

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session on May 19, 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 Connie Guntly, Town Attorney Marshall Keller, Public Works Director Basil Sorensen, Police Sergeant Nicole Andersen, and Town Engineer Anthony Barnett.

AGENDA: Following the pledge of allegiance, Larson made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the agenda.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT RESOLUTION NO. 590: Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve and adopt Resolution 590, which adjusts the budget to reflect actual costs.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Larson made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the financial statement for April 2026.

ELECTRONIC BILL PAY: Clerk/Treasurer Guntly informed the Council, some companies are requiring electronic invoice payment, and the invoices will still be reflected on the monthly bills report.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. MALT BEVERAGE PERMIT: Trevino Enterprises LLC, requested a permit for the May 22 through May 24, Whiskey Rodeo event at the Fairgrounds. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Larson and carried to approve the 24hr Malt Beverage Permit. Fair Board permission was received.
2. CATERING PERMIT: OEB Saloon, requested a permit for May 21, 2026, Whiskey Rodeo event at the Fairgrounds. Larson made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the 24hr Catering Permit. Fair Board permission was received.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Ron Alvarez addressed the Council regarding the 117 Fremont Street property.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Estenson opened the Public Hearing at 7:17pm for comments on the Big Springs Spa, DBA Safari Club, Bar and Grill Liquor License application for the period of May 20, 2026 through March 31, 2027. After three call for public comment and hearing none the Public Hearing was closed at 7:18 pm. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the Big Springs Spa, Bar and Grill Liquor License.

TOWN ENGINEER: Anthony Barnett stated the painting and clarifier project started for the water tanks. The Transfer Station DEQ permits are being processed and before building begins a public hearing will be conducted.

ADMINISTRATION:

1. FIRST DRAFT OF THE 2026-27 BUDGET: Following discussion, Larson made a motion, seconded by Lewis to approve first draft of the budget and add hiring bonus incentives for police officer positions for the second reading. Motion carried with Larson, Dorman, Lewis, and Estenson voting yes, and Hughes voting no.
2. LANDFILL AGREEMENT EXTENSION: Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the Landfill Extension Agreement.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: Mayor Estenson announced John Webber is retiring and a reception will be held on May 29, 2026, at 2:00 pm. At 7:50 pm Larson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Hughes and carried. The next Council meeting is June 2, 2026, at 7pm.

ATTEST:

Connie Guntly, Clerk/Treasurer

Adam R. Estenson, Mayor