

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
September 16, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN OF VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA
Elks Lodge & Zoom Meeting

Council Present: Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart

Staff Present: Timber Baceski Clerk/Treasurer, Robert Erdall PWO, Eric Barsness HPO

Public Present: Abby Thomas (Zoom), Toni James, Julio Shields, Gay Rossow

1) Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Justin Gatewood, Mayor

2) Mayor and Commissioner's Reports/Comments:

a) Amy Grice reported that the Virginia City Post Office is no longer offering recycling. Toni James mentioned that she had called the Postmaster in Ennis to discuss this and was told that the wastebasket would return in the lobby.

b) Mayor Gatewood noted that COVID numbers have never been worse, with 120-130 active cases in Madison County. Nursing homes are on lockdown; schools have few precautions and are trying to end quarantine for exposed students and staff. The COVID vaccination clinic did well; the Shingles vaccine sold out and there were 35 COVID vaccinations. The next COVID vaccination clinic will be held in roughly three weeks. Mayor Gatewood also mentioned that vaccination rates for Madison County are currently 19% for 12-17 year olds and 43% for adults.

3) Public Comment:

Eric Barsness expressed a need for the Town's sign ordinance to be reviewed so that enforcement can improve.

4) Clerks Report:

Jack McCormick will be receiving a job position title (Director of Parks) and a raise of \$0.50 per hour. Director of Parks will not be a permanent position, but rather a title that can be earned over time.

5) HPO Report:

HPO Barsness completed elevations for the Warming Hut in Pace Park.

6) HPAC Report:

a) The next HPAC meeting will be held Thursday, September 30th. The HPAC Board will be looking into sewer availability for Jack McCormick and Annie Jorgensen's property.

b) The HPAC Board has been discussing greenhouses, tiny houses, and solar panels. HPO Barsness mentioned potentially using solar panels for the Warming Hut near the ice rink.

c) All streetlights have front and back shields. Northwestern Energy is working on getting side shields.

7) **New Business:**

a) The budget for FY 21-22 was reviewed by the Council.

MOTION: To approve the Budget for FY 21-22 as amended. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.**

b) Resolution 2021-05, Authorization of Virginia City Ice, LLC to Submit Tourist Grant Application.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2021-05. Motion made by Amy Grice; seconded by David Bacon. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.**

c) Virginia City Ice reached \$50,000 in donations and wants to break ground on a new Warming Hut in Pace Park. The Warming Hut would have two sections, one of which would house the Zamboni. The Warming Hut would be heated by two different heating systems, one for each section of the hut. Approval from the Council is needed to dig space for the foundation of the Warming Hut. The Warming Hut design will go to HPAC and to the Council at the October meeting.

MOTION: To approve the preparation of the Warming Hut site and the pouring of concrete. Motion made by Amy Grice; seconded by David Bacon. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.**

8) **Public Works Report:**

Nothing to report.

9) **Consent Agenda:**

Minutes from September 2nd, 2021, Council Meeting:

MOTION: To approve the September 2nd minutes as amended. Motion made by David Bacon; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.**

10) **Public Comment:**

None

11) **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 8:31 pm

Respectfully submitted and attested,

Justin Gatewood
Mayor

Timber Baceski
Clerk Treasurer