

Regular Town Council Meeting February 12, 2018 6:00 p.m.

A regular session of the Sheridan Town Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Stump at 6:00 p.m. Council members Mike Walter, Rahn Abbott, Paul Kramer and Public Works Director Curtis Green and Clerk Ginger Galiger were present. Dan Durham was absent.

Guests: Geoff Hamill from the Madisonian, Eileen Pearce, Roger Thompson, Sarah Robbin and Eric Johnson with RATES, Ben Hitchcock, Joseph Brummell with DES, Librarian William Talbott, Allen Schallenberger, Josh Hanson, Tamara and David Pierson, Leona Stredwick and Charity Fechter with the Madison County Planning Board and Dan Kramer with MRWS were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Paul Kramer did not file his C1A with the COPP so a vote of acclamation needs to be placed. A call was placed to Dan Durahm for his participation in the vote. Rhan Abbott moves to accept Paul Kramer onto the Town Council, Mike Walter seconded. **Mayor Stump called the question of the council:** Dan Durham voting yes, Mike Walter voting yes and Rhan Abbott voting yes. The motion passed.

Oath of Office

Mayor Stump swore in councilmen Paul Kramer for an additional 4-year term.

Public Comment not on the Agenda

Allen Schallenberger joined the meeting tonight to discuss his disappointment in the illegal driving actions that continuously take place on Main Street. More specifically the illegal U-turns coming from the opposite side of the street to obtain parking. Mr. Schallenberger provided the council with a portion of the 2016 drivers manual. Mr. Schallenberger discussed the ordinance in Ennis that makes U-turns illegal and wants to know why the town of Sheridan doesn't do the same.

Mayor Stump let Mr. Schallenberger know that the Main Street is a highway and that it is not illegal to turn into a parking space from the opposite side of the road. Roger Thompson explained that the town can create an ordinance making it illegal but without having a court to enforce the tickets it does no good. The Sheriff's office cannot enforce town ordinances.

Mr. Schallenberger plans to go to the Governor's office to get this law changed.

Department Reports

Sheriff

Roger Thompson reviewed the 32.5 hours that Madison County spent in Sheridan in the month of January 2018. Officers responded to 6 calls and made 9 traffic stops. 1 coroner call; 1 theft/burglary which ended up being an accidental drive off at the gas station; 2 unfounded 911 calls and 2 wildlife complaints. January has been a slow month. A new Deputy will be ready for duty in about a month.

Library

William Talbott briefly reviewed his directors report for the month of January. With the new computers, donated by Mr. & Mrs. Callaway, up and running the Library saw an increase in visitors. The Library Board would like the council to consider hiring a part time helper. The library is trying to decrease their expenditures to help with the cost but will need additional funds from the town. The past, longtime Volunteer Library Aide worked 16-18 hours a week but was able to cover other days as well. Maybe the town can consider this in the new budget year.

Fire Department

Ben Hitchcock reported last month being a slow month with only 2 calls. 1 life flight which was canceled and 1 gas odor call. The Department currently has 12 volunteers. The town firetruck has been inspected and repairs have been made to keep the truck in running order. The air compressor is no longer working. Ben would like for the repairs/replacement to be split between the rural board and town funds. The Rural Fire Board meeting will be held February 21st, 2018 at 7:00, everyone is encouraged to attend.

Mayor Stump will be attending the meeting to get a better understanding of the Rural Boards roles and responsibilities.

Public Works

Curtis Green talked about the GIS mapping, they have been collecting infrastructure data. The system allows us to pinpoint and record locations of the curb stops, manholes, mainlines etc. There has been a glitch with getting the sewer data to upload to the computer.

The Moore Lane sewer project is 95% complete. We still need to do the clean up once the ground thaws. Both homes on Moore Lane on now online.

Ben and Curtis framed the sewer shop and most of the electrical is complete. The shop will be insulated on Wednesday and then the electrician can finish up. The heater is installed and running.

There was a bacteria (coliform) hit on well #3 from a test taken on February 8th, 2018. Dan Kramer thinks that it was probably iron bacteria from the well sitting. They will resample this Thursday.

Public Comment on the Agenda - none

Business before the Council for Consideration

New Business

1. Approval of Lot Subdivision for Acre Tract 84 Minor Subdivision

Leona Stredwick from the Madison County Planning Board presented the Preliminary Plat Acre Tract 84 Minor Subdivision for David and Tamara Pierson. The property had one lot with three houses, they are turning that into 2 lots.

The Madison County Planning Board held a public hearing on January 29, 2018. The motion passed unanimously to adopt the Finding of Fact and recommend to the Town of Sheridan approval of the Acre Tract 84 Minor Subdivision Preliminary Plat with conditions as recommended by the Planner I.

Planning Board and staff recommendations were read aloud by Leona and it is the Planning Boards recommendation to the Town Council that the Town of Sheridan adopt the proposed Findings of Fact and approve the preliminary plat for Acre Tract 84 Subdivision subject to six standard conditions.

The Town of Sheridan has 60 days to decide, April 5, 2018. Once the Preliminary Plat is approved by the town, Pierson's will present a final plat and accompanying documentation of the 6 standard conditions, prior to final plat approval.

2. Approval of time frame for 319 W. Poppleton St. to connect to the towns utilities

Josh Hanson is interested in purchasing the 319 W. Poppleton property. This property is currently not hooked up to the towns water/sewer system. According to Ordinance 118, upon purchase of the property the owner must hook to towns utilities. This property does not have the ability to connect to the towns sewer therefore Mr. Dobbs has given him permission to connect to his service line.

Mr. Hanson is asking the Town Council permission to pay the full \$3204 water hook up fee and have a reduction to the sewer hook up fee since the town is only providing him a portion of the sewer service. Josh will have to pay to get his system cleaned out yearly. He would like to put 25% down on closing and the remaining amount in payments. He would also like 3 months to connect to the water system after closing.

3. Ben Hitchcock for Fire Chief

Ben Hitchcock was voted in by the Volunteer Fire Department and is asking for Council's approval.

4. Pledged Securities

Paul Kramer reviewed the pledged securities as of December 29, 2017. The total deposits were 1,352,579.29 not including any checks that have not cleared the bank. The banks required pledge amount was 551,289.65. This analysis reflects an insufficient amount pledged by 28,477.75. Each quarter varies depending on when checks clear the bank. Last quarter we were over by about the same amount.

5. Council President

The Presidents job is to fill in for the Mayor upon his absence. Mike Walter has volunteered to fill this vacancy.

Business Before Council for Disposition

New Business

1. Approval of Lot Subdivision for Acre Tract 84 Minor Subdivision

Charity Fechter explained that it is up to the Council to make sure that all conditions are met.

Paul Kramer moved to adopt the findings of fact and approve the Preliminary Plat as recommended by the Madison County Planning Board. Mike Walter Seconds the motion. No further discussion. **Mayor Stump called the question for council members.** Mike Walter voting yes, Paul Kramer voting yes and Rahn Abbott voting yes. The motion passed.

2. Approval of time frame for 319 W. Poppleton St. to connect to the towns utilities

Mike Walter moves to adjust the sewer fee to half, this would make the connection fee \$1853.50 for sewer and the full water hookup fee of \$3204.00, total connection fee \$5057.50 with a 20% down payment of \$1011.50 along with quarterly payments of \$1011.50 for a one-year period. Paul Kramer seconds the motion. No further discussion. **Mayor Stump called the question for council members.** Paul Kramer voting yes, Rahn Abbott voting yes, and Mike Walter voting yes. The motion passed.

3. Ben Hitchcock for Fire Chief

Rahn Abbott moves to accept Ben Hitchcock as the Fire Chief. Mike Walter seconds the motion. No further discussion. **Mayor Stump called the question for council members.** Paul Kramer voting yes, Rahn Abbott voting yes, and Mike Walter voting yes. The motion passed.

4. Pledged Securities

Paul Kramer recommends approval of the reviewed Pledged Securities. Rahn Abbott seconds the motion. No further discussion. **Mayor Stump called the question for council members.** Mike Walter voting yes, Paul Kramer voting yes, and Rahn Abbott voting yes. The motion passed.

5. Council President-TABLED in the absence of Dan Durham

Dan Kramer with Montana Rural Waters held an informational presentation of the water/sewer rate structure to help the town determine what our rates need to be. Dan explained the EDU's (equivalent dwelling units) a review of our existing debt, new debt, the O & M along with asset management. Discussion.

The Morris Land Company is allowing us an easement on Carey Lane. Many requirements need to be met. A deviation request has been approved by DEQ on this lot for a new well site.

Joe Brummell with DES briefly reviewed the Montana pre-disaster mitigation plan.

Warrants February 2018

GINGER GALIGER	2260.87
CURTIS A. GREEN	2943.41
BENJAMIN HITCHCOCK	1190.56
ROBERT C. STUMP	223.49
WILLIAM TALBOTT	1300.82
DEFERRED COMP.	100.00

EFTPS ENROLLMENT PROCESS	3465.31
PERS	2138.40
DEPT OF REVENUE	575.00
MMIA	79.00
3 RIVERS COMMUNICATION	229.32
ALLHANDS AUTO CLINIC, INC	171.28
ANDY'S SERVICE	43.00
BEN HITCHCOCK	43.78
ENERGY LABORATORIES INC.	315.00
MADISON COUNTY FINANCE DEPARTMENT	1319.53
ROBERT STUMP	36.00
SHERIDAN AUTO PARTS INC	365.21
UTILITIES UNDERGROUND LOCATION	5.46
WALTER'S ACE HARDWARE	200.11
WEX BANK	645.89
CITI CARDS	774.80
ENERGY LABORATORIES INC.	40.00
GRAHAM DRILLING, INC.	3552.50
MONTANA RAIL LINK INC.	100.00
NORTH WESTERN ENERGY	322.00
NORTHERN ROCKIES ENGINEERING, INC	4286.00
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY-DECORATIVE LI	96.39
NORTHWESTERN ENGERY-SEWER	1673.54
TAMI'S CLEANING SERVICE	150.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	122.08
POSTMASTER	140.00
LEE & ASSOCIATES LLC	621.19
MMIA HEALTH INS.	2575.15
TOTAL	32105.09

The Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Approved: Robert Stump, Mayor

Attest: Ginger Galiger, Clerk

