

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session on April 7, 2026, at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Adam Estenson, Council members Tony Larson, John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes and Dusty Lewis. Also present were Mayor/Codes Administrative Assistant Jim Jeunehomme, Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Connie Guntly, Police Chief Pat Cornwell, Town Engineer Anthony Barnett and Town Attorney Marshall Keller.

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

MINUTES: Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the Council meeting minutes from February 27, March 3 and March 17, 2026.

ACCEPTANCE OF CLERK/TREASURER FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: Doman made motion, seconded by Larson and carried to accept the financial disclosure statement presented by Clerk/Treasurer, Tracey Van Heule and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Constance Guntly, pursuant to W.S. 6-5-118(a).

BILLS: Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the General, Enterprise and Special Fund bills for March 2026. Mayor Estenson abstained on his mileage reimbursements, and Larson abstained from his business' invoice.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: PREDATOR PRODUCTIONS: CATERING PERMITS: Dorman made a motion, seconded by Larson and carried to approve a catering permit for Predator Productions, dba Bar Ten. The permit is for a grand opening event on June 20, 2026 for the Wind River Canyon Whitewater and Fly Fishing from 4:00 pm to 10 pm.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Kevin Simpson and Eric Mackay spoke to the Council in support of the Fireworks ordinance being presented for second reading. Paul Berry expressed his concern about vehicle smoke during the No Kings Rally. The group did not notify Law Enforcement.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: The following reports were available for review: police, engineering, streets and alleys, water, wastewater, sanitation and landfill.

TOWN ENGINEER:

1. Recommendation of Award – Water Infrastructure Tank and Clarifier Painting Project: Three bids were publicly opened on March 26, 2026. Larson made a motion, seconded Lewis and carried to accept the low bid from ATS Welding for the painting projects.

TOWN ATTORNEY:

1. Second Reading Amending Ordinance 857 Adoption of Codes: Attorney Keller presented the Town Building Codes ordinance, with no changes from the first reading. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Larson and carried to approve second reading.
2. Second Reading Repealing and Reenacting Fireworks Town Code Section 11-102: Attorney Keller presented Town Code Section 11-102 with changes to the times to 3:00

pm to 12:30 am on the July Fourth and New Year's Eve holidays. Fireworks will be prohibited on designated highways, town parks, and zoned commercial areas (downtown). Discussion included providing terms regarding the zones, specifying commercial business areas and removing the highway area that also includes residential, and prohibiting fireworks on Town property. Larson made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the second reading with the changes.

3. Second Reading Mayor and Council Pay Rate Scale Ordinance: Attorney Keller presented the Mayor and Council Pay Rate Ordinance with no changes from the first reading. Discussion ensued on raising the Mayor salary due to increasing issues and time spent on Town matters, Council members' pay is enough as is, and increasing the pay may incentive people to run for positions. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Larson to change the Mayor's wage to \$750 a month and Council members to \$60 per meeting, Larson, Dorman, Estenson, and Lewis voted yes, Hughes voted no. Motion carried

ADMINISTRATION:

1. 2025 Annual Water Quality Report: The report is available for review and being distributed to all the outlying districts.
2. Extension of Joint Law Enforcement Center Agreement: Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the Joint Law Enforcement Amendment extending the agreement to July 1, 2028.
3. Bid Tandem Axel Dump Truck: The bids will be opened on April 14, 2026 at 1:00 pm.
4. Bid Four Door SUV Police Vehicle: The bids will be opened on April 14, 2026 at 2:00 pm.
5. Lead Service Line Funding Grant: The Town's application for the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund to investigate and replace the lead services lines was approved for \$6,081,495.
6. Transfer Station Funding Grant: The Town's application for the Landfill Transfer Station was approved in the amount of \$2,000,000.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: OTHER:

1. Letter of Support – Hot Springs County State Park – Mayor Estenson presented a letter of support for timely and agreeable resolution for the ongoing litigation at the Hot Springs State Park. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Larson and carried to approve the letter.

At 8:05 pm, Larson made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to adjourn. The next council meeting is April 21, 2026, at 7pm.

BILLS: 71 Construction, Cold mix, \$17,559.50; Adam Estenson, Mileage, \$448.06; AFLAC, Insurance, \$370.26; American Welding, Welding Gas, \$465.89; BCN, Phone, \$96.54; Big Horn Water, Service, \$95.25; BNSF, Fees, \$116.85; Carquest, Supplies \$962.57; Caselle, Support, Software \$972; Chemco, Parts, \$1,912.04; Communication Technologies, Software, \$9,734; Pat Cornwell, Mileage, \$191.40; Counter Strike, Uniforms, \$1,201; Desert Mtn, Ice Slicer, \$6,541.01; Drivers License Guide, Books, \$146; Empower, Retirement, \$950; Energy Labs, Service, \$883; Engineering Assoc., Service, \$19,938.34; Environmental Resource Assn, Supplies, \$694.06; Fastenal, Parts, \$31.50; Frandsen Safety, Service, \$100; Grainger, Parts, \$116, Hach, Supplies, \$2,320.89; Hansons's Fire Equip., Service, \$210.24; Hawkins, Cylinder

Fee, \$20; High Plains Power, Service, \$188.19; Hopper Disposal, Tires, \$576; HSC, Phone, \$46.46; HS Health, Service, \$467; HS Vet Clinic, Contract, \$955; HSCSD#1, Fuel, \$3,099.45; HSC Treasurer, Tax Commission, \$133.23; IR, Legal Ads, \$1,133.25; Insurance Trust, Premiums, \$39,846; Jadeco, Service, \$1,198.79; Keller Law, Service, \$4,400; Kleen Pipe, Service, \$15,267.20; Laird Sanitation, Service, \$100; Legion Golf Club, Contract, \$25,000; Master Plumbing, Service, \$720; Merchant McIntyre, Service, \$5,000; Travis Morgan, Uniform, \$126.77; Motorola, Parts, \$812.46; Napa, Parts, \$99.90; NCPERS, Life Ins., \$192; Normont, Root Cutter, \$4,361; One Call, Locates, \$10.50; The Only Co, Ads, \$2,591.83; O'Reilly, Parts, \$326.76; Pence & McMillan, Service, \$29; Postmaster, Postage, \$752.18; Range, Service, \$945.65; Rocky Mt. Power, Service, \$18,322.03; Serklay, Name tags, \$53.98; Staples, Supplies, \$936.19; The Office Shop, Service, \$104.60; Thermopolis Hardware, Supplies, \$1,857.90; T-Mobile, Phone, \$329.17; Tony's TLC, Contract, \$9,000; TOT General, Streets Labor, \$8,000; TOT, Depreciation, Utilities, \$75,918; Tractor & Equip., Parts, \$970.56; Traveling Computer, Service, \$191.23; Unum, Insurance, \$110.30; Visa, Supplies, \$1,772.51; VSP, Insurance, \$355.73; Williams Law Office, Service, \$900; WLEA, Class, \$685; Workforce Services, Workers Comp, \$5,296.52; WY Gas, Service, \$2,896.75; WY Retirement, Retirement, \$26,880.31; WY Rural Water, Class, \$455; WY.Com, Service, \$25; WyoNet, Email, \$252; Youth Alternatives, Services, \$500; Payroll, \$101,428.69; Payroll Taxes, \$32,161.45.

ATTEST:

Connie Gunlty, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Adam Estenson, Mayor