

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
November 5, 2020 7:00 p.m.
TOWN OF VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA
Zoom Video & Telephone Meeting

Council Present On-line: Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, Erin Leonard

Staff Present On-line: Nancy Stewart Clerk/Treasurer, Robert Erdall PWO

Public Present On-line: Micki Benedict, Laurie Hansen, Tanya Engle Toni James, Maggi George, Scott Petersen

1) Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Justin Gatewood, Mayor

2) Mayor and Commissioner's Reports/Comments:

a) Mayor Gatewood thanked Governor Bullock for his support of Virginia City during his tenure. The Town hopes to continue its synergistic relationship with Montana's new Governor Greg Gianforte.

b) The County Commissioner's race for District One in Madison County had Eli Thompson with 75% of the Virginia City vote but overall Mr. Thompson lost to Dan Allhands by around 150 votes. Virginia City will start addressing old issues that the County needs to follow through on; such as finishing the County Annex, drainage issues, rain gutters and an alleged mold issue at the Courthouse building.

c) COVID numbers are increasing in Montana. To date Madison County has 16 new cases and 61 active cases.

d) Mayor Gatewood thanked the public for the support his family has received during this pandemic.

3) Clerk's Report:

a) The Quit Claim Deed and Real Estate transfer for Kelly Rasmussen's alley abandonment has been filed with the Madison County Recorder's office. The Transfer fee from Mr. Rasmussen for the abandoned alley property, which was based on Department of Revenue data, was \$2124.00.

b) Resort Tax through September 2020 is \$64,860, which is down by 33% from last year. The 1% tax is estimated at over \$22,000 for this year.

c) The Village Pump Impact Fee for 2020 is \$2,793, down 20% from last year.

4) Public Comment:

None

5) New Business:

a) HPAC Nomination:

MOTION: To nominate Mark Jacobs to serve on the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Erin Leonard. **The question was called. The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.**

b) Resolution 2020-07- STIP:

MOTION: To accept the Short Term Investment Pool (STIP) Resolution 2020-07. Motion made by Erin Leonard; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.

c) Resolution 2020-08 – Inter Fund Loan:

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2020-08 for an inter fund loan from water account to general account to pay off parking lot. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.

d) Resolution 2020-09 - Donations:

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2020-09 as amended for Donations to Thompson Hickman Library, Madison County Sheriff's Department, and the Elling Foundation. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Dave Bacon. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.

e) Resolution 2020-10 - VCRFD Contract:

MOTION: To accept Resolution 2020-10, Virginia City Rural Fire District Contract. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Dave Bacon. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.

f) Resolution 2020-11 – Employee Wages:

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2020-10, wage increase of 3% for employees. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.

g) Resolution 2020-12 – VC ICE:

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2020-12, authorization for VC ICE to apply for a tourism grant. Motion made by Erin Leonard; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed. Justin Gatewood abstained from the vote.

6) HPO Report:

None

7) HPAC Report:

a) Development Permit – Jeff Millsap kennel fence:

MOTION: To approve the permit for a kennel. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Erin Leonard. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed. Jon Osborn abstained from the vote.

b) Development Permit – VCRFD fence:

MOTION: To approve an 8' fence around a generator. Motion made by Erin Leonard; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.

8) Old Business:

a) Creighton Block:

Postponed

b) Perry Studio Cabin Appeal:

The Perry's are appealing their studio cabin permit, which was denied at the September 3rd, 2020 Town Council Meeting, for being over 200 square feet, according to Town Code 7-7-5-3-C. At that time, the Council suggested the Perry's put in for an application for a variance. **MOTION: To deny the Perry's appeal.** Motion made by Erin Leonard; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, Amy Grice, and Jon Osborn in favor. None opposed.**

c) Delivery Truck Parking Safety Concerns:

Scott Peterson, Elk's President, stated that the Elk's Lodge still has issues regarding delivery truck parking. In August, per a Town Council and Elk's representative discussion, PW Erdall asked the County to fix Court Street. The Court Street improvements were completed shortly thereafter, however, according to the Elk's and Road Agent's Roost, their delivery truck drivers will not park on Court Street because of the grade. PW Erdall will contact the DOT regarding different signs in front of the Elk's, such as 10-minute parking or loading zone. This will be addressed at the December Council Meeting.

9) Public Works:

a) Public Works has moved the fuel tanks down to the lagoon.

b) The roads are being graded and the culverts cleaned.

c) PW Erdall stated that NW Energy has shading available for the new street lights in town. Mr. Erdall will let NW Energy know that due to the historical significance of Virginia City, the town would like all of the lights shaded.

10) Consent Agenda:

a) Minutes for Council Meeting October 1, 2020:

MOTION: To approve the minutes from October 1, 2020. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Erin Leonard. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, Dave Bacon, Erin Leonard, and Amy Grice in favor.**

b) Accounts Payable, Receivable and Adjustments, October 2020:

MOTION: To accept the accounts payable, receivable and adjustments for October 2020. Motion made by Erin Leonard; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, Erin Leonard, Dave Bacon and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.**

11) Public Comment:

a) Toni James thanked Public Works for moving the fuel tanks.

12) Adjournment:

MOTION: To Adjourn. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called: Motion was passed by voice vote, all in favor. None opposed.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted and attested,

Justin Gatewood
Mayor

Nancy Stewart
Clerk Treasurer