

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
May 5, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN OF VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA
Elks Lodge & Zoom Meeting

Council Present: Dave Bacon, Kacey Smart, Amy Grice

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

Public Present: Gail Connor, Tanya Engle, Scott Petersen, Angela Mueller

1) Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Council President Dave Bacon

2) Mayor and Commissioner's Reports/Comments:

a) Councilmember Grice mentioned that there has been a camper parked in the new parking lot, near where the ranch gate is. It was parked there frequently last summer as well. RVs and campers aren't supposed to park in the parking lot, and living in an RV in town is prohibited. The Town will look into getting signs that say RVs/campers cannot be parked in the parking lot.

b) Councilmember Bacon noted that Pharm406 will be hosting another vaccination clinic at the Community Center on Friday from 10-12. They will also be in Ennis from 2-6 on Friday.

c) The Town was awarded ARPA grant money; we were the only town within Madison County to receive funding from this grant. Great West Engineering played a large role in securing those funds.

d) The County will hold an official hearing on the topic of Adobetown Road on May 17th at 6:00pm at the Alder Fire Hall. There will be an informal meeting this Saturday, the 7th of May, at 4:00pm in the Community Center to raise awareness and share information.

3) Public Comment:

a) Tanya Engle mentioned that the Elk's Lodge will be hosting a Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday from 9-12. There will be pancakes, French toast, ham, eggs, etc. There is also a poker tournament on the 24th of May at 1pm.

4) Clerk's Report:

The Town received \$3000 of grant money from SHPO for Eric's position as Historic Preservation Officer. Clerk/Treasurer Timber Baceski is preparing for the annual audit; a representative from Denning, Downey & Associates will be in the Town Office on June 7th to perform the last steps of the audit. Business licenses are being distributed, and permit applications have been overhauled and uploaded to the Town website.

5/6) HPO/HPAC Report:

The HPAC Board has continued to work on design review guidelines, planning how to approach the project in small sections rather than tackling the whole thing at once. Letters are being prepared for realtors and new residents to inform them of important construction and design regulations. These letters will be sent via certified mail once the proposed zoning changes are decided upon. HPO Barsness has also finished writing a Guide to Historic Architecture for the Town of Virginia City.

7) New Business:

a) Kevin Thurs Development Permit Application

i) Dave Bacon noted that the proposed fence looks like a commercial agriculture fence in the middle of the Historic District, and suggested disguising/breaking up the portion of the fence on Spencer Street to blend in better.

MOTION: To approve Kevin Thurs' Development Permit Application for a fence, with the recommendation of using fence pickets or something similar to disguise the wire on Spencer Street. Motion made by Kacey Smart; Seconded by Amy Grice. The question was called. The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

b) VCPA Development Permit Application

MOTION: To approve the VCPA's Development Permit Application for a streetlight. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Kacey Smart. The question was called. The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

c) Friends of the Thompson Hickman Library Sign Permit Application

i) The signs would be placed in front of the county administration building and west of the Adobetown Schoolhouse, on County property. This isn't stated within the application; the application needs to be modified to include specific sign placement.

MOTION: To approve the Friends of the Thompson Hickman Library Sign Permit Application, with the condition that the signs are only placed for the days of the events and that the specific locations for the signs is will be present on the application. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Dave Bacon. The question was called. The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

d) Town of VC Development Permit Application – Ranch Gate Streetlight

The Town of Virginia City received \$15,500 from the Montana Heritage Commission to fund the Historic Streetlight Project. Don Mefford of M&M Contracting built posts and frames for the streetlights. John Benedict knows someone who can get the copper needed for the project. Until the copper is obtained, HPO Barsness has researched and provided examples of temporary replacements, with all options being under \$100 each. The luminosity and color temperature of these lights are to match that of the existing Montana Heritage Commission streetlights that are located at the west end of town and within Nevada City.

MOTION: To approve the Town of Virginia City Development Permit Application for a Streetlight at the Ranch Gate, on the condition that the hooded lights have hoods that are deep enough to conceal the light bulb entirely. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Kacey Smart. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

e) Town of VC Development Permit Application – VC Café Streetlight

MOTION: To approve the Town of Virginia City Development Permit Application for a Streetlight at the VC Café, on the condition that the luminosity and color temperature match that of the existing MHC streetlights that are located at the west end of town and within Nevada City. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Kacey Smart. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

f) Town of VC Development Permit Application – Fairweather Streetlight

MOTION: To approve the Town of Virginia City Development Permit Application for a Streetlight at Fairweather, on the condition that the luminosity and color temperature match that of the existing MHC streetlights that are located at the west end of town and within Nevada City. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Kacey Smart. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

g) Town of VC Development Permit Application – Kriskaden Barn Streetlight

MOTION: To approve the Town of Virginia City Development Permit Application for a Streetlight at the Kriskaden Barn, on the condition that the luminosity and color temperature match that of the existing MHC streetlights that are located at the west end of town and within Nevada City. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Kacey Smart. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

h) Town of VC Development Permit Application – Montana Post Streetlight

MOTION: To approve the Town of Virginia City Development Permit Application for a Streetlight at the Montana Post, on the condition that the luminosity and color temperature match that of the existing MHC streetlights that are located at the west end of town and within Nevada City. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Kacey Smart. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

i) Town of VC Development Permit Application – Julie’s Gems Streetlight

MOTION: To approve the Town of Virginia City Development Permit Application for a Streetlight at Julie’s Gems, on the condition that the luminosity and color temperature match that of the existing MHC streetlights that are located at the west end of town and within Nevada City. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Kacey Smart. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

j) Harper Development Permit Application

MOTION: To approve the Harper Development Permit Application for a shed. Motion made by Amy Grice; Seconded by Dave Bacon. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.

8) Public Works Report

PWO Robert Erdall has looked at new pumps, priced at \$22,912 each, as well as relays, priced at \$525 each. He will speak with Xylem for another quote. PWO Erdall has been working on the boardwalk in front of the Town Office as weather allows. A new transducer for the water tower has arrived and will be installed soon. Tractor & Equipment will service the skidsteer on May 6th.

9) Consent Agenda

a) Accounts Payable, Receivable, Adjustments, & Checks April 2022

MOTION: To approve the Accounts Payable, Receivable, Adjustments and Checks for April 2022. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** **The motion passed by voice vote, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, and Kacey Smart in favor. None opposed.**

10) Public Comment:

Dave Bacon mentioned that at the last Planning Board meeting, it was voted to combine the Zoning and Planning Board as one. There was a draft of an Ordinance created about a month ago to fold the Non-Historic Viewshed Zoning District into the Historic Residential Zoning District. The Planning/Zoning Board has passed this Ordinance; it will go through public hearing next, which will be announced.

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 8:11pm

Respectfully submitted and attested,

Justin Gatewood
Mayor

Timber Baceski
Clerk Treasurer