

*Eureka Town Council Meeting
Eureka Town Hall --- Eureka, Montana
Monday, December 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: Tammy Lawler, Andrea Broom, Jeff Broom

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

PUBLIC COMMENT on agenda items. None.

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

Reports. No comments.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wastewater Project – Phase 1b. Mayor Schermerhorn read the report submitted by Town Engineer Toby McIntosh. The final SRF closeout documents have been compiled and will be electronically submitted to DEQ as well as by mail. There is only a letter that needs to be signed to complete the closeout list. The Army Corp of Engineers did have a request for a few items to close out their environmental. I will follow-up with Public Works on a few items that will need their assistance in answering.

Capital Improvement & Growth Policy Planning. Toby McIntosh said he had a recent discussion with Tracy McIntyre where they determined an end date for the project funding and are in the process of updating the overall schedule from this end date, which was mid to late May 2021. Jackola will work with Tracy to determine the web-based public outreach using platforms such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

NEW BUSINESS:

Letter of Support – Dr. Black and the Lincoln County Health Department. Doug Davies said he was disappointed in the failure to support Dr. Black’s efforts in implementing state mandates. Health Department employees have received threats and are doing their best to keep the citizens safe. Mr. Davies shared statistics provided to him by Jennifer McCully. The County will hopefully receive 5 – 6,000 doses of the vaccine this week with healthcare providers receiving them first, followed by extended care patients and workers. Another 10,000 doses are scheduled for the following week. Vaccines for the general population should be available by late spring, early summer. Mr. Davies said he believes masking, distancing, and cleaning protocols need to be kept in front of the public. Anything we can do to slow the spread is important. There was discussion regarding Board of Health members, including current and

possible additional members from north Lincoln County. Arthur Walters said that no matter what you say or do, some people will not believe that the virus is a real and very important issue. There was discussion regarding the Governor's mandate and Dr. Black's recommendations and enforcement issues. Mayor Schermerhorn said she is not comfortable writing a letter of support without knowing what Dr. Black's plans are. The Mayor suggested Mr. Davies write a letter for the council to review. Mr. Davies said he would write a letter and drop it off to the clerk. Scott Bernhart said he did not believe the Council's job was to promote their personal opinions but to represent the Town citizens and the struggling businesses. Mr. Walters said the Council can make a decision after seeing Dr. Black's plan and the letter.

Sale of property. Mayor Schermerhorn said that due to a conflict of interest, Council President Ethel White, will be conducting the bid opening and discussion. Mrs. White opened the bid from Northwest Electric and stated the bid was for \$40,100 for two lots. Mrs. White opened the bid from Glacier Bank that stated it was for \$1,000 higher than the highest bid, which made their bid \$41,100. The bid also contained a letter signed by Michael Smith from Glacier Bank, which Mrs. White read. There were questions regarding the form of Glacier Bank's bid, so Mayor Schermerhorn attempted to contact Town Attorney Clif Hayden but was unsuccessful. There was discussion regarding the parking lot history and maintenance. Arthur Walters made a motion to table the sale of the property until the January meeting, seconded by Scott Bernhard, carried all ayes.

Park Policy. Mayor Schermerhorn stated that camping policy in Riverside Park was changed from one week to three days in 2018 due to increasing issues in the park. This policy is hard to police and theft of electricity and vandalism is increasing and becoming quite costly. The Eureka police suggest closing the park to camping. There are also issues with the sewer dump being kept clean and people dumping unknown substances that could be damaging to the Town's sewer system. Scott Bernhard suggested updating Town ordinances with a section on transients. There was discussion regarding options for park camping, the sewer dump, parking lot lighting and cameras. Mayor Schermerhorn said she would get more information and put park policy back on the agenda in January.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR COMMENTS None.

PUBLIC COMMENT on non-agenda items. None

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Schermerhorn adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

LEEANN SCHERMERHORN, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Flynn Clerk/Treasurer