for placing as a finalist in the best tasting drinking water. The Town of Saratoga was among the top three entries from around the state and the letter commended Chuck Bartlett and his water operations staff for consistently placing in the finals for the third year in a row.

Mayor Zeiger and Councilwoman Howe expressed their appreciation to the operators and Mr. Bartlett for their professionalism.

- Weed and Pest: Mosquito fogging will be done every night that the wind allows and aerial spraying will begin on June 27th, weather permitting.

- Hot Pool: The Not So Hot pool has been cleaned and is now open and the main Hot Pool is being pumped and cleaning will begin as soon as possible.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Airport Board: Mayor Zeiger read two letters of interest to be appointed to the Airport Board. A letter from Tyler Trevillyan was read as well as a letter submitted by Arlen Hughes.

Discussion was held on the number of vacancies and the appointment will be addressed at the next council meeting on July 2, 2014.

Jennifer Johnson reported that the airport board meetings have been change to the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. to make it easier on those that are working during the day.

The next meeting of the airport board is scheduled for June 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Saratoga Town Hall.

Community Center Joint Powers Board: Joe Elder requested Council approval of the appointment of KayCee Alameda as a Board Member for the Platte Valley Community Center.

Councilwoman Howe made a motion to approve the appointment of KayCee Alameda to the PVCC Board. Seconded by Councilwoman Welton the motion carried unanimously.

Joe Elder addressed the council with an up-date of coming events and activities planned at the community center. Mr. Elder reviewed the classes planned, trainings taking place and concerts scheduled. Additionally the CP&L annual meeting will be held on Saturday June 28th.

The next meeting of the Community Center Joint Powers Board will be held Monday, July 21, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board: The next meeting of the water and sewer joint powers board will be Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill Board: Clerk Suzie Cox reported that the council had in their packets the Agreement between the Town of Saratoga and the Upper Platte River Solid Waste Disposal District for the upcoming year which requires council approval with permission for the Mayor to sign.

Councilman McWain made a motion to approve the Agreement with permission for the Mayor to sign. Seconded by Councilwoman Howe the motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Encampment.

Medical Board: Councilwoman Welton indicated there was nothing new to report.

Planning Commission: Chuck Bartlett presented a Variance for Mark Davis which had been reviewed by the Planning Commission and recommended to the council for approval. The variance will allow Mr. Davis a reduction in setbacks.

Councilwoman Howe made a motion to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the Variance submitted by Mark Davis. Seconded by Councilwoman Welton the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Zeiger noted that a letter of resignation had been received from Robert Thrasher resigning his position on the Planning Commission. Mayor Zeiger added that the letter had been read at the Planning Commission meeting and was included in the council packets and therefore he was not going to read the letter at this time.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to accept the resignation of Robert Thrasher. Seconded by Councilwoman Howe the motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to advertise the vacancy and requesting letters of interest to serve on the Planning Commission. Seconded by Councilwoman Howe the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Cox was asked to send a letter thanking Mr. Thrasher for serving on the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission's next meeting will be Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Commission: The next meeting will be Monday, July 14, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Community Garden Board: Mayor Zeiger read a letter submitted by Steve Deorio requesting appointment to the Community Garden Board.

Councilman McWain made a motion to appoint Steve Deorio to the Community Garden Board. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

South Central Emergency Medical Services: Mayor Zeiger read a letter from the Carbon County Commissioners recommending that the Town of Hanna have an ex-officio member serve on the SCWEMS Board of Directors for a one year trial period beginning July 1, 2014.

Saratoga Representative Bill Dahlke responded to the council explaining that this was the issue brought up at a prior council meeting and the council had voted not to allow a representative from The Town of Hanna to be an ex-officio SCWEMS board member because of the lack of participation on the part of the Hanna representative to the board. Mr. Dahlke noted that all SCWEMS meetings are open to the public and public involvement is always encouraged. The SCWEMS board has invited participation from the Town of Hanna. However they have not had a representative from the Town of Hanna at any of their meetings. No action was taken at this time.

Bill Dahlke reported that all nine of SCWEMS ambulances had been inspected by the state and all passed with high markings. The EMT class is completed with three additional EMT's working in the valley.

Mr. Dahlke requested the council reappoint Roy Barber to a 3 year term on the SCWEMS board.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to reappoint Roy Barber to an additional three year term of office on the SCWEMS board. Seconded by Councilman McWain the motion carried unanimously.

Items from the Public: Chris Shannon asked what the town was going to do with the money from the sale of the town property. It was noted that it will go in the General Fund under the revenue line item for Sale of Town Property.

Business: Mayor Zeiger stated to the council that Town Attorney Tom Thompson was requesting council direction on the governmental claims act filed by Lynda Healey. Attorney Tompson asked the council to either approve or deny the claim of Ms. Healey.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to deny the governmental claims act filed by Lynda Healey. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion passed with Councilman McWain voting no, Councilwoman Howe voting yes, Councilwoman Welton voting yes and Mayor Zeiger voting yes.

Adjournment: Being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilwoman Welton made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Saratoga Town Council will be held on July 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

Mayor John Zeiger

ATTEST:

Suzie Cox, Clerk