

*Eureka Town Council Meeting
Eureka Town Hall --- Eureka, Montana
Monday, January 11, 2021*

Present AND constituting a Quorum:

Mayor	LeeAnn Schermerhorn
Council Members	Ethel White, Scott Bernhard, Arthur Walters, Douglas Davies
Town Clerk	Lisa Flynn

Visitors: Tammy Lawler, Andrea Broom, Jeff Broom, Deb Armstrong, Pierce Barney, Eric Casazza, Mark Casazza, Sandi Hall

Mayor Schermerhorn called the council meeting to order at 7:00 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT on agenda items. None.

Ethel White made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Scott Bernhard, carried all ayes. Scott Bernhard made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Doug Davies, carried all ayes.

Reports. No comments.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wastewater Project – Phase 1b. Mayor Schermerhorn read the report submitted by Town Engineer Toby McIntosh. The SRF closeout documents, from an engineering perspective, have been sent to the funding agencies, which should satisfy their requirements. The operation and maintenance manual is reviewed by a separate office of the DEQ and any comments will be forwarded if they arise. Once fully accepted, the final manual version will be provided to the Town.

Capital Improvement & Growth Policy Planning. Toby McIntosh said a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meeting is scheduled with Town Personnel, Mayor Schermerhorn, and Councilor Walter’s for 10 am Thursday. This will allow for an opportunity to review past CIP’s and update the project list for the coming years.

Sale of property. The Town Clerk informed the Council members that they would need to decide if they wanted to sell the lots on which the parking lot was located, and if so, did they want to sell it for the amount that was bid. Andrea Broom of North West Electric read a prepared statement of reasons why they would like to purchase the property which included the expansion and improvement of their business, of which now employees 17 people. Over time they have also plowed the lot and helped with maintenance. She stated that the purchase would put the property back on the tax rolls and they have talked with Glacier Bank and agreed the bank employees would still be able to use the parking lot. There was a discussion on whether the access to the lot was a road or an ally. Art Walters asked if the property had been given to the Town with any contingencies. There was a consensus that there had been no contingencies. Scott Bernhard said the Town operates on a very small budget so getting property back on the tax rolls would be helpful. Tammy

Lawler said that with the agreement with Northwest Electric means the bank's parking has been worked out. Art Walters made a motion to agree to sell the two lots the parking lot is located on to Northwest Electric for their bid price of \$40,100.00, seconded by Scott Bernhard, carried all ayes. Scott Bernhard made a motion to allow the Mayor to enter into a buy/sell agreement with Northwest Electric for the sale of the two lots the parking lot is located on, seconded by Arthur Walters, carried all ayes.

Letter of Support – Board of Health. Mayor Schermerhorn said that Doug Davies has composed a letter of support for Dr. Black and the Lincoln County Health Department from the Town of Eureka Town Council. Mr. Davies said that Dr. Black has no intention of pursuing legal enforcement and will coordinate with incoming Governor Gianforte who has stated he will not be dropping mandates until cases start to decline. He believes the Town needs to show support. Mayor Schermerhorn said she has spoken with the Town Attorney, Clif Hayden, who stated the Council is a legislative body and supporting another governmental agency is not the Council's job. Mr. Davies said he strongly disagrees and believes the Council has a leadership role. Deb Armstrong, who is on the Lincoln County Board of Health, said a letter of support is a nice sentiment, and the Board would appreciate letters from individuals. There was some discussion regarding mask mandates. Art Walters said he believed vocal support was a good thing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sign Permit – Ortho Rehab. After discussion, Ethel White made a motion to approve a sign permit for Ortho Rehab, seconded by Scott Bernhard, carried all ayes.

Subdivision approval. Mayor Schermerhorn said this item is not actually a subdivision but a boundary adjustment, and is not in Town limits, therefore it is not something the Council needs to consider.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR COMMENTS

Ethel White said there is a new business near the high school that needs a business license. Mayor Schermerhorn said that Town Hall begins to send out business license notices this month.

Mayor Schermerhorn said that Town Engineer Toby McIntosh has the scope of work to start engineering on the 6th Street intersection at 1st Avenue. This phase will cost \$7,300.00. The Town can use the BARRSA money that we have received from the State.

PUBLIC COMMENT on non-agenda items. None

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Schermerhorn adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

LEEANN SCHERMERHORN, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Flynn Clerk/Treasurer

