

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
February 13, 2024

PUBLIC HEARINGS – LIQUOR LICENSES

A Public Hearing was held before the regular Town Council meeting. Mayor Oler called the Public Hearings to Order at 5:45 p.m. Those present were Mayor Sherry Oler, Councilmembers, Brady Hamilton, Zeke Bonella, Helen Gordon and Kevin Kummer were present. Town Clerk-Treasurer, Kathy Shoopman was also present.

Svilar, Inc. – There being no public comments, Councilwoman Helen Gordon moved to approve the Liquor License for Svilar, Inc., seconded by Councilman Brady Hamilton. Motion carried unanimously.

Union Whiskey Bar, LLC – There being no public comments, Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to approve the Liquor License for Union Whiskey Bar, LLC, seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Oler closed the Public Hearings.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor Oler called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was announced.

Governing Body Present: Mayor Sherry Oler, Councilmembers, Brady Hamilton, Zeke Bonella, Kevin Kummer, and Helen Gordon were present. A quorum was declared.

City Staff Present: Town Attorney, Rick Sollars and Clerk-Treasurer, Kathy Shoopman were present.

Audience: Tyler Downing, Archie Hanson, Todd Smith

Mayor Oler made an announcement asking those present to silence all cell phones and if they are hard of hearing to please sit in the front row. She stated that only agenda items will be addressed and residents presenting agenda items will have five (5) minutes to address the council.

Public Comments: There were no public comments on the Agenda.

Fire Notifications and Emergency Water Supply: Mayor Oler recognized Hudson Fire Chief, Tyler Downing in the audience and other firemen present and thanked them for coming. A discussion was held regarding the two fires in Hudson in January. Chief Downing agreed that notifications need to be better from dispatch when an emergency is called. He would like to set up a meeting with Don Rood to discuss water availability for emergencies. Tyler stated they used over 25 thousand gallons of water for the Watts house fire.

Chief Downing would like to see a record of how much water is in the storage tanks on the hill or an average amount of water storage each month. He would also like to know what the minimum level would be before a boil order would have to be issued.

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Councilman Brady Hamilton questioned whether the fire department could hook to the cemetery tank to fill trucks in an emergency. Discussion ensued about possibly installing a fire hydrant near the cemetery as a back up for use in a fire emergency. Mayor Oler reported that there is a new Cemetery Committee formed and they are researching alternative water sources for the cemetery.

Mayor Oler will have Don Rood reach out to Chief Downing for a meeting.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes: correction or approval of the minutes of the January 9, 2024, Council Meeting.

Financial Report: Correction or approval of the January 31, 2024, financial report.

Payment of Bills: Corrections or approval of the payment of bills for February 2024.

Mayor Oler asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the aforesaid council minutes, financial report, or payment of bills.

Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to approve the consent agenda, minutes, financial report, and payment of bills, seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. The motion unanimously passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor's Report

February 2024

Wyoming Water Development Commission: Hudson's Level 1 Water Study is included in the Omnibus Water Appropriations Bill (HB0104). The bill passed joint appropriations and went to the House on February 7, 2024. No other information is available on the LSO website.

Flood Mitigation: I met with Kelcey Beck of the Popo Agie Conservation District regarding their assistance. Hudson submitted a FEMA BRIC grant application and another application to another FEMA program is planned on Monday, February 12. Town hall meetings will be planned to educate residents on Hudson's and Fremont County's Hazard Mitigation Plan if we are faced with another flood event.

Sewer Lagoon: Sewer lift station parts have not been received. I am told the parts are to be received by Imperial Pump in Casper in the beginning of March and will be installed hopefully by mid-March. Apparently, a miscommunication between Falcon and Smith & Loveless happened! We currently have only one pump operating, I am praying this will continue to work until we receive installation.

Digital Sign: Installed in January and I am really enjoying our digital sign! Many thanks again to WRVC and Helen Wilson.

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Ballpark and Cemetery Committees and Fundraising: In January new Committees are formed and priorities have been set. The Fundraiser for these committees was held February 3 and it was a success even though the weather did not cooperate!

Water Meter Project Loan: I met with Kathy Lenz of Senator Lummis' office, and we discussed grants and fund opportunities. I learned I can ask to cut the interest rate on our loan in half! I have an appointment with SLIB in Cheyenne next week to do this and investigate other opportunities for Hudson.

Wyoming Business Council: I met with Patrick Edwards and Kaycee Hurless for help regarding several aged and decaying Main Street structures.

HERO Grants: One application for a local business and fund requests for Hudson's baseball field project and covered bus benches were also submitted for their consideration.
FCAG/Shooting Complex: FCAG's official Letter of Interest is scheduled to be sent next week to the Governor's Task Force.

God's Pantry: Louise Barker signed a lease for the old jail building, moved in and has successfully started a free food pantry for people in need.

Code Enforcement Position: Tim Pawol was hired for Code Enforcement. He has started assessing pet licensing and notifying residents. Forms are being developed for his use.

Frank's Meat Bid: The engineering firm failed to advertise for bids and the scheduled big opening on January 25th. Now it is being advertised, and the new bid opening date is February 29th.

WyDOT Speed Study: No word yet on the results of our speed study.

Maintenance Position Vacancy: I have had several applications submitted and I have offered the position to two people, who have turned my offer down. I am expecting another applicant on Monday. If possible, I will meet with him immediately afterward. My fingers are crossed.

CLERK – TREASURER REPORT

February 2024

I am not sure where January went, but it went fast. There was a lot of activity in Town Hall.

We received all the paperwork for our switch to the State insurance. It took many hours, several phone calls and a couple of hours online with tech support to get everything working on the computer end of payroll. We had a

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couple of kinks to iron out, but overall, it has been a good transition. There were hoops to jump through to cancel the other insurance, but I finally got to talk to the proper person to get it done.

The battle still goes on regarding the flooring. Upright keeps pushing Gales to fix the floor the way they want, and it may come down to tearing the whole thing up and starting over. Stay tuned~

I worked on getting the two liquor license renewals sent out and back and published for hearing and filed with the state. These will take place before the council meeting this month. There is a new form this year, so it took a little more time to navigate.

The ongoing F-66 Audit is very time-consuming. I have been trying to find documents from the pre-flood of town hall and from when I was doing all my filing in a banker's box at the fire station. It has been a challenge. It seems for every one document I find; the auditor wants three more even harder to locate.

The final LIEAP payouts were all posted to their respective customer accounts. I have had to explain several times over why people had credit on their account. But overall, they are happy about it. Customers on payment arrangements are doing well with keeping up their end. There are a couple that are noncompliant, and we will be sending them a shut off notice.

I am still using up the overabundance of plain envelopes for utility billing. It is time consuming to print the mailing labels, match them with the bill, and put them together for mailing. But it will use up the supplies we have on hand instead of purchasing new. I am a firm believer in use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without. Apart from paper and pens, we should not have to purchase any office supplies for a while.

I fielded many questions and complaints about the \$0.50 increase. Residents are not happy with it on top of the already higher rate. I am just hoping they will subside soon.

Our new digital sign has been installed and Maralyne has figured out how to make it work! There are many features to learn, and we can program various information to display. Thank you to the Wind River Visitors Council! I am looking forward to having time for training to learn how to program it.

The new food pantry is up and running and Louise is doing wonderful things! She has set hours and people come to see her and it is going very well.

We are still looking for a good fit for a maintenance person. We are advertising through job service currently. We did not have any responses from our last advertising efforts with the newspapers. There have been interviews and offers, but they were turned down.

Taylor's time is ending with working for us, and she is currently looking for different employment. We will miss her and wish her the best.

I just had another bout of whatever bug it is that is going around the county and was out all last week. Combine that with me being sick during the last week of November, it is driving home the need for a second person in the office that knows how to do the job and run the programs. I simply cannot keep up or play catch up all the time. I am hopeful we can advertise for an office assistant soon. I am also having some associated health issues that will require me traveling back and forth to Salt Lake a few times. I am also working on putting my mother in assisted living. That said, I will be needing to take some time off on a regular basis in the coming months. So, I am asking to begin the search for an office assistant that can work as needed.

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Water Treatment Plant Report to Council

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The Treatment Plant Produced 2,043.214 Gallons in the Month of January 2024, averaging 64,646 gallons per day.

January's Bacteriological sample was collected and made it to the State Lab in Cheyenne on time and was satisfactory. It was collected late in the month to avoid the freezing temperatures. February's sample was collected today at 156 North Missouri.

The raw water valve and positioner on LPM #2 are now working together and operational.

Issues with the HACH sc4500 controller and Tu5300sc turbidimeter on LPM#1 are being worked on with software updates and communication with the HACH company. I have EPA involved as there are similar issues with this equipment in other systems and it must be resolved to keep in compliance.

Of great concern is the lack of communication from emergency services for immediate notification of fire response with town officials and water plant personnel. I believe this is being addressed.

The new High Service Pump from Ambiente H2O is scheduled for shipment on February 23.

I ordered VFD and HMI modules for the lagoon blower system which have arrived. Harry is furnishing the information as to what needs to be programmed into the system the proper way for automatic operation. I also got a great lead for getting a quote for an emergency generator for the lagoons from a firm in Casper. I visited with a rep this afternoon from Interstate Power Systems and will supply him with the data needed to size and price an emergency generator.

A new SCADA computer monitor was installed last month. The old Dell Monitor was getting dark and couldn't be adjusted any further.

The TMP, trans membrane pressures, on both LPM skids are increasing to the point of not being in complete compliance with the EPA. The membranes are extremely close to the end of their lifespan and need to be replaced. I've been in communication with Veolia and the EPA and have obtained a quote for total replacement. The time for shipping for the replacement zee weed filters is nearly a year out. I'm attempting to extend the life of the

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filters and keeping the plant in compliance with waivers from EPA if necessary. I'll keep everyone posted. It's just another hurdle, but it too shall pass.

Maintenance Department Report

Week of January 1st. Weekly and daily maintenance of lagoons, water tanks and cemetery. Tuesday the 2nd called block and tackle to look at cemetery trees not doing well, and they will call back with appointment date. Call wedge Fike for an appointment to get the maintenance computer up and running appropriately. Seth Wood called out this week from weekly lagoon system walk thru due to illness. James from HDR called and will be in town next week to get a scope of work that will be performed during the installation process of meters. The usual daily duties of garbage throughout the week and various other duties as they came up were performed for mayor and Kathy at town hall. Sat and Sun the 6th and 7th Don Rood on call.

Week of January 8th. Moving snow, daily maintenance, garbage's, meet with mayor and Kathy for webinar for insurance on the 8th. Take down Christmas lights weekly maintenance duties as well as water plant duties. Seth called, next Monday the he'll do DMR's ill be off holiday. Called Micheal Christopher and getting lead and copper template from her. Met with James from HDR and toured commercial businesses to take inventory of meter sizes as well as the school. The air drier in WTP made noises so removed cover blew out dust and W-D 40 front of bearings and Don will order new motor. Set appointments with Jake Hamon and new Union owners to inspect meters. Ferguson called and our order of meter pits and curb stops is in route and will deliver once in Casper. Called multiple times to Casper Energy labs to have Kim Houle taken off all accounts and shipping etc.. This is the fourth call since her leaving with no success but will keep on trying. Turn on power in old jail for food program. Continue moving snow and take E. Coli grab sample to Riverton WWTP lab on the 11th. Work order for Jake Hamon meter, install rebuilt from spare parts. Harry on call Sat 13th and Sun 14th Saturday in WTP 3:00 am fire on Indiana plant not starting or staying running, use of hydrants approximately 2 hr. before calling ran TKS down to 9'. Stayed to keep lpm running manually though sat. remain in the plant manually operating lpm until Sunday afternoon. During lagoon check found blowers down, called jerry cox to come in to get going again, determined HMI and PLC out will order and call when in. Till then no alternating blower just #1 continuously.

Week of January 15th. Monday was a holiday Don on duty, the 16th through 18th in Casper for classes from CEU's needed for Mosquitoes and Weed spraying licenses. Continuing moving snow, the usual maintenance duties and garbage were caught up on Fri the 19th and Don on call sat the 20th and Sun the 21st.

Week of January 22nd. Perform daily and weekly inspections of lagoons, WTKs, cemetery and brush pile. Once again called Block and Tackle Tree Care and still trying to get here to inspect cemetery trees. I will keep trying to get an inspection done. Read meters, meet and discuss new hires possibly. Met with Seth Woods and submitted DMR's to EPA/DEQ. James from HDR her again on Tues the 23rd to continue meter inventory and gave him the Lead and Copper template for use to inventory lines when meters are being put in. Found a 1" commercial meter in Jim's house he used to work for us part time. Food for thought about how many more throughout the years placed in homes? Jerry Cox called, and we tried again to make blower #2 to work before ordering with no luck. Met with Bill Carson on GIS mapping. Fueled flatbed 27 gallons. Work order Jesse Fritz new meter old one froze frost plate broke as designed to. Shoshone for books Riverton for straps and new idler wheel for 1445 brush and installed. Called and got update w/ mayor on Lift station repair.... possibly March. Sat 27th and Sun 28th Harry on call, perform daily maintenance of WTP and lagoons, security checks.

Week of January 29th. Monday 01:40 call from Mayor another fire close to town and fire dept has been pulling from hydrants since approx. 11:50, remote start WTP. No call 2nd time not alerting WTP personnel of hooking up. Performed daily and weekly maintenance procedures for Town and WTP. Locates for 580 South Indiana,

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watts residence. Move and arrange Town Hall bays for continuing cleaning and arrival of new ordinance officer.

Councilman Brady Hamilton moved to approve the department reports, seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. The motion unanimously passed.

Old Business:

SEWER LAGOON & LIFT STATION REPAIRS: We are still waiting for the parts for the lift station repairs, the lagoon has been repaired. Mayor Oler reported that there was some miscommunication on the parts and Harry Miller phoned and got them lined out.

NEW BUSINESS:

RATIFICATION OF OVERTIME PAY APPROVAL Harry Miller accumulated 24 hours of overtime pay in January due to the Watts' house fire and problems at the Water Treatment Plant. These hours were added to his paycheck in the January payroll.

*Motion to ratify the approval of overtime pay was made by Councilman Brady Hamilton and seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion carried unanimously.

WTP MEMBRANE ISSUE Don has been trying to order new membranes for the WTP. They are now telling him there is a lead time of 42-47 weeks from order to delivery. Councilwoman Helen Gordon questioned about problems with installation if the membranes arrive during freezing weather. Mayor Oler stated that shipping would consider weather and timelines to prevent any problems.

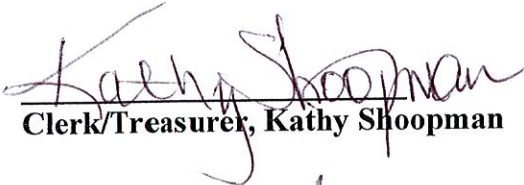
TREES: Mayor Oler stated she would like to remove the tree discussion for another time as there is a need for more information. Motion to amend the agenda and remove the discussion item was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon and seconded by Councilman Brady Hamilton. Motion passed.

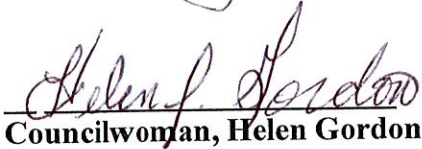
Town Clerk Shoopman stated that due to her extended illness, many items were not able to be covered at this month's meeting and suggested an early start time for the March 12 Council Meeting to allow time to cover all the business items. Councilwoman Helen Gordon moved to start the March 12, 2024 Town Council Meeting at 5:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed unanimously. The Town Clerk will advertise the amended start time by posting notice on Facebook, the digital sign, Post Office and Kai's.

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the council. Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Brady Hamilton. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

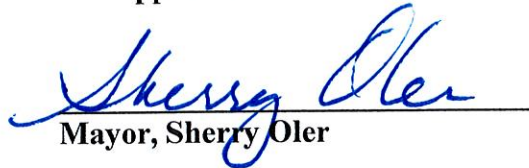
Attest:


Clerk/Treasurer, Kathy Shoopman

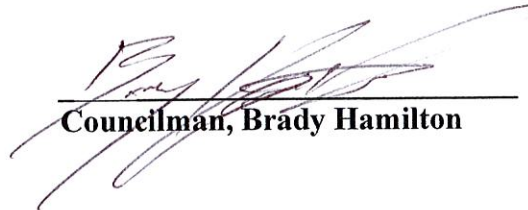

Councilwoman, Helen Gordon


Councilman, Zeke Bonella

Approved:


Mayor, Sherry Oler


Councilman, Kevin Kummer


Councilman, Brady Hamilton