

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session November 21, 2017 at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Mike Mortimore, Council members John Dorman Sr., Bill Malloy and Dusty Lewis. Also, present were Mayor/Codes Administrative Assistant Fred Crosby, Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Police Chief Steven Shay, Public Works Director Ernie Slagle, Town Engineer Anthony Barnett and Town Attorney Mike Messenger. Council member Tony Larson was absent.

AGENDA: Following the pledge of allegiance, Dorman made a motion, seconded by Malloy and carried to approve the agenda as written.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Malloy made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the financial statement for October 2017.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: SHORTY'S: CATERING PERMIT: Dorman made a motion, seconded by Mortimore and carried to approve a catering permit for Shorty's for the Hospital Christmas Party at the Fairgrounds on December 16 from 5-11 pm.

TOWN ENGINEER: ANTHONY BARNETT: Malloy made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve pay estimate #2 on the 12th Street sewer project to Owl Creek Excavation for \$1,500. Barnett updated the Mayor and Council on the airport tank painting and the sewer lift station repair.

TOWN ATTORNEY: MIKE MESSENGER: Discussion ensued on two draft franchise agreements. The length of the agreements, percentage fees, prevailing fees and revenues were discussed. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Mortimore to set both franchise fees at 4% and the length for 5 years. The motion was amended to 10-year terms. Dorman voted aye. Mortimore, Lewis and Malloy voted no. Motion failed. Lewis made a motion for a 5% fee to RT (currently at 2%) and a 3.5% fee to Wyoming Gas (currently 2%), with a 10-year term. Dorman seconded. Motion carried. The agreements will be presented to the respective companies.

ADMINISTRATION: FRED CROSBY: HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL: Crosby reviewed the 4.97% renewal. Mortimore made a motion, seconded by Malloy and carried to accept the health insurance renewal offer from Allegiance.

ADMINISTRATION: OTHER: RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT: Crosby noted a fence right-of-way agreement for 745 Richards, had been approved by the Board of Appeals. In discussion, Dorman noted to allow for construction of a five-foot sidewalk, the fence needed to be six-feet from the curb, rather than five feet. Dorman made a motion to accept the agreement with approval of a fence, six-feet from the curb. Malloy seconded, motion carried. Crosby will notify the property owner.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: EMPLOYEE HEALTH REBATE: Mortimore noted the Insurance Trust fund balance covers more than a year's worth of expenses and noted he

would like to return the funds to the employees as a health insurance rebate. Funds were also budgeted for a bonus with the fountain fund. Malloy made a motion to approve a \$1,000 net bonus to full time employees (over 30 hrs./week) and a \$500 net bonus to part time employees. Additional discussion ensued on capping the cash amount in the health insurance trust fund, HRA's and other ideas.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: FIRE DISTRICT SNOW REMOVAL: Discussion ensued on the cost of removing snow from the storage area behind the fire hall, the current contract and prior costs. Malloy made a motion, seconded by Mortimore and carried to allow the Fire District to choose their own snow removal contractor and to pay the submitted contractor invoices, until the line item is exhausted.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: OTHER: Discussion ensued on the progress of the Rocky Mtn Power grant to put LED lights in the decorative streetlights. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm. The next scheduled council meeting is December 5, 2017 at 7 pm.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Clerk/Treasurer

Mike Mortimore, Mayor