

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session on November 5, 2024, at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Adam Estenson, Council members John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes, Dusty Lewis and Bill Malloy (via phone). Also present were Mayor/Codes Administrative Assistant Jim Jeunehomme, Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Police Chief Pat Cornwell, Public Works Director Basil Sorensen, Chief Water Plant Operator Chris Seilaff, Town Engineer Anthony Barnett and Town Attorney Marshall Keller.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Following the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was held for Ron Jurovich, the municipal court judge, who passed on October 25, 2024.

AGENDA: Dorman made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

MINUTES: Dorman made a motion, and Lewis seconded to approve the Council meeting minutes from October 1 and 15th, the special session on October 1 and the work session from October 15, 2024. Hughes noted the minutes from October 1st had an incorrect upcoming meeting date. The motion was approved with the correction.

BILLS: Malloy made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the General, Enterprise and Special Fund bills for October 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING: THOMAS & MORGAN LAYTON: HOME OCCUPATION: CUSTOM LEATHER GOODS AND SADDLE CLEANING & REPAIR: The public hearing was opened at 7:07 pm. Layton noted he has a large sewing machine in a 20ft trailer, which he pulls to events where he does leather work. Jeunehomme noted he has purchased a vendor permit. He would like a home occupation permit to continue his leatherwork during the winter. In discussion, Layton noted he did not want to bring his large sewing machine up and down the stairs in his house, however he decided he would be willing to purchase a smaller machine for the trailer. Jeunehomme noted this would meet the home occupation criteria, as the work is required to be in the home, not in an outbuilding or trailer. The public hearing was closed at 7:10 pm. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the home occupation permit for 1513 Fremont.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: The following reports were available for review: police, engineering, streets and alleys, water, wastewater, sanitation and landfill. Discussion ensued on updating ordinances. Chief Cornwell noted Reagan Severance had graduated from the law enforcement academy for Dispatch. Barnett presented a certificate of substantial completion on the chip seal project. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to allow the mayor to sign the certificate of substantial completion and to approve pay estimate #1 to Wild West Construction in the amount of \$105,500.35. Estenson also noted the town will close on the purchase of the land for the transfer station on November 8, 2024.

TOWN ATTORNEY: REVOKING FLUORIDATION IN THE WATER SUPPLY: Keller read the proposed ordinance which would remove the addition of fluoride to the water supply. A prior ordinance added fluoride, and this ordinance will rescind all codes relating to the addition of fluoride. Discussion topics included EPA recommendations (not to exceed .9mg/liter), additional state permitting requirements for adding fluoride, natural occurring fluoride in the water and local Dentists suggestions to use fluoride toothcare products. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the first reading of the ordinance.

ADMINISTRATION: HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL AND EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION INCREASE: Jeunehomme presented the renewal options and administration's recommendation to stay with Zurich. He also proposed increasing the employees' single rate by \$20/month and the family rate by \$40/month. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes, and carried to approve the Zurich renewal and the increase to employee premiums.

ADMINISTRATION: FLAGPOLE REPLACEMENT: Jeunehomme noted he was able to get a quote from Western Flag to remove the Broadway & 5th flagpole, that was damaged in the September wind event (numerous welds were broken). The 80ft pole will be replaced with a 60ft pole due to the reach of equipment for maintenance. The project was quoted at \$26,903 (with approximations for shipping). Jeunehomme noted if the 12x18 American flag is flown, the pole will only support one flag. Insurance proceeds have been received. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to move forward with the flagpole change.

ADMINISTRATION: GRANT DISCUSSION: Estenson noted a local group looking for funds was directed to Merchant McIntyre Assoc. a Washington DC company, who submits grants for federal funds. More details will be covered in the next work session.

ADMINISTRATION: DECO LIGHT POLES: Jeunehomme reviewed decorative light vendors and products. Following discussion, Jeunehomme recommended a Holophane pole with a glass bulb for future replacement poles. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Malloy and carried to proceed with the different poles.

ADMINISTRATION: OTHER: Jeunehomme noted the concrete at Family Park was poured and the Glade Edwards Park playground equipment was installed. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve December 24th as part of the Christmas holiday. Following discussion, Public Works Director Sorensen was given permission to close the landfill on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: Estenson noted he would like to have a citizen advisory board with 5-7 members to aid and review a police department policies and procedures manual. He noted many policies are state statute driven. At 8:13 pm, Dorman made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to adjourn. The next council meeting is November 19, 2024, at 7pm.

BILLS: A & I, Oil, \$2,485.61; AFLAC, Insurance, \$363.12; American Welding, Welding Gases, \$326.11; AMLO, Parts, \$1,125.00; APCO, Dues, \$391.00; BCN, Phone, \$118.76; Big Horn Water, Rental, \$92.50; Big Horn Circuit Court, Garnishment, \$666.84; Big Horn Coop, Landfill Gates, \$365.96; Bloedorn Lumber, Window, \$433.14; Brenntag Pacific, Lime, \$10,238.99; Cameron Burrows, Supplies, \$90.00; Carquest, Supplies \$831.47; Caselle, Support, Software \$804.00; Patrick Cornwell, Officer Photos, \$430.00; Counter Strike, Uniforms, \$1,822.99; Desert Mtn, Ice Slicer, \$5,504.40; Energy Labs, Service, \$551.00; Engineering Assoc., Service, \$23,436.40; Floyds Truck Center, Parts, \$529.24; Grainger, Parts, \$170.68; Great West Trust, Retirement, \$840.00; Green Turf, Service, \$1,175.68; Hach, Supplies, \$629.90; Hawkins, Rental, \$20.00; High Plains Power, Service, \$58.63; Hopper Disposal, Tires, \$8,806.40; HS Vet Clinic, Contract, \$955.00; HSCSD#1, Fuel, \$4,042.12; Idexx, Contract, \$500.00; IR, Legal Ads, \$805.00; Insurance Trust, Premiums, \$37,448.00; Jadeco, Service, \$640.70; Joe Johnson Equip., Parts, \$560.00; JRA Inc., Report, \$19.50; Ron Jurovich, Service, \$900.00; Keller Law, Service, \$4,400.00; Laird Sanitation, Service, \$100.00; Michael Mascorro, Floor Mats, \$20.94; Micro-Com, Contract, \$6,900.00; Midco Diving, Service, \$8,652.00; Murdoch Oil, Diesel, \$2,278.46; Napa-Riverton, Tool Boxes, \$2,138.00; Napa, Def, 340.99; NCPERS, Life Ins., \$208.00; Vicki Nichols, Service, \$35.00; One Call, Fees, \$18.00; O'Reilly, Supplies, \$55.16; Owl Creek Excavation, Family Park Basketball Court, \$41,300.00; Peak Water Services, Service, \$975.00; Pitney Bowes, Lease, \$163.83; Playground Boss, Glade Edwards Equip., \$33,958.00; Postmaster, Postage, \$755.94; Provision, Software, \$2,340.00; QA Balance, Service, \$225.00; R & A Safety, Service, \$90.50; Railroad Mgmt, Fees, \$811.34; Range, Service, \$557.36; RDO Equip., Parts, \$431.75; Rocky Mt. Power, Service, \$19,857.58; Safeguard Business, Utility Cards, \$1,934.36; Christopher Seilaff, Mileage, \$176.88; Serlkay Printing, Receipt Books, \$104.00; Staples, Supplies, \$40.87; Ted Miller, Service, \$500.00; The Office Shop, Contract, \$119.55; Thermopolis Hardware, Supplies, \$589.94; TOT, Depreciation & Utilities, \$82,420.48; Tracey Van Heule, ½ License, \$95.00; Tractor & Equip, Parts, \$413.00; Unum, Insurance, \$115.46; USA Bluebook, Supplies, \$1,104.49; Verizon, Phone, \$395.00; Visa, Supplies, \$1,097.78; VSP, Insurance, \$310.34; WWQ & PCA, Class, \$204.00; Wamco Lab, Service, \$180.00; Ward's Upholstery, Recover Seats, \$300.00; Wild West Construction, Pay Estimate #1 Chip Seal, \$105,500.35; Workforce Services, Workers Comp, \$3,760.75; Wyo Tees, Uniform, \$53.98; WY First Aid, Supplies, \$83.54; WY Gas, Service, \$269.94; WY Public Health Lab, Fees, \$88.00; WY Retirement, Retirement, \$26,706.56; WY.Com, Service, \$105.00; Wyonet, Service, \$468.00; Youth Alternatives, Services, \$500.00; Payroll, \$103,709.56; Payroll Taxes, \$33,867.51.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Clerk/Treasurer

Adam Estenson, Mayor