

TOWN OF DRUMMOND
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

06/18/2024

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Gail Leeper called the June Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Mayor Leeper & Council Members McLure, Clute, Powell and Stuart; Town Attorney McGill; Town Clerk-Treasurer Wight and Public Works Director Harrington.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Leeper led the Pledge of Allegiance at the Public Meeting.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Hagan, Calvin Wight

GUEST COMMENT:

- **Chris Hagan** – Mayor Leeper introduced Chris to the Drummond Town Council; stating he is the individual that facilitated the paint donation for the 1954 Ford Fire Truck Restoration Project, through National Coatings & Supplies #3187, out of Missoula. He is a new resident in Jens, Montana. However, he's a long-time resident of Montana being raised in Anaconda, and previously residing in Deer Lodge.

Chris expanded, of his gratitude to participate in the Fire Truck Restoration Project; and how he is community minded and considers Drummond part of his home area now, residing so close in Jens.

Chris was delighted at the invitation, to participate in the Fourth of July Rodeo Weekend Parade.

Town of Drummond provided Chris and his family, Kiwanis PRCA Rodeo Tickets to enjoy taking part in the rodeo after the parade.

The Mayor and Town Council visited with Chris regarding the Fire Truck, and concluded by discussing the type of products and coatings provided at National Coatings & Supplies.

- **Sam Martin Jr.** – Sam Martin Jr., representing the Wagon Wheel, asked to be placed on the June Town Council Agenda; Mr. Martin contacted Mayor Leeper, today at 2:06PM; informing her, he was not ready to present information to the Council at this time, postponing until July.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Law Enforcement Report was provided to Drummond, for the June Town Council meeting.

MINUTES: Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the May Fish, Wildlife and Parks Fishing Boat Access Agreement Work Session Meeting minutes. Council Member Stuart made a motion to approve the May Fish, Wildlife and Parks Fishing Boat Access Agreement Work Session Meeting minutes. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the May Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member Clute made a motion to approve the May Regular Town Council Meeting

minutes. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

CLAIMS: Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the claims. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve the claims. Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

INVESTMENTS: Investment sheet provided to the Town Council.

FINANCIALS: Financial sheet provided to the Town Council.

Citizens Alliance Bank - Sewer Fund 3-Month Certificate of Deposit Maturity Date 06/22/2024.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the roll-over of the current Sewer Certificate of Deposit held at Citizens Alliance Bank. Council Member Clute made a motion to approve the roll-over of the current Sewer Certificate of Deposit held at Citizens Alliance Bank. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

ACTION ITEMS:

Triple Tree Engineering – Letter: Authorization of Rural Development Grant Application Representative.

Discussion and Decision of Triple Tree Engineering Letter Authorization of Rural Development Grant Application.

Attorney McGill interjected; this approval is for Triple Tree Engineering to prepare the grant application and approval for the mayor to sign, and to be done so by motion. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve Triple Tree Engineering to prepare the grant application and approval for the mayor to sign. Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Leeper provided a synopsis of Resolutions 2024-8 through 2024-12; stating, these resolutions are for book keeping purposes within Black Mountain Software clean-up. Adding, future book keeping resolutions of similar structure and utilizing the same purpose, may be condensed; as recommended by Attorney McGill.

Clerk/Treasurer Wight added, these are historic funds that are not utilized. Adding, after researching; found STIP and Checking Interest Allocations were still being divided and placed into inactive funds resulting in positive balances.

Clerk/Treasurer Wight discussed in detail; which funds are considered historic inactive funds, how far back they go as not being utilized, and provided the research to the Council.

Mayor Leeper conferred to Attorney McGill; if, waiving the reading of Resolutions 2024-8 through 2024-12 could be done so in one motion.

Attorney McGill concurred; adding each resolution number must be listed individually for the motion.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolutions 2024-8; 2024-9; 2024-10; 2024-11; and 2024-12. Council Member McLure made motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2024-8; 2024-9; 2024-10; 2024-11 and 2024-12. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Mayor Leeper asked, if the Council had any further questions or discussions in regards to these resolutions.

Attorney McGill interjected; to make motion separately, for the decision of each resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-8 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER CASH OPERATING AMOUNT OF \$4,339.53 FROM 1000 GENERAL FUND INTO HISTORIC FUND 2810 POLICE PENSION & TRAINING (3RD CLASS CITIES) TO ZERO FUND 2810 FOR ACCURATE ACCOUNTING WITHIN BLACK MOUNTAIN SOFTWARE.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-8. Council Member Stuart made motion to Resolution 2024-8. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-9 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER STIP INVESTMENT AMOUNT OF \$1.39 FROM HISTORIC FUND 2810 POLICE PENSION & TRAINING (3RD CLASS CITIES) INTO 1000 GENERAL FUND TO ZERO FUND 2810 FOR ACCURATE ACCOUNTING WITHIN BLACK MOUNTAIN SOFTWARE.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-9. Council Member McLure made motion to Resolution 2024-9. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER CASH OPERATING AMOUNT OF \$2,706.50 FROM HISTORIC FUND 7002 FIRE RELIEF FUND INTO 1000 GENERAL FUND TO ZERO FUND 7002 FOR ACCURATE ACCOUNTING WITHIN BLACK MOUNTAIN SOFTWARE.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10. Council Member McLure made motion to Resolution 2024-10. Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER CASH OPERATING AMOUNT OF \$30.00 FROM HISTORIC FUND 7458 COURT SURCHARGE TECHNOLOGY INTO 1000 GENERAL FUND TO ZERO FUND 7458 FOR ACCURATE ACCOUNTING WITHIN BLACK MOUNTAIN SOFTWARE.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11. Council Member Clute

made motion to Resolution 2024-11. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER CASH OPERATING AMOUNT OF \$30.00 FROM HISTORIC FUND 7467 LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY SURCHARGE INTO 1000 GENERAL FUND TO ZERO FUND 7467 FOR ACCURATE ACCOUNTING WITHIN BLACK MOUNTAIN SOFTWARE.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12. Council Member McLure made motion to Resolution 2024-12. Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- **Social Media Postings, by Government Officials and Employees (Personal Accounts) –**

Mayor Leeper read, “The bottom line is to understand that certain posts on personal social media pages relevant to your authority as a government official can render that personal page a government action and subject to you and your community to potential free speech liability” – The League.

Mayor Leeper continued, addressing the Council; don’t post on your personal page as an elected official for the Town of Drummond.

Clerk/Treasurer Wight added, it is also recommended for elected officials to state on their personal social media accounts that it is a “personal page.” So, there is no confusion it is not the government’s page.

- **Joint Session Report –** May 30, 2024 6:30PM, at Philipsburg Town Hall.

Mayor Leeper reported, the Solid Waste Agreement, with the County, still stands; the Town of Drummond having no fees for dumping.

- **Planning Board Report –**

- Lower Willow Creek Subdivision is Existing Building Improvements, by BD Land LLC. Information available for Council Members, should they choose to review.

- **League of Cities and Towns –**

Mayor Leeper will be attending the June 25th -27th MT League Board Meeting, as she is a current Board Member.

ATTORNEY: None

PARKS:

- **Maintenance –** Few downed tree limbs; mowing is caught up.

Public Works Director Harrington received permission, to maintain tree by bridge.

- **Down Fence –** Council Member Clute noted; the fence by the bridge might need repaired.

Public Works Director Harrington stated, someone went through the fence last year.

Mayor Lepper stated, for Public Works Director Harrington to repair fence if it is Town property.

- **Porta Potty** – has been delivered to park, for the summer.

ROADS: None

FLOODPLAINS:

- **Dike Inspection** – USACE (United States of America, Core of Engineers) Inspection scheduled Thursday, June 13th at 9AM.

Council Member McLure asked, Public Works Director Harrington to report on the inspection.

Public Works Director Harrington reported, the only concern USACE had was a tree that had fallen over from land owner's property; which, landed across dike onto the base of the creek, that needed to be cleaned up and the downed tree removed.

Mayor Leeper suggested, for Public Works Director work with the Land Owner.

The gate did not get put back in this Spring and was plugged with debris, it needed to be cleaned out. Public Works Director Harrington added, he would be placing the gate in the future; putting the gate in the Spring and taking it out in the Winter, if that would be alright, so he would know it was completed.

- **Floodplain Maps** – Received June 4, 2024 letter from FEMA; the appeals process has started, which will last 90 days. Comment and Appeal Forms are available at Town Hall. The Town has an excel spreadsheet to complete and submit to DNRC/FEMA for any citizens who completes a comment or Appeal Form.

SEWER:

Western State CAT – Contract is up for preventive maintenance for the generator. There is still warranty left on the generator, However, if it is serviced by someone else or the Town, Western State CAT will not honor the warranty.

Council Person Clute had Clerk Treasurer Wight add the maintenance agreement to the council packets; for review and discussion.

Council Members asked, Council Person Clute's opinion.

Discussion of the agreement was made amongst the Council Members, regarding the seven-year warranty, which has a remainder of four years; and the three-year service agreement.

The acceptance the of service agreement needs to be done by motion.

Council Member McLure made a motion to renew the preventative maintenance agreement with Cat,

and grant Mayor Leeper authority to sign the agreement. Council Member Stuart Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Sewer Issues – It was originally thought Blackfoot hit a sewer line, while working on the Fiber Optic Project; Council Member Clute, Public Works Director Harrington and Mayor Leeper have invested a lot of time looking into this.

The Land Owner had a service call; it turned out the issue is a hole about the size of a quarter on top of the service line, on the land owner's property; Blackfoot did not hit the line. The land owner will need to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

Public Works Director Harrington interjected, an emergency locate ticket was just received; Rocky Mountain Drain and Rescue will be working on the issue.

Last week Rocky Mountain Drain and Rescue came out addressing concerns with the property owner; Council Person Clute expanded, that Rocky Mountain Drain and Rescue had pulled the manhole without receiving permission from the Town or letting the Town know.

Rocky Mountain Drain and Rescue were informed, they cannot pull manholes in Drummond.

When Council Person Clute and Public Works Director Harrington went back and pulled the manhole, they found a 2x4 in the manhole, which was starting to back up the city line.

Another issue of concern, is with Blackfoot working on the Fiber Optic project there is a lot of dirt and debris being pushed over manholes and burring them with 6-8" of dirt. Which, poses the need to purchase a water tank that will connect with the pressure washer to clean up those areas.

Council Member Clute and Public Works Director Harrington are currently looking to purchase a 350-gallon water tank; this will be utilized in multiple functions throughout the Town.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade – Mayor Leeper spoke with Engineer Koon; he provided an update on the sewer project. The RD grant application is half completed; project design is 100% completed and submitted.

Engineer Koon needs to do more testing for the proposed sludge placement area on the incline, then he will try to finish up the terms of that agreement.

The alternate property, the land owner is not interested in an agreement.

Engineer Koon will be at the July Town Council Meeting; and he will be bringing liner samples for the Council.

Discussion was addressed, regarding the railroad and crossing with the sludge removed from the existing lagoon.

Mayor Leeper will ask Engineer Koon, to present the logistics of hauling the sludge at the July Town Council Meeting.

CITY COURT: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

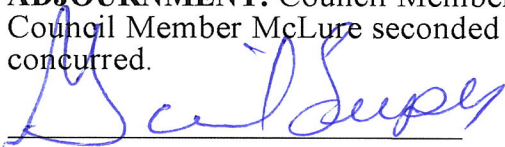
- **No Parking Signs** – East End of Town signage, along railroad easement; change signage to “No Overnight Parking” and “No Camping.”
- **Xylem** – Reaching out for service call.

Council Person Clute stated, last service on the pumps was completed in November; the pumps are currently not due for service.

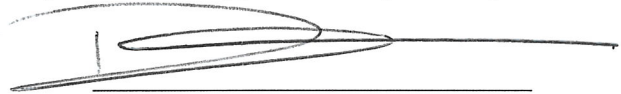
Clerk/Treasurer Wight was asked, to reach back out to Xylem in an effort to schedule a meeting.

Next Town Council Meeting: Scheduled Tuesday, July 16, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Stuart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46pm. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.



Gail Leeper, Mayor



Robin Wight, Town Clerk-Treasurer