

*Eureka Town Council Meeting
Eureka Town Hall --- Eureka, Montana
Monday, September 14, 2020*

Present AND constituting a Quorum:

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

Visitors: Nikki Meyer, Greg Rice, Diana Carvey, Ed Stein, Kimberly Gordon, Rita Collins

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 Ethel White, carried all ayes.

Reports. No comments.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wastewater Project – Phase 1b. Mayor Schermerhorn stated that Tracy McIntyre was working on the wrap up of the project and there was nothing new to report.

Toby McIntosh joined the meeting on speaker phone. He stated that punch list items are being worked on and the funding agencies are getting the items they need to close the project. Mr. McIntosh was in Eureka to look at the roads. He was with councilperson Art Walters, Kevin Flynn from Public Works, Tracy McIntyre and Mayor Schermerhorn. Pictures of the roads prior to the project were distributed. Mr. McIntosh recommends releasing the final payment. The conclusion of the project will be in October. Doug Davies said some of the roads have tar but no gravel which is a problem in hot weather. Mr. McIntosh explained the process of double chip seal. He stated that when he was in Eureka inspecting the roads with the others, the tar did not appear to be tacky and did not believe any new gravel would adhere to it. Mr. Walters said he did not see that the tar was tacky on inspection and would like to know when the streets can be swept. Me. McIntosh said he will ask the contractor. Scott Bernhard said there is a difference for people that drive the roads daily. There was discussion of issues and concerns regarding the oil and tar on the roads. Mr. McIntosh stated there was a one year warranty which probably started the first week of June. Mr. Bernhard said he would like to speak to the Town Attorney regarding withholding the final payment because he does not believe the roads are as good or better then the roads prior to the project, which was stated in the requirements of the contract. Mr. McIntosh stated the condition of the road surface is subjective for warranty purposes. Ethel White asked if the warranty can be extended to the end of July so we can see how the roads weathered under summer conditions. Mr. McIntosh said it may cost the Town more but he will ask Sandry. Mayor Schermerhorn said Tracy McIntyre, Toby McIntosh and herself will speak to the Town Attorney in regard to withholding the final payment.

Capital Improvement & Growth Policy Planning. Toby McIntosh said public outreach and meetings have been a challenge. Getting an extension from the funders has been discussed. He will report for the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

LCHS Homecoming Parade. Ethel White made a motion to approve the Homecoming Parade on October 2, 2020, seconded by Scott Bernhard, carried all ayes.

Dr. Greg Rice. Dr. Rice said he was the owner of the medical clinic in Libby and introduced Dr. Carvey, Dr. Stein and Kimberly Gordon from Mountain View Manor. Dr. Rice said they were looking to keep the number of Covid cases down. Dr. Rice related two stories of Covid cases in the Libby area. One case was a 38 year old woman and another was a couple in their 70's, one of which died. He told the council that the effects of the virus can be long lasting. Dr. Stein said that the people in the Eureka area have been lucky so far with few cases but he would like to see the population helping each other. Dr. Chase said that the CDC is a good source of information. Dr. Chase said we haven't had any severe cases in the Eureka area yet, but the nursing home will need to remain closed. Kimberly Gordon, from Mountain View Manor, said they first had to close the nursing home to visitors in February due to the flu, and then had to keep it closed due to Covid. She said they attempted to use I Pad's for patient visits, but it was not very successful. They have worked very hard to keep the facility safe with procedures they have enacted.

Ethel White said she was at school last week with the 7th and 8th graders who very good about wearing their masks. Doug Davies said he wished people were more concerned with the welfare of others. Dr. Rice said people are working to develop a campaign to keep Covid cases in our county down. There will be fun things like skits, posters and contests. They want it to be positive and not divisive. Dr. Rice said he would like the council's support. Ethel White, Art Walters and Doug Davies said they would like the Town to be supportive. Scott Bernhard said he doesn't believe in masks because he believes they won't stop the virus. Dr. Rice said they didn't come here to mandate masks. Mayor Schermerhorn told Dr. Rice to send the campaign related things to the Town email.

Park Event Policy. Mayor Schermerhorn said there is a council work session scheduled on this topic on Thursday, September 17th at 4:00 pm. Rita Collins said she was concerned that groups that have used the Town parks in the past have had to go through the procedure of filling out the paperwork and obtaining council approve, but a recent gun club group was not required to do so. She had been informed by this group that they had been given permission by a Town Council member. She would like the Mayor and Council to communicate to the public what the procedure is to use the Town parks. Ms. Collins also said she would like the agenda's and minutes to be updated on the website. Mayor Schermerhorn said the Town no longer has the person that was updating the website and will have to find another person. Ms. Collins suggested contacting the high school for a volunteer. There was discussion regarding the gun club meetings. Mayor Schermerhorn told Ms. Collins that she was welcome to attend the council work session on this topic.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR COMMENTS

Ethel White asked that the Public Works Department weed around the stop signs.

PUBLIC COMMENT on non-agenda items. None

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Schermerhorn adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

LEEANN SCHERMERHORN, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Flynn Clerk/Treasurer