

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Council Meeting
June 2, 2015

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Social Services Assistant Kathi Arnado, Jeremy Weber-West Yellowstone News Editor, Richard & Teri Gibson, Helene Righenour, Assistant Public Services Superintendent David Arnado, WY School Superintendent Mary Margaret Williams and School Board Chair John Gospodarek, Bill Howell, Randy Wakefield, Tom Cherhoniak, Pierre Martineau, Georgia McMillian

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier 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 the claims which total \$41,626.99. (Forsythe, Parker)
- 2) Motion carried to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the minutes of the May 12, 2015 Work Session, May 19, 2015 Town Council Meeting, and May 26, 2015 Work Session. (Johnson, Parker)
- 3) Motion carried to reconsider the Business License for Tao's Inn. (Forsythe, Costello)
- 4) Motion carried to approve the business license application for Tao's Inn, with the corrected zoning of B-4, contingent upon proof of all required County and State permits. (Schmier, Costello)
- 5) Motion carried to approve the request to waive the resort tax bond for Tao's Inn. (Forsythe, Johnson) Motion fails unanimously.
- 6) Motion carried to deny the encroachment application from the West Yellowstone School to use the interior park of Block 5 for parking and snow storage and direct staff to start working on how to move forward to accommodate the request using another approach. (Johnson, Costello)
- 7) Motion carried to approve the Outside Amplification Permit for the Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Car for the 2015 summer season. (Johnson, Forsythe) Parker and Forsythe are opposed, motion passes.
- 8) Motion carried to approve the recommendation from Acting Operations Manager and Mayor Schmier to appoint Kathi Arnado to the position of Social Services Director. (Forsythe, Costello)
- 9) Motion carried to approve Resolution No. 664, a resolution indicating the Town's intention to conduct the 2015 municipal election by mail. (Johnson, Costello)

Public Comment Period

No public comment is received.

Council Comments

Forsythe says that he was approached by a gentlemen from Big Sky who strongly recommended that they hire Kathi Arnado as the Social Services Director. Parker announces, for those who may not already know, that the Girls High School Track Team took first place at the State Championship a week ago. He says that he has noticed signs at the entrance to other communities that announced the year and events that the school has won the state championships. Forsythe says that he has been asked some questions recently about signage, specifically signs that are attached to vehicles and the flag signs that are popping up in multiple places. Schmier says that they do seem to have a “run away” going on right now with signs and sewer connections being made without the proper permits.

DISCUSSION

- 4) Patterson says the project is moving along. They have put the parking lot in and they are hooking up the water shortly. He has also been advised that he needs to finish backfilling and put up the fence. He says that he did advise the owner that he needs to provide them his occupancy permit and health department permits prior to actually opening for business. Schmier questions if whether the project is not actually finished is a valid reason to deny a business license. Johnson points out that they have usually approved the license application contingent upon finishing or obtaining the necessary permits.

- 6) Mayor Schmier explains that they have received an Encroachment Request from the West Yellowstone School to utilize north side of the interior park in Block 5 to provide a parking area and snow storage for the school. The voters recently passed a bond to add a wing onto the school and this proposal is expected to make the traffic flow safer and provide some more room. John Gospodarek, Chair for the School Board, and Superintendent Mary Margaret Williams are present to discuss the proposal. Parker points out that a similar proposal was brought to the Town a year ago, but since the bond did not pass last year it was no longer discussed. Mayor Schmier asks how time sensitive this request is. Gospodarek says that the sooner the better, they would like to start soil testing and finalize the plans in the next month and a half and this would make it easier to plan. Parker asks when they expect to break ground on the new wing. Williams responds that they anticipate breaking ground in the spring of 2016. They briefly discuss other options such as selling the property to the school or a lease. They point out that an encroachment could be revoked by a future council. They discuss whether an encroachment is the correct process to use. Johnson suggests that they pass a resolution indicating the Town’s intent to enter into a lease or sale of the property. Schmier asks if they can put together a lease or sale agreement in the next 30 to 45 days, would that work for the School. Gospodarek and Williams indicate that would be acceptable.

- 7) Georgia McMillian explains that they only run the car on the days that they have rodeos. Johnson asks if they have had any complaints about the car and the loudspeaker last year. Town Clerk Liz Roos says she remembers a couple phone calls, but nothing they could document. The Council discusses the request from the Nature Conservancy (SmokeJumper Center) last year and if that was a problem. The Council denied that request. The Council also discusses the effect of allowing multiple businesses to advertise using a loudspeaker. McMillian acknowledges that they have had problems with the volume and understanding the loudspeaker in the past, but says they are willing adjust whenever necessary. She says their announcer is a younger man that is returning this year and asks that they contact her if there are any problems.

- 8) Mayor Schmier says that as the Action Operations Manager and on behalf of the interview committee, he would like to make the recommendation to offer the position of Social Services Director to Kathi Arnado. Arnado thanks the Council and the committee for the support. The Council discusses how to work out the salary, start date, and other personnel details. They agree to leave Patterson in charge of the department until the hire letter is prepared and accepted by Arnado.

- 9) Roos explains election process if they conduct the election by mail, which includes having a ballot box here in West Yellowstone and keeping the Town Office open until 8 PM on election day. She also explains that the Town has the option of paying for postage on the return ballots. Two years ago, the City of Bozeman paid for all the postage in the county because of its interest in a particular item on the ballot.
- A) **Advisory Board Reports:** Parker reports that the Planning Board met yesterday. They are going to meet on the 1st Monday of every month at 4:30 PM here at the Town Hall. He says they discussed the cash-in-lieu process to meet the parking requirements for a particular business, the growth policy, and the 80 acres.
- B) **Department Head Reports:** Public Services Superintendent James Patterson reports that the holes have been dug to set the poles for the new signs on Canyon Street, but they expect it will still be 2 to 3 weeks before the signs are up and the streetlight at Canyon and Yellowstone is turned on. Social Services Assistant Kathi Arnado says that Social Services is functioning well right now. Johnson asks if numbers are up or down this year and Arnado says they seem to be down a little this year. She says that employees through the J-1 and H2B programs are definitely down. Chief of Police Scott Newell says that he has scheduled a meeting with the Police Commission for Wednesday, June 10, at 9 AM. He says they will discuss the procedure to use the Montana Police Consortium and hiring process. Forsythe says that the Police Commission also serves as a grievance board and he would like to see that process in place, too. Newell agrees and says that works as long as it doesn't conflict with the union contract. He points out that they are in a negotiation year and they will work on that. Action Operations Manager/Mayor Brad Schmier reports that they met with representatives from the MT Aeronautics Board last week, which indicated they want to raise the lease amount from \$11,000 to over \$61,000 starting this year. Schmier summarizes that they requested a 6 month extension under the current terms and the State was willing to give the Town 120 days. He says that the acquisition of the 80 acres process is underway and they are working on setting out the location of the existing roads and trails. He also thanks the staff for their efforts to carry the Town during this transition period. Johnson also mentions that they completed the evaluations for the current Department Heads: Patterson, Newell, and Gospodarek. Parker asks who usually does the Department Head evaluations. Johnson explains that they are usually done by the Operations Manager, but he and Mayor Schmier conducted them as they do not currently have an Operations Manager. Forsythe says, in reference to the lease for the sewer lagoon, if they are going to have a work session to discuss how to proceed with that issue. Schmier responds that the State has given them 120 days to work on this and that yes, they should most likely schedule a meeting to discuss the issue. Town Clerk Liz Roos shares an email from the Prothman Company that reports they have received six completed applications for the Operations Manager position so far.

The meeting is adjourned. (9:00 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Work Session

June 9, 2015

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Social Services Director Kathi Arnado, Chief of Police Scott Newell

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier at 6:00 PM in the West Yellowstone Town Hall, 440 Yellowstone Avenue, West Yellowstone, Montana

Public Comment Period

Social Services Director Kathi Arnado reports that she has learned that the H2B Program to bring immigrant workers from Mexico was capped this year but has since been reopened and they expect it will be back to normal by next year.

Council Comments

Parker mentions that he attended a meeting today about bicycling through Yellowstone at the Chamber of Commerce. He says the meeting was very interesting and focused on how to attract more bicycle tourism through Yellowstone. Mayor Schmier reports that he attended a housing meeting last week. He says the group that is working on the housing issues have targeted five properties they believe can be developed to provide additional housing. Participants at the meeting included Habitat for Humanity, HRDC, and VISTA Kirstin ?? as well as interested community members. Think One, the architectural firm, has been retained to develop possible housing scenarios. A lot of ideas were shared and more meetings have been scheduled.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Schmier calls the meeting to order and explains that they are here to discuss the operations and scheduling of the Social Services Department. He welcomes newly appointed Social Services Director, Kathi Arnado, and asks her to summarize what they do in Social Services. She recaps a work session they had a few months ago where they discussed the activities they perform in the department. She says there has been discussion about eliminating or cutting back providing transportation to clients, but points out that is listed as a task in the job description. She says they have conducted home visits but understands that there is necessary specialized training and has discussed with the County that they should do more...She says there has been discussion about cutting back the food bank but she strongly disagrees with that and feels they are providing a very important service. She briefly touches on the clothing bank and offering training opportunities during the winter months. Schmier says he would like Arnado to describe how she wants to move the department forward. Arnado says she would like to continue to operate the department as is with the assistance of a part-time person with the option of increasing their hours. She does not agree with the suggestion of only offering certain services on certain days. She says she would like to change the way they run the food bank so it is more like the food bank in Big Sky or Bozeman where people can pick out their own food. She says that she also thinks that her mornings are slower and that is a better time to take appointments for people that need extra help or administrative tasks. Schmier asks if there are any functions that have performed in the past that they should stop. Arnado says that they should cut back on providing transportation. She also says that adult protective services should be handled through the County and the police and she will not provide counseling. Schmier says that in reference to staffing, they have had a full-time assistant in the department. He asks Arnado what her recommendation is for that position. Arnado says that her preference would be to hire a ¾ time employee to be the Social Services Assistant. She says she would actually prefer a full-time employee, but is willing to go with a part-time so see how things work out. Schmier points out that this is the time they should review and update the job description for the position. The group agrees that they need to work on the job description and settle on how many hours per week they need this person. Schmier indicates that he will work with Arnado to prepare everything prior to releasing the job.

The Council next discusses the General Fund for FY 2016. Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek briefly describes the process they go through to put together the General Fund and explains how

anticipated expenses are budgeted and planned for. The Council discusses each account in the general fund and Gospodarek answers various questions. The general fund primarily addresses operations and maintenance costs and includes employee salaries, supplies, building maintenance, and utility costs.

The meeting is adjourned. (8:45 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Council Meeting & Work Session
May 5, 2015

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Chief of Police Scott Newell, Social Services Director Kathi Arnado

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier 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.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Schmier calls the meeting to order. The purpose of the work session is to discuss the FY 2016 budget, specifically Special Revenue and Enterprise funds. Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek briefly describes the highlights from each fund. Special Revenue funds include Resort Tax, the Marketing and Promotions Fund, Tourism Business Improvement District, and special projects including the teen center in the basement of the Povah Center, volleyball court and community garden. Gospodarek explains that when someone makes a donation for a specific purpose, they have to create a special fund to keep that money separate from the rest of the Town's money so it doesn't get used for the wrong purpose. Support of the library and extension programs including the Pre-K and English as a Second Language classes are also funded through Special Revenue funds. The Council discusses the 911 Emergency special revenue fund. Forsythe points out that the equipment they purchased through this fund is already outdated and they should consider paying it off. Gospodarek determines that the loan on the equipment goes through 2019 and is an InterCap loan at 1.25%. The group discusses multiple options they could pursue to ensure the equipment is upgraded and works correctly. The group also briefly discusses the water and sewer funds.

ACTION TAKEN

- 1) Motion carried to approve Purchase Order #6701 to JD Specialty Services for \$8400 to rebuild the chute on the snowblower. (Johnson, Forsythe)
- 2) Motion carried to approve the claims which total \$206,072.80. (Forsythe, Johnson) Schmier abstains from #40995, Forsythe abstains from #41028.
- 3) Motion carried to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes of the June 2, 2015 Town Council Meeting and the June 9, 2015 Work Session with the correction that Jerry Johnson was not present at the June 9, 2015 meeting. (Johnson, Parker)
- 4) Motion carried to approve the business license application for Lone Wolf Properties as written. (Forsythe, Parker) Motion fails unanimously.
- 5) Motion carried to approve the business license application for Karen Eagle Vacation Rental contingent upon obtaining all required state and county licenses or permits. (Johnson, Parker)
- 6) Motion carried to approve, contingent upon obtaining approval from the Grizzly Park Architectural Committee. (Johnson, Costello) Schmier is opposed.
- 7) Motion carried to reconsider the business license for Lone Wolf Properties. (Johnson, Schmier)

- 8) Motion carried to approve the license with the condition that Knapp purchase one parking space cash in lieu for \$1200. (Forsythe, Parker)
- 9) Motion carried to approve the application to Maintain an Encroachment for the Hide Away RV Park made by the Schmier Family Partnership to replace a low fence in Town right of way. (Costello, Forsythe) Schmier abstains.
- 10) Motion carried to approve the Marketing and Promotions Fund recommendations to award \$11,500 to Black Mountain Productions for the 2015 Music in the Park series and \$2,250 to the Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center for billboard renovation. (Johnson, Parker)
- 11) Motion carried to approve Resolution No. 665, a resolution setting the compensation of the City Judge at \$34,000 annually. (Forsythe, Parker) Johnson is opposed.
- 12) Motion carried to approve Resolution No. 666, a resolution writing off outstanding warrants that have been returned to the Town totaling \$63.49. (Costello, Parker)
- 13) Motion carried to approve Resolution No. 667, a resolution to employ the requirements of the Government Accounting Standards, Board Standard 54. (Forsythe, Parker)

Public Comment Period

Scott Johnson addresses the Council to discuss some of the traffic problems in West Yellowstone. He distributes copies of a summary that includes pictures and points out safety and communication problems he has observed. He says he has also noticed a lack of speed limit signs and points out that our streets are wide and the signs are far apart. Johnson says that he started to give this a lot of thought after his daughter and grandchildren were nearly hit recently and asks the Council to consider some of his suggestions. The Council thanks Johnson for his comments.

Council Comments

Council Member Parker asks who is responsible for the puddle in front of the Chamber, Patterson explains that is state highway. Parker also asks about the signs on Canyon Street for the new turn lanes and when will the stoplight be turned on. Patterson says they expect the new signs to arrive soon but he does not have an exact day. The stoplight will be turned on once the signs are up. The Council also discusses a recent panhandler that was in the street recently and Newell explains that he talked to the man and he moved along.

- 4) Patterson explains that Lone Wolf Properties does not have enough parking on-site to accommodate six units unless they remove some trees. He explains that the Council could approve the license with the requirement that she purchase one parking space. The Council considers multiple options including purchasing a parking space, applying for a variance, or allowing Knapp to improve the interior park.
- 5) Mayor Schmier says that he is troubled when they are presented with license applications that are not accompanied by the required fire or health department permits. He points out that it would be easier to approve the licenses if everything was in order before the license was permitted. Karen Eagle confirms multiple times that they will obtain those permits before operating, but the County Fire Marshal is out of the office this week.
- 8) Cynthia Knapp, owner of Lone Wolf Properties, joins the meeting and verbally requests permission to purchase one parking space to comply with the parking ordinance and satisfy the parking requirement for her property. She apologizes for being late and not understanding that she needed to make a formal request.
- 9) Johnson points out that such fences are permitted as long as they are under 3' in height and the owner assumes all responsibility for the structure.

- 11) Costello asks Roos why they must pass a resolution to establish the Judge's compensation. Roos explains that is a requirement of the ordinance, but acknowledges that it is the only employee salary they set by resolution. Johnson says that since he voted against the decision regarding her salary that was made at a previous meeting, he will also vote against this resolution.
 - 12) Gospodarek explains that they have attempted to locate and mail these checks to the proper individuals but they cannot be found.
- A) **Department Head Reports:** Mayor and Acting Operations Manager Brad Schmier comments that the new resort tax ordinance is in effect and if there is anyone that has questions about it, they should contact the staff at the Town Office. Public Services Superintendent James Patterson reports that things in his department are going smoothly, having a tough time keeping up with the grass as it is growing quickly and must be cut frequently. He is also working on hiring seasonal laborers. Social Services Director Kathi Arnado mentions that she has been working with James Patterson to offset being short-handed in her department and dealing with some family issues. Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek says she is working on year end balancing and preparing the budget. Chief of Police Scott Newell says he is working with the Police Commission to formalize the hiring process and is preparing to put out job announcements. Town Clerk Liz Roos shares email from the Prothman Company, updating the Council on the Operations Manager recruitment process.

The meeting is adjourned. (8:15 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Work Session

June 9, 2015

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Social Services Director Kathi Arnado, Chief of Police Scott Newell, West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce Winter Events Coordinator Marge Wanner and Executive Director Marysue Costello, West Yellowstone News Editor Jeremy Weber, Helene Rightenour, Arnie and Steffi Siegel, Pierre Martineau, VISTA Kirstin Goldstein, Community Health Partners (CHP) Representatives Buck Taylor and Lander Cooney, Carolyn Fox on behalf of the United Women, Richard and Teri Gibson,

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier at 6:00 PM in the West Yellowstone Town Hall, 440 Yellowstone Avenue, West Yellowstone, Montana

Public Comment Period

Carolyn Fox addresses the Council on behalf of the United Women reads a letter signed by multiple members of the United Women that encourages the Council to address the lack of healthcare services in West Yellowstone and release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for healthcare services in the community. She says that Billings (Clinic) has committed to 20 years of service to West Yellowstone with a real doctor, 2 PAs, 1 nurse and technicians and they should take advantage of that. Arnie Siegel also encourages the Council to move ahead with an RFP to attract more healthcare providers. Jerry Johnson asks Siegel how often he thinks the Town should release an RFP for healthcare services, and points out that it has been less than five years since they did that. Siegel says that they have a verbal commitment from one of the best healthcare organizations in the country and they are willing to come to West Yellowstone to provide medical services and strongly encourages the Council to release an RFP immediately.

Council Comments

Mayor Schmier congratulates the West Yellowstone News on the multiple journalism awards they received recently.

Greg Forsythe says that he agrees that they lack adequate healthcare in West Yellowstone and that is something he has been working on for a long time. He says that he thinks this is something the Council needs to address.

DISCUSSION

Following public comment and Council comments, Mayor Schmier calls the meeting to order and explains that they are present this evening to listen to special requests that pertain to the FY 2016 budget.

Marysue Costello, Executive Director for the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce, addresses the Council and delivers a presentation that summarizes the tourist organizations in the community and the funding of the Visitors Information Center. She also briefly describes the history of funding for the VIC and how it has evolved over the years. She points out that funding from the Montana Department of Tourism was cut for 2015. She also explains the function of the VIC and services provided at the building. She emphasizes that they always focus on encouraging people to make West Yellowstone a destination. Costello shares statistics about the traffic through the VIC, pointing out that they serve over 115,000 people through their doors annually and provide vast assistance by phone, email, and internet services. She explains that visitation this year is up dramatically and points out that visitation at the VIC is up over 48% for April and May 2015, they are seeing as many as 1100 visitors in a single day-numbers they are not accustomed to seeing until August. Costello says that they are asking the Town to contribute \$5380 to fund the Visitors Center through June 30, 2016. They have been fortunate to receive additional funding from Yellowstone Country, TBID, and the MAP Fund in order to balance their budget for FY She says that they are also asking the Town to make support of the VIC a line item in the Town's budget and anticipate \$43,344 in FY 17. She also clarifies that the Chamber of Commerce is not the VIC, but they are housed in the same location. Costello

explains that the Chamber is a business to business entity, but the VIC offers service to the customer seeking a business service. Arnie Siegel suggests coming up with a way to tax or add a fee to all the rooms rented in town in order to support the VIC. Cynthia Knapp says that as a small business owner, she knows that a business must reinvest in itself to stay in business and encourages the Town to do the same. Marge Wanner says that when the resort tax was first passed, support for the Chamber and marketing efforts was always on the priority list. Multiple ideas are shared as to how to fund the VIC, ranging from levying fees, increasing business license fees, and increasing the TBID fee.

The Council briefly discusses the requests from the Yellowstone Foundation for \$600 towards the Shakespeare in the Parks program as well as \$15,000 to help fund the West Yellowstone Foundation bus program.

Lander Cooney, CEO for Community Health Partners, addresses the Council. Cooney has submitted a letter to the Council requesting up to \$100,000 from the Town to offset losses incurred by CHP for the 2015 calendar year of operation. She briefly describes CHP's history in the community and explains that they were the only organization to respond when the Town issued a RFP in 2011. She describes the healthcare and mental health services they provide, specifically serving lower income community members. Forsythe asks if they have seen any increases in clientele at the clinic. Cooney says they have seen a small increase, less than 100 more patients per year, up to approximately 1300 patients in 2014. The Council asks multiple questions about expanding services at the current clinic. Johnson points out that it has been brought up earlier this evening that Billings Clinic is willing to offer expanded services, but it will come at a cost and asks if CHP could expand their services if they were given more money from the Town. Cooney and Taylor indicate that would be likely, but they would have to see the RFP to really answer that. Knapp asks if CHP has considered expanding their hours or being open later and shares examples of employees and guests that had to seek medical attention in Rexburg or Big Sky because CHP was not open. Social Services Director Kathi Arnado says that CHP has reduced the need for low income clients to rely on the Community Help Fund by nearly 90% and says they have been an excellent partner to work with. Cooney thanks Arnado for her comment but also points out that serving low-income clientele does not mean low quality service.

Mayor Schmier thanks everyone for coming. Johnson explains that as they proceed through the budget process they will consider each request individually and determine what can be included in the budget.

The meeting is adjourned. (7:30 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

WEST YELLOWSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
Special Meeting & Work Session
June 30, 2015

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek, Public Services Superintendent James Patterson, Social Services Director Kathi Arnado, Chief of Police Scott Newell

The meeting is called to order by Mayor Brad Schmier at 6:00 PM in the West Yellowstone Town Hall, 440 Yellowstone Avenue, West Yellowstone, Montana

Public Comment Period

No public comment is received.

Council Comments

Council Member Parker reports that he called Deborah and Scott Clark to see how the aquatic center project is going. Deborah indicated that things were going well and that they are working on some grants and other funding.

ACTION TAKEN

- 1) Motion carried to approve the Claims, which total \$18,661.83. (Forsythe, Parker)
- 2) Motion carried to approve the six month extension of the Sewage Treatment Lagoon Site Lease Agreement. (Costello, Forsythe)
- 2) Following the approval of the extension, Costello says that he sent out an email earlier today recommending that they order a formal appraisal of the sewer lagoon site, acknowledging that an appraisal would cost the Town a couple thousand dollars but he feels that would be the most appropriate course of action. Jeff Kadlec, Yellowstone Airport Manager indicates that would be acceptable and is what they were anticipating. The Council directs staff to determine an approximate cost for the appraisal this week so it can be included in the preliminary budget that will be adopted next week.

DISCUSSION

- A) Mayor Schmier explains that they have received a letter from the US Forest Service outlining the road restrictions the Forest Service is willing to agree to in the 80 acre parcels south and west of the Town. The Council discusses moving the Two Top Snowmobile Trail, FS Road 69736B, so that it lines up with Madison Avenue. Public Services Superintendent James Patterson explains that he talked to Forest Service Specialist Todd Stiles today who indicated that they don't believe this is a big issue. Patterson says that Stiles and the new District Ranger, Jason Brey, acknowledged that moving the road shouldn't decrease the amount of property and that shouldn't change the value of the property. The Council also points out that the Whiskey Springs Road is not listed in the letter, but determine that the road merges with 6973 and therefore is not part of the parcels. They discuss the proposed layout of the reservations and the Forest Service's goal of maintaining access to the Forest for the public. Schmier refers to the letter the Town received from Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor, which outlines the reservations the Forest Service intends to reserve into perpetuity in the 80 acres. The Council discusses the future of the Whiskey Springs Road, Forest Service Road 6958, and where it should be relocated. The Council agrees that they need some more information and consider some of them meeting with District Ranger Jason Brey on Monday, July 6, 2015 and see if they can the answers they need prior to approving a letter at the Council Meeting next Tuesday.
- B) The Council discusses the FY 2016 Capital Improvement Plan. Finance Director Lanie Gospodarek explains the changes and updates to the plan have been highlighted in red. She points out that items that were not originally planned for are also shown in red. The council discusses the planned replacement of vehicles and equipment, including the

purchase of a new street sweeper through a state grant program this year and a new police patrol vehicle. The Council discusses improvements to the sewer system including the completion of the groundwater study and cleaning and running a camera through the sewer lines in Parkways A & B this year. Improvements to the water system include replacing the meters for the Forest Service and Yellowstone National Park compounds, but Patterson says he thinks it makes more sense to just put standard meters on all the buildings and read them accordingly. Also budgeted for FY 2016 is the replacement of the meter in the chlorine building. The group discusses the current status of the water flow from Whiskey Springs and what they may need to do in the future to ensure adequate water supply. The group discusses the street maintenance and improvements table. Projects scheduled for FY 16 include crack sealing all the streets, setting aside more money to repave all the streets, sidewalk maintenance, and chip sealing. Future projects include paving Obsidian between Geyser and Faithful Streets and installing street lights on South Canyon or lights on Electric Street. The Council discusses land, buildings, and improvements which include purchasing the 80 acres from the Forest Service, handrails at the Union Pacific Dining Lodge, the roofs on the library and clinic buildings, rehabilitating the UPDL generator building, building a permanent ice rink, and installing a new parking lot at the city park. Patterson indicates that the Parks & Recreation Board is pursuing a grant to surface the Frontier Trail. The group also considers the construction of a storage barn at the sewer lagoon. Chief of Police Scott Newell explains that he would like to add a table to the plan that would allow them to plan for dispatch equipment replacement and rotation. Schmier encourages the Council and Department Heads to consider other possible projects that may need to be part of the plan. Patterson says they have looked into a toilet vault for the tennis courts, estimated to be \$50,000.

The meeting is adjourned. (8:25 PM)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk