

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Council Meeting
March 4, 2014

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Brad Schmier, Jerry Johnson, John Costello, Cole Parker, Greg Forsythe

OTHERS PRESENT: Operations Manager Becky Guay, Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Chief of Police Gordon Berger, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Social Services Director Jack Dittmann, Town Attorney Jane Mersen

WY Chamber of Commerce Representatives Travis Watt, Marysue Costello, Marge Wanner, Jan Stoddard, Steve Stoddard, Cynthia Knapp, WY School District Representative Kyle Burden, WY News Editor Melea Burke, Doc Stewart, Joyce Hanna, Grace McCoy, Tom Nesbitt, Buck Taylor, Gallatin County Sheriff Brian Gootkin, Public Services Employee Kurtis Holtzen, Assistant Public Services Superintendent David Arnado, Lisa Carter, Dawn Lundigren, Brenda Martin, Sandi Peppler, Scott Clark, Tim Heideman, Fire Chief Scott Waldron, Assistant Fire Chief Shane Grube, Tom Cherhoniak, NPS Deputy Les Brunton, YHC Representative Ed Geiger, Benny McCracken, MT Highway Patrolman Marcus Cook, Mike Gavagan, Gayle Gavagan

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier at 7:00 PM in the Povah Community Center

Portions of the meeting are being recorded.

The Treasurer's Report with corresponding banking transactions is on file at the Town Offices for public review during regular business hours.

ACTION TAKEN

- 1) Motion carried to approve the claims which total \$30,749.51. (Forsythe, Parker)
- 2) Motion carried to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes of the February 18, 2014 Work Session, February 18, 2014 Town Council Meeting, and the February 25, 2014 Work Session. (Forsythe, Parker)
- 3) Motion carried to approve the claim to CHP for \$75,000, as budgeted in the FY 2014 budget. (Forsythe, Johnson)
- 4) Motion carried to continue to work with the YHC on finalizing an agreement which would turn over management of the UPDL beginning in the year 2015 for a period of five years. (Johnson, Forsythe)
- 6) Motion carried to forgive the Chamber for past resort taxes that have not been paid for previous Snowmobile Expo Events as well as any tax on admissions for this year, 2014. (Johnson, Forsythe)
- 7) Motion carried to postpone consideration of amending Policy #7. (Johnson, Parker)
- 8) Motion carried to refer the school encroachment to the Planning Commission. (Parker, Forsythe)
- 10) Motion carried to approve the Snowmobile Expo Events for 2014 as requested. (Parker, Forsythe)
- 11) Motion carried to appoint Brenda Martin to the 911 Advisory Board. (Johnson, Forsythe)
- 12) Motion carried appoint Brock Kelley to the TBID Board of Trustees, as a representative of the Public At Large. (Forsythe, Parker)
- 13) Motion carried to table Policy #44. (Johnson, Forsythe)

- 14) Motion carried to approve Resolution No. 645, a resolution placing the question of a local government review before the Town Electorate on the 2014 Primary Ballot with the budget amount of \$5000. (Johnson, Parker)

Council Comments

Johnson commends Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek for the very good audit report, which is a vital part of the Town's operations.

Public Comment Period

Fire Chief Scott Waldron addresses the Council and expresses concern for public safety. He states that a local resident was recently in a car accident due to impaired driving just outside of town. This same resident was in a similar accident in town last November but has not been charged. Waldron distributes large envelopes of information that pertain to the accidents to each Council Member and the Town Attorney. He then encourages the Council to seek outside help when evaluating the investigation of the accident.

Gallatin County Sheriff Brian Gootkin addresses the Council and thanks the Town for the invitation for a Representative from the Sheriff's Office to serve on the 911 Advisory Board. He indicates that he will personally serve on that board. Gootkin also says his department and the Town are working together on the protective custody issues and that is going well. Gootkin says that he attended a Council meeting last fall and was asked by a Councilmember if the public safety for was in danger. At that time, he did not think public safety was an issue in West Yellowstone, but he thinks they are at that point now. He says he has immediate concerns about the public's safety. He says that he believes he has the authority to conduct criminal investigations in West Yellowstone and in light of recent events, intends to use that authority. He also makes the recommendation that the Town send their newest officer, Officer Brian McCoy, to the Montana POST basic training program. McCoy is not required to attend the program, but he feels that he would greatly benefit and is in need of the training.

Don Siefert, candidate for the Gallatin County Commission for District #1, introduces himself and explains that he is running for the seat this year that will represent West Yellowstone and he would greatly appreciate the support.

Presentation: Community Health Partners (CHP)

Lander Cooney and Buck Taylor of Community Health Partners address the Council. Cooney explains that CHP provides healthcare in West Yellowstone and briefly describes the services CHP provides in West Yellowstone including basic health care, screenings, breast-feeding and parenting support. She explains that the target population for their services is 200% of the federal poverty level and the 54% of their clients are at or below that target. Parker asks what the federal poverty rate is. Cooney responds that for a family of four, it is currently right around \$23,000/year, so they would double that. Parker also asks where the number \$75,000 comes from. Cooney explains that figures they have already provided show that they have experienced a loss of \$91,000 for 2013 and the \$75,000 was requested by CHP about this time last year to be included in the Town's budget. The Town agreed to a risk-share with CHP of up to \$75,000, which was included in this budget. Johnson adds that this is really a grant from the Town to support healthcare. CHP is the current provider in West Yellowstone.

DISCUSSION

- 4) Forsythe says that he would like to make a proposal pertaining to future management of the Union Pacific Dining Lodge. He first asks Jack Dittmann if the town has made commitments on the rental price for the coming season. Dittmann indicates that is correct. All entities that have reserved the building have received the information packet, which includes the rental price. He points out that the Yellowstone Historic Center (YHC) and the Yellowstone Foundation-which have standing reservations for the same weekends every year-have not received packets but they handle those reservations differently. Forsythe clarifies some of the details regarding how the building reservations are handled. Johnson says he understands why they are at this point, but considering that

the building is essentially booked for the whole next summer, he does not think there is urgency to make a decision now. Forsythe asks how long has this issue been discussed. Ed Geiger explains that they first started talking about it approximately a year ago. Johnson adds that the Council asked YHC last fall to put together a proposal. Geiger says that they have initiated going after grant funding, and putting this off for a year will delay those funding opportunities, too. Costello asks how much of a difference would it make to delay the first year that the YHC takes over until 2015. Geiger says their original plan was to take over in 2014, but delaying until 2015 would not be too much of a problem. Johnson points out that putting it off for a year will give the Town time to budget. Costello says that having a year to plan will give the YHC the opportunity to set the rates for 2015. The Council considers when is the appropriate time to turn management over to the YHC. Johnson says he thinks all they need to do now is pass a motion indicating the Town's intent to turn over management and work out the details with the YHC by January 1, 2015. Geiger says that in order to pursue grant funding, they would need a more definitive indication that they would take over for at least five years. Johnson says that obviously, they have to work out the details. Forsythe suggests that they delay and have the Town Attorney consider the proposal. Mersen says that if they move to accept the proposal tonight, then she believes they would be entering into a binding agreement. Johnson suggests they pass a motion indicating the Town intends to work out an agreement. Mersen suggests they agree to enter into negotiations to establish an agreement. Guay questions that if the grant funding the YHC is seeking is for the building, then does it really matter who is managing the building? Geiger says that the grants are from entities that the YHC can only apply to.

- 5) The Council discusses the request from the WY Chamber of Commerce to be exempted from Resort Tax Collections. Costello explains that he would like to discuss the past, present, and future circumstances that apply to this issue. Johnson says as he motioned at the previous meeting, he thinks they should forgive the Chamber for resort taxes from previous years and this year. Costello asks for public comment. Doc Stewart, former Council Member, states that he thinks Deputy Mayor Costello should abstain from the discussion and vote on this issue based on the fact that he is married to the Executive Director of the West Yellowstone Chamber, to avoid the appearance of impropriety. Town Attorney Jane Mersen says that state law defines conflict of interest as when a council member obtains direct financial gain as a result of a vote. Costello says that he definitely does not have any opportunity for direct financial gain in this situation.
- 7) Forsythe says he thinks they should revisit the policy before November of this year, Johnson says he thinks they should hold a work session to discuss it before they get into budget work session in the next couple of months.
- 8) Kyle Burden, Maintenance Supervisor for the WY School, explains that the school is preparing to seek a bond to add on to the school. He says that they would like permission to encroach on city property by allowing traffic flow for the proposed addition from Faithful Street across the interior park of Block 3. Costello says they could discuss this from now until next week, but the real question is whether they want to allow the school to use that section of public property for a driveway. The Council asks multiple questions about the request. Burden explains that they believe this plan will make it easier for parents to drop off and pick up students. Guay suggests that the Council consider putting this request before the Planning Commission to consider and make a recommendation. Burden asks when will the Planning Commission meet again. Public Services Superintendent James Patterson indicates they are going to meet next Wednesday and Burden indicates he will attend that meeting.
- 9) Marge Wanner addresses the Council about upcoming events that will take place during the Snowmobile Expo, March 14-16, 2014. Wanner explains that their requests this year are similar to the past and include the Encroachment Application for the tent behind the Holiday Inn, the closure of Canyon Street for the motorcycle demonstration, an outside amplification permit, and assistance from the public services department.

- 11) Brenda Martin says that she would like to serve on the 911 Advisory Board. She thinks forming this board will be very helpful for the dispatch center and is a good idea. Forsythe asks what the closing date was for the seat on the board. Guay answers that it was advertised as “open until filled.” Town Clerk Liz Roos adds that it was advertised twice in the local paper and publicly posted for over two weeks.
- 13) The Council discusses proposed Policy #44, a policy that establishes the proper procedure for the Town Council members to contact the Town Attorney. The policy essentially establishes the chain of command for contacting the attorney. The group discusses whether this policy limits the Operations Manager’s authority to contact the attorney or if he/she must contact the Mayor, first. After further discussion, Mersen agrees that they should add a sentence that clarifies that situation and she will make that revision before the next meeting.
 - A) **Advisory Board Reports:** Council Member Johnson says that the Clothing Bank Committee has put together two recommendations for the Council to consider regarding the future of the clothing bank. The recommendations were included in the packet for this meeting and it will be on the agenda on March 18, 2014.
 - B) **Operations Manager’s Report:** Operations Manager Becky Guay reports on current issues: **Police Officer Hiring Process** – The Police Commission began its evaluation of police officer candidates last week. **Head Dispatcher Hiring Process** – We intend to begin the recruitment by March 14. **911 Advisory Board** – We have received responses from the following agencies: Montana Highway Patrol – Captain Art Collins or Sgt. Marvin Reddick, Gallatin County Sheriff’s Dept. – Sheriff Brian Gootkin or representative, U.S.D.A. Forest Service – Patrol Captain Nate Card, Hebgen Basin Fire District – Chief Scott Waldon or Ass’t. Chief Shane Grube, Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Warden Jim Smolczynski. The Chief will be calling a meeting of the Board in the near future. **Protective Custody Policy and Procedure** – the Chief, Town Attorney and I have developed a policy and procedure to cover protective custody issues, including transportation to Bozeman for evaluation by a Mental Health Professional. We will continue to fine tune and implement these procedures. **Clothing Bank Committee** – The Committee has finalized its recommendations to the Council, but has elected to wait until the March 18 Council meeting to present them to the Council. **Future Use of Emergency Services Building** – Hbfd has informed us that the Gallatin County Attorney’s Office is recommending that the District seek legal advice before proceeding with discussions about the future status of the ESB. It could take at least 30-days for the County Attorney to process the District’s request for service. **Labor/Management Committee** – The Finance Director, Public Services Superintendent and I met with representatives of the general employee’s union on February 19. The union representatives indicated that they would be very interested in implementing a Town-wide safety program similar to one used by the Public Services Department. We all agreed that safety awareness would benefit all employees and are working to develop a program for all employees. The Social Services Director is preparing recommendations to implement the program. **Dispatch Center** – New computers, displays and software designed to run radio displays have been installed at the dispatch center. These new systems should end the problems we have had with “ghost” signals, bleed over, etc. Telephones will also be reset to factory specifications to prevent side tone problems. **Police Department Training** – Sgt. Frank has started a monthly training program to ensure that all law enforcement agencies in the area are able to work together in an efficient manner. I would like to thank the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Department and in particular Sheriff Deputy Ian Parker who has agreed to come down to facilitate this training. The most recent session covered a situation in which there is an active shooter at the West Yellowstone School. Our officers will also participate in a training opportunity at the school in Big Sky. Sgt. Frank is also working to address equipment needs in the police department, including fully stocked “go bags,” and weapon lights. **Town Audit** – the auditors have completed the audit and will be submitting the document to the Town in the near future. I spoke with the auditor today and she indicated that they

will be issuing an unqualified (clean) opinion, meaning that no major issues were identified. She also indicated that the audit went very well and that Finance Director Lanie Gospodarak and her staff are doing a great job. We will submit the full audit to the Council for review at an upcoming meeting and will work to implement solutions to any findings that the audit may contain. **Food Bank** – Social Services Director Jack Dittman reports that the need for food has increased greatly this year. The food bank typically distributes approximately 1,000 pounds of food each month this time of year. In recent months, however, the food bank has been distributing between 3,200 and 3,600 pounds of food each month.

The meeting is adjourned. (9:00 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Work Session
March 11, 2014

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Brad Schmier, Jerry Johnson, John Costello, Cole Parker

US FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES: John Hickey-Regional Appraiser for Region 1, Bob Dennee-USFS Lands Manager, Cavan Fitzsimmons and Todd Stiles of the Hebgen Basin District

OTHERS PRESENT: Operations Manager Becky Guay, Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Town Clerk Liz Roos, Bill Howell, Chipper Smith, Malea Burke-WY News, Debbie Griffin, Gary Evje

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier at 12 Noon in the meeting room at the US Forest Service, West Yellowstone, Montana

Portions of the meeting are being recorded.

Public Comment Period

No public comment is received.

Mayor Schmier calls the meeting to order and introductions are made. Bob Dennee, Lands Manager for the US Forest Service briefly recaps what has happened over the past decade pertaining to the potential acquisition by the Town of 80 acres adjacent to the Town of West Yellowstone. Dennee agrees that this project has now become a priority. There has been considerable correspondence between the Town and Dennee over the last couple months preparing for what must happen next. Dennee says that if the Town agrees to proceed, they must next order an appraisal, likely to be prepared by a contract appraiser. John Hickey, Regional Appraiser for Region 1, explains that this project will require a very unique appraisal. The Town commissioned Clark Wheeler for a preliminary appraisal in 2007. Hickey says Wheeler is probably capable of doing the complete appraisal, if not he can recommend some other appraisers. He says the appraiser much look at other land sales in the northwest that were completed adjacent to other small towns. Council Member Johnson asks how long will the appraisal take? Hickey says that it will likely take four to six months. If they start in April, it could be complete by November. He elaborates that the Forest Service will write specific appraisal instructions for the project. Costello asks if they can pick from any of the appraisers on the list that was provided today. Hickey says that he would be willing to discuss the names on the list as there are a couple that he does not think have enough experience. Hickey and Dennee also explain that they will have to do a HazMat or Phase I Environmental Assessment report to address any environmental concerns. Schmier asks if it would be possible to use USFS staff for that report and Dennee answers they could consider that. Johnson asks a couple questions about the budgeting timeline for the appraisal and HazMat report. He says they have \$40,000 in the budget for the appraisal and Costello asks if that is sufficient. Dennee says that it probably is but it will really depend on how much traveling the appraiser has to do. Hickey explains that the Forest Service puts out a request for contract appraisers annually, but that does not necessarily mean the appraiser has to be on that list. Guay asks if they should put out a Request for Qualifications to hire an appraiser. Dennee says they could do that and says that the Town of White Sulfur Springs did that recently for a library project. They interviewed three appraisers and then hired one for the project. Schmier asks if the land they are talking about has been surveyed. Dennee says the Forest Service has not posted the boundaries of the 80 acres yet, but they will. Fitzsimmons clarifies that they have a survey team that will be able to actually post the land this summer so the appraiser as well as anyone else can see the actual boundaries. The group discusses the actual boundaries of the parcels and existing special use permits on Forest Service property. They also discuss potential deed restrictions, easements or maintaining access to existing roads. Schmier points out that the Whiskey Springs Road cuts right through one of the parcels and if that must be maintained, how does that affect development. He asks if the road could be moved. Dennee answers that would have to be explained to the appraiser but they would also discuss moving the road or maintaining the easements. Dennee points out that US Highway 20 also cuts through one of the parcels and the Montana DOT holds that easement.

They discuss relocating the existing Forest Service roads and potentially working that out prior to completing the sale. Dennee says he has a copy of a roads access needs report that was prepared by previous District Ranger, Bill Queen. Schmier asks who would have to pay to relocate a road or trail that is on the property. Dennee answers that traditionally, if a landowner wants to relocate a road or trail, then the landowner pays to relocate it. Dennee asks a couple questions about Resolution No. 469, passed in 2005 as well as whether the Town ever adopted a Growth Policy. Guay answers that the growth policy was adopted. Dennee reads a section from the resolution that indicates the purpose of developing and enhancing the Town's cultural and historic characteristics, providing affordable housing, siting light industrial uses, enhancing medical facilities, future school site, and providing space for public infrastructure. Johnson, the only Council Member left that signed the resolution, indicates that language is still substantially accurate. Dennee says that one of the things they must first consider is which roads or trails that the Forest Service wants to maintain. If the Town wants to relocate those roads, then they will have to discuss that. He suggests that is something that needs to be discussed this summer. The group discusses how they should address that issue, whether through deed restrictions. Dennee says that they are talking more specifically than he anticipated today. He points out that Congress gave the Forest Service broad discretion on this subject and waived the NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act) requirement-which makes it a golden opportunity. Dennee suggests that this summer, they jointly figure out with the Town which roads or trails should be reserved and which should be let go. Schmier agrees that they should be able to work through those issues, he suggests they just keep that in the back of their heads. Dennee says that the Forest Service has the authority to maintain responsibility for those roads but they could also transfer that responsibility to the Town.

The meeting is adjourned. (1:05 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Council Meeting
March 18, 2014

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Deputy Mayor John Costello, Jerry Johnson, Cole Parker, Greg Forsythe

OTHERS PRESENT: Operations Manager Becky Guay, Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Chief of Police Gordon Berger, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Social Services Director Jack Dittmann, Officer Brian McCoy, Grace McCoy, Grace's Mother, Joyce Hanna, Corinne Fagerburg, Benny McCracken, Kurtis Holtzen, David Arnado, Sandi Peppler, Brenda Martin, Clint Humphries, Tom Cherhoniak, Salle Engelhardt, Doc Deconotour, Patsy Deconotour, Randy Wakefield, Kathy Arnado, Jessyca Arnado, Malea Burke-WY News Editor

The meeting is called to order by Deputy Mayor John Costello at 7:00 PM in the West Yellowstone Town Hall, 440 Yellowstone Avenue, West Yellowstone, Montana.

Portions of the meeting are being recorded.

The Treasurer's Report with corresponding banking transactions is on file at the Town Offices for public review during regular business hours.

ACTION TAKEN

- 1) Motion carried to approve Purchase Order#6659 to Teton Communications to purchase a voice recorder plus installation for \$21,000. (Johnson, Costello) Forsythe is opposed.
- 2) Motion carried to approve the claims which total \$86,491.37. (Johnson, Parker) Forsythe abstains from #39766.
- 3) Motion carried to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes of the March 4, 2014 Town Council Meeting and March 11, 2014 Work Session, as amended. (Johnson, Parker)
- 4) Motion carried to approve the new business license application for Yellowstone Aerial Adventures, LLC to operate an aerial adventure and zipline park. (Costello, Parker)
- 5) Motion carried to approve the Application to Maintain an Encroachment made by School District No. 69 to allow a driveway across the interior park of Block 5, contingent upon the passage of the school addition bond that will be on the May ballot. (Johnson, Parker)
- 6) Motion carried to approve Policy #44, a policy on Council Member contact with the Town Attorney. (Costello, Parker)
- 7) Motion carried to accept Recommendation #1 from the clothing bank committee, the recommendation to relocate the clothing bank to the Town Hall and staff it with volunteers. (Costello, Parker)
- 8) Motion carried to approve the presented letter with the recommended changes be sent to Mary Erickson indicating the Town's intent proceed with the appraisal of the 80 acres of Forest Service land. (Costello, Forsythe)
- 9) Motion carried to approve Resolution No. 646, a utility write-off resolution in the amount of \$88.75. (Costello, Johnson)

Council Comments

Council Member Cole Parker asks questions about the anticipated road construction project on Canyon Street this summer. Guay answers that there is going to be a project this summer, last they were notified the State was expecting to start and finish the project before the tourist season gets in full swing. Johnson explains that they are going to resurface the street and re-stripe. Parker also questions whether the Town can impose a penalty if the project is not finished on time. Guay responds that they cannot as they will be working in their own right-of-way. Mayor

Schmier requests an update on the project and anticipated start date at the next meeting. Mayor Schmier thanks the Public Services Department for their hard work in handling the spring “break-up” when the streets melted off last week. He also thanks all the employees that worked on and supported the recent snowmobile Expo.

Public Comment Period

Clint Humphries introduces himself to the Council. He explains that he operates the tire testing and safety course on Forest Service property (commonly known as the Old Airport) west of Town. He explains that his current permit with the Forest Service allows him to operate through 2017. The course he currently operates on is partially contained within the parcel that the Town is considering purchasing from the Forest Service. He says that he is in discussion with the Forest Service about relocating/reconfiguring the course, but that is uncertain. He asks the Council to not forget about his operation and points out that they employ three individuals from the community and support the snowmobile expo every year. Humphries also distributes some information about the operation.

DISCUSSION

- 4) Forsythe asks about the parking for the park and how they will accommodate buses. Johnson points out that the current parking ordinance does not account for bus parking so buses will just have to park on the allotted parking spaces. The Council briefly discusses the plans for the new park.
- 5) Public Services Superintendent James Patterson explains that the Planning Board met and discussed the encroachment application from the West Yellowstone School to create a driveway across the interior park of Block 5. Patterson explains that the board recommended increasing the driveway from 30’ to 47’ to allow access by larger vehicles. Parker explains that the recommendation from the board is to approve the encroachment application contingent upon passing of the school bond. If the bond does not pass, the encroachment will not be valid.
- 6) The Council discusses the policy, revised since the last meeting. Johnson questions whether the policy should include language to provide guidance for the Mayor or Deputy Mayor as to how to determine when it is appropriate to contact the attorney. The Council considers that idea but no changes are made to the policy.
- 7) Salle Engelhardt addresses the Council and states that as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee that put together the two recommendations, she prefers the recommendation that would locate the clothing bank on rented property and staffed by volunteers. The Council agrees to discuss the recommendations prior to making a motion. Johnson, as the Council Member that served on the committee, briefly describes the two recommendations that came out of the committee meetings. The first recommendation is to locate the clothing bank in the Town Hall, run by volunteers, majority of items stored in the basement and transported up and down the stairs. The second recommendation is that the Town provide (rent/purchase/build) a location for a clothing bank and it is run by an outside entity such as an Inter-faith Council or advisory board. Johnson says that he was asked by Costello which recommendation was preferred by the committee. Johnson says he doesn’t think he can answer without sharing his personal opinion, but he does think that since the clothing bank must be moved out of the Baptist Church by April 1 that they need to move it back into the Town Hall at least for the short-term. Costello asks if the committee feels like there are adequate volunteers to operate the clothing bank. Johnson answers that they did. Costello asks about hours of operation. Johnson explains that when the Town operated it, it was open whenever Social Services was open. Since it has been relocated to the Baptist Church it has been open one morning and one afternoon/evening per week. The Council asks questions about the recommendations. Baptist Minister Benny McCracken points out that the majority of the work involved with the clothing bank is the receiving and sorting of the items that are collected. The Council agrees that the daily procedures will have to be worked out by those that are operating it.

Kathi Arnado says she has concerns about disposal, Volunteer Grace McCoy is currently disposing of 45 to 60 bags of items per month by hauling them to Bozeman. Johnson says that he would like to thank the committee for the work they put into this issue. He encourages the committee to write down any other ideas and recommendations they have about the project and submit to the Town.

- 8) Schmier explains that the letter prepared by Guay which was included in the packet is an indication to the Forest Service that the Town would like to proceed on the appraisal of the 80 acres. Johnson adds that he thinks they would be remiss to pass on this opportunity. He says that this letter indicates the Town is ready to move forward with the appraisal to find out what the property will cost. Costello asks some questions about the second paragraph of the letter. After discussion, the Council agrees to edit that paragraph and Guay indicates she will make those changes before sending the letter.
- A) **Operations Manager/Department Head Reports:** Public Services Superintendent James Patterson explains that he recently met with Town Engineer Dick Dyer about testing the nitrate plume in the vicinity of the sewer lagoon. He explains that they will be testing the movement of that plume on a monthly basis but so far the tests have come back favorably. Operations Manager Becky Guay reports on current issues: **Police Officer Hiring Process** – The Police Commission has individually scored the applications and will be selecting candidates to interview in the near future. **Head Dispatcher Hiring Process** – Applications are due in by April 1, 2014. **911 Advisory Board** – We have received responses from the following agencies: Montana Highway Patrol – Captain Art Collins or Sgt. Marvin Reddick, Gallatin County Sheriff’s Dept. – Sheriff Brian Gootkin or representative, U.S.D.A. Forest Service – Patrol Captain Nate Card, Hebgen Basin Fire District – Chief Scott Waldon or Ass’t. Chief Shane Grube, Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Warden Jim Smolczynski, Yellowstone National Park – West District Ranger Tara Ross, MT Dept. of Transportation - Bozeman Division Maintenance Chief Kyle DeMars or Bozeman Division Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stecker. The Chief will be calling a meeting of the Board in the near future. **Protective Custody Policy and Procedure** – Chief Berger is working to secure an agreement with a private security firm in Bozeman to provide security in the event that the police department transports a person in Protective Custody to Bozeman for evaluation by a Mental Health Professional. The City of Bozeman also uses a private security firm to monitor persons in protective custody. **Labor/Management Committee** – The Social Services Director has completed a draft of a Safety Program for office staff that will be distributed to Department Heads for review and comment. **2014 EXPO** – Public Services and Police Department personnel assisted with preparation and operations of the EXPO. **Town Hall** – Dick Anderson has hired a company to monitor the temperature of the attic and roof with infrared probes to try and identify the source of the roof leakage.

The meeting is adjourned. (8:30 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk