

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
October 6, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN OF VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA
Elks Lodge & Zoom Meeting

Council Present: Justin Gatewood, Amy Grice, Jon Osborn **Absent:** David Bacon, Kacey Smart

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

Public Present:

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) Councilmember Jon Osborn informed the Council that he has been in contact with Western States Caterpillar and will be receiving an email in the near future containing a list of compatible parts for the equipment the Town owns. There are a lot of potentially useful attachments that could be rented by the Town as needed, including snowplow attachments, grader attachments, etc.

b) Councilmember Amy Grice asked the Council what should be done while St Paul's Church waits for HPAC to pick out and donate the more historic handicapped signs, as the Church's sign application was approved at the September Council Meeting. Mayor Gatewood advised the Church to put up the signs that they have in their possession and swap them out for the historic signs when they arrive.

c) Mayor Gatewood mentioned that Pharm406 will be hosting another vaccination clinic on Sunday, October 9th at the Community Center in Virginia City; the clinic will also be at Burnt Tree Brewery in Ennis that afternoon.

d) There is a Source Water Protection Committee Meeting set tentatively for next week.

e) Dan Clark, Executive Director of MSU Local Government Center, presented training on the 22nd of September in Virginia City. The discussion was primarily about the ten-year government review process, with the intent of informing the public of what the process looks like and what steps need to be taken, including a county-wide referendum that would need to pass by a public vote. Mayor Gatewood noted that he believes the County should be reviewed and representation for Virginia City at the County level should be considered within that review. This process will play out over the next eight months, with a ballot going out to citizens next year.

f) Mayor Gatewood noted that Pat Jacobs applied for and was appointed to the Madison County Planning Board, giving Virginia City the representation that's been requested for that board in the past.

g) Mayor Gatewood voiced the Town's condolences to Annie Jorgensen for the loss of the Town's recently retired employee, Jack McCormick. A memorial service will be held on October 30th at the Pioneer Bar, beginning at 4:00PM.

3) Public Comment:

None

4) Clerks Report:

Clerk Timber Baceski has finished and submitted the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for the Town of Virginia City. A copy of the budget will remain available for public viewing at the Town Office and digital copies are available upon request.

5/6) HPO/HPAC Report:

a) Eric Barsness mentioned that he and Mayor Gatewood recently met with County Commissioner Ron Nye and expressed the Town's interest in completing the front of the Annex building. HPO Barsness is looking for interested parties to bid the project so that a price can be presented to the Commissioners in the near future.

b) The HPAC Board is planning work sessions to begin overhauling the design guidelines.

7) New Business:

MOTION: To move Agenda Item 7i, Barsness Consolidation Proposal, to the beginning of New Business. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.**

i) Barsness Consolidation Proposal

i) Amy Grice presented the consolidation proposal (see agenda packet).

ii) The proposal has been approved by the County Exemption Board. Next it will go to the Public Works Board, then back to the Town Council with appropriate notice posted in the local newspaper. The Public Works meeting will take place on November 2, 2022.

a) "Living with Wildlife" with Rebecca Dmytryk, Humane Wildlife Control Inc.

i) Rebecca Dmytryk informed the public that conflict with wildlife usually begins with a food source, often pet food left out, feeding of feral cats, vegetable gardens, etc. She noted that while most people think that getting rid of the animal will solve the problem, a hospitable environment will only lead to other animals replacing those that are removed. Ms. Dmytryk advised the public to look at the source of the problem by removing attractants and making the environment less hospitable.

b) Montana Heritage Commission – Farmer's Market Final Report

i) Becky DiGiovanna of the MHC reported to the Council that the Farmer's Market had a good turnout, with 14 vendors in total and an average of 6 vendors per week. Six of the vendors were food vendors, while the others were miscellaneous things. \$5,168 was collected in total. The Chamber of Commerce will be taking over the Farmer's Market next year, so the Resort Tax setup for the Farmer's Market will be revisited by the Council before it resumes next summer.

MOTION: To skip to Agenda Item 7d, Elijah Allen Development Permit Application – Stone Siding, and return to Agenda Item 7c, Roger Williams Development Permit Application - Roofing, following Agenda Item 7h, Amendment to Amy Grice/Eric Barsness Site/Zoning Permit. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

d) Elijah Allen Development Permit Application – Stone Siding

MOTION: To approve Elijah Allen’s Development Permit Application for Stone Siding. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

e) Montana Heritage Commission Development Permit Application – Roofing

MOTION: To approve the Montana Heritage Commission’s Development Permit Application for Roofing. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

f) Allyson Adams Development Permit Application – Deck and French Doors

MOTION: To approve Allyson Adams’ Development Permit Application for a Deck and French Doors. Motion made by Jon Osborn; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

g) Amy Grice Development Permit Application – Fence

MOTION: To approve Amy Grice’s Development Permit Application for Fencing. Motion made by Jon Osborn; Seconded by Justin Gatewood. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

h) Amendment to Grice/Barsness Site/Zoning Permit

MOTION: To approve the Grice/Barsness Site/Zoning Permit Amendment, provided that the additional \$12 fee for additional square footage is paid to the Town. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

c) Roger Williams Development Permit Application - Roofing

MOTION: To approve Roger Williams’ Development Permit Application for Roofing. Motion made by Jon Osborn; Seconded by Justin Gatewood. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

j) M.E.T. Contract

i) Public Works Officer Robert Erdall met with a representative from M.E.T. to look over the different aspects of the Water SCADA Control and Integration project. The new system would allow digital alerts to be sent to the PWO and/or other staff when errors occur, as well as digitally send the daily water readings straight to the Town Office. This project would use ARPA funding. The project has moved up the list of priorities, as the other projects could take a year or more to begin and this one could begin in the near future.

MOTION: To approve and move forward with the M.E.T. Contract as presented. Motion made by Jon Osborn; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

8) Old Business

- a) Second Reading of Draft Ordinance 01-2022 to Amend NHRD Zoning

MOTION: To approve the Second Reading of Draft Ordinance 01-2022 as read. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

9) Public Works Report:

PWO Robert Erdall has been working with new hire Greg Smart on the Warming Hut. Someone will be coming to look at the pivot within the next couple of days, as it isn't cycling properly. Greg has also been working on clearing culverts, and PWO Erdall delivered condolence flowers to Annie Jorgensen on behalf of the Town.

10) Consent Agenda:

- a) Minutes from August 4, 2022

- i) Corrections to be made: change "Plexiglas" part to "repair and preservation of stained glass windows" in Agenda Item 3, fix spelling of Ranahan in Agenda Item 7c, change the motion for the outbuilding to read that it is approved with the condition that the property the outbuilding is built on is consolidated/aggregated with the property the primary residence is on in Agenda Item 7f.

MOTION: To approve the Minutes from August 4, 2022 as amended. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

- b) Minutes from September 1, 2022

- i) Corrections to be made: add who was absent from the Council and correct Agenda Item 7f, which is written as Agenda Item 7a.

MOTION: To approve the Minutes from September 1, 2022 as amended. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

- c) Minutes from September 15, 2022

- i) Corrections to be made: correct misspelling of "Virginia" and take out the extra comma after the word "flu" in Agenda Item 3c.

MOTION: To approve the Minutes from September 15, 2022 as amended. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

d) Accounts Payable, Receivable, Adjustments and Checks September 2022

MOTION: To approve the Accounts Payable, Receivable, Adjustments, and Checks for September 2022. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Jon Osborn, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

11) Public Comment:

None

11) Adjournment

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm

Respectfully submitted and attested,

Justin Gatewood
Mayor

Timber Baceski
Clerk Treasurer