Mayor Oler called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was announced.

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

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

<u>Audience:</u> The John and Amber Nations family, Mary Wakefield, Maralyne Middour, Robert "Bub" Parker, Tim Nichols, Kevin Kershisnik, various members of the public.

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.

<u>Public Comments:</u> Bub Parker – Mr. Parker addressed the council to request that he be allowed to remove gravel from the gravel pile to build up the road through his pastureland. Mr. Parker noted that the road is the Town right-of-way. Attorney Sollars asked if there was any value to the Town and if the road was open to the public. Bub said that with his permission, he could let people into the pasture. Mr. Sollars stated that the Town cannot give away town property. Bub mentioned that all the streets in town are the same. He is bettering the town by doing this work on this road. Mayor Oler stated that she would like to research the matter before giving any answers and that the matter needs to be properly assessed.

Amber Nation – Mrs. Nation addressed the council regarding Ordinance 811 with specificity to the breed specific language contained in the ordinance. Amber stated that the Code Enforcement Officer needs to be able to enforce the ordinance and that specific breed enforcement is hard to prove and expensive to enforce. She stated that the Sheriff's office will not enforce the ordinance unless the animal is a danger. Mayor Oler stated that Judge McKee will be the one enforcing the ordinance and further explained the drafting, reading and publishing procedures of Ordinance writing or amending. It is a timely process, and results won't happen overnight. Amber informed the council that pit bulls are a mixed breed animal anyway. The mayor stated she will research the issue and keep the public informed.

Maralyne Middour – Maralyne addressed the council regarding WYDOT funding that is available. These funds would possibly be available to purchase radar speed signs. There is a Statement of Intent that needs to be filed, then we will get a site visit. We must have someone on staff with LPA Certification. Harry Miller will be attending the certification training and testing in April. The topic of radar signs was brought up in October 2023, and tabled at that meeting. The town could possibly acquire radar signs, crosswalk signs and painting, zone signs from 70-40 mph to 30 mph. Councilwoman Helen Gordon asked how much money would be required for the match. There is a 9.51% match. Helen stated that the town needs a plan and not go into this half-cocked. She further stated she would not vote on the matter unless she knows all the information.

Maralyne explained the funding summit and the 501c3 which is 100% support for Hudson. Maralyne asked that the town approve the Statement of Intent.

Councilwoman Helen Gordon moved to approve filing the Statement of Intent on behalf of Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed.

Resolution No 2024-04 – A Resolution to Revitalize the Hudson Baseball Field in the Town of Hudson, Fremont County, Wyoming. Mayor Oler explained this Resolution is necessary to support the application for grant monies from the Recreation Board. Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to approve the Resolution No 2024-04, seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. Motion passed unanimously.

The next item to come before the council was the FCAG Modification of the ½% Tax MOU. Tim Nichols with WRTA and FCAG presented with Kevin Kershisnik. Tim explained there is a measure of public mistrust with the current ½% sales tax usage. They would like to better define authorization for Mayors to sign. Kevin explained that the proposed MOU is an update to the current MOU already in place. The new MOU includes an increase to airport funding and an increase to WRTA funding. Mayor Oler stated that any movement to keep the current MOU or amend it with this new MOU is completely dependent on if the ½% passes election in November again and would not take effect until January 2025.

Councilman Kummer questioned why there is a push on more airport funding. Kevin Kershisnik explained the deal with SkyWest and United, stating that the cost to taxpayers is 60-70% of the Federal cost. They are trying to prevent a loss of air service from the airport. Councilwoman Gordon stated that she has had businesses tell her they would leave Fremont County if air service were not available. She is in favor of keeping air service. Kevin stated that six years ago Brunton moved their administrative operations to Colorado due to unreliable air service into Riverton.

Mayor Oler stated that Ambulance service is vital to Fremont County. With the changes in the MOU, and the addition of Ambulance funding, the 70% of sales tax the town gets would go down. We would be paying 23% to the Airport funding; 7% to WRTA; 20% to Ambulance and 20% for our H.E.R.O. funds.

Councilwoman Helen Gordon moved that the council sign the MOU when available, seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed. Mayor Oler thanked Tim and Kevin for coming.

#### Consent Agenda:

Minutes: correction or approval of the minutes of the February 13, 2024, Council Meeting.

Financial Report: Correction or approval of the February 29, 2024, financial report.

Payment of Bills: Corrections or approval of the payment of bills for March 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 - March, 2024

<u>FEMA Grants for Flood Mitigation</u>: Two FEMA grant applications for an engineering report as phase 1 of flood mitigation were submitted in February. My Homeland Security contact suggested we may know in 3-4 months if we are approved! Keeping fingers crossed.

<u>Hudson Draw Flash Flood</u>: March 1, 2024 Hudson experienced a flash flood from the outlying hills around Hudson. I was thankful Bridger Kimber was in Hudson and I met him at the shop to get our backhoe and he was able to open the berm going into the river within 30 minutes of the call. Yay! A potential crisis for the whole town was averted! Since then, I check on the draw daily to check the water levels.

<u>Sewer Lift Station</u>: We are still waiting for repair parts and installation. Confirmed this week the ETA on parts is mid-March. I am losing patience with how the order was processed and feel helpless to the process.

<u>HERO Application</u>: Hero Applications were submitted to the Hero Grant Committee and the committee relayed to me their recommendations will be submitted to Town Council for consideration at their March meeting.

<u>WyDOT Speed Study</u>: The study is not received yet. I am confident the results will pave the way for installation of radar feedback signs and establishing a crosswalk at the post office. I believe it will also open grant funds for replacement of the deteriorating sidewalks on Main Street. I will be requesting authority to apply for funds for these purposes.

<u>Cemetery Funds/Berce Trust Fund Opportunity</u>: I spoke with Bob Calfus, co-Trustee of the Berce Trust Fund, he is offering more funding to the Town of Hudson from the Berce Trust Fund. I relayed we have a new cemetery committee, and the improvement plans the committee discussed, and I confirmed Hudson will start using the previous Berce funds and if we need more, I will let him know. I also invite him to our cemetery celebration when improvements are complete.

Frank's Meat Waterline Project: the bid opening was held on February 29, 2024. Three (3) bids were received Bornhoft Construction: \$359,473; Viper Underground: \$341,766; and the lowest bid from Ramshorn Construction in Casper, at \$312,760.

Hudson Water Meter Replacement Program: We are publishing for bids this month, I am meeting with HDR Engineering regarding the schedule on 3/8/2024. I sent the letter to SLIB requesting our interest rate on the loan be reduced and prepared them for a potential extension time to finish the project and meet the forgiveness deadline. Level 1 Water Master Plan: the Omnibus Funding for the Water Bill was approved by Legislature. The Level 1 Water Master Plan will be funded. I will discuss it with HDR on Friday.

Code Enforcement: Door tag forms are ordered and citation books obtained after I received approval of Judge McKee and our Town Attorney.

Maintenance Position: After MANY interviews, I hired Steve Gisi, he has 7 years previous experience working at the South Pass Historical Sight. He starts on March 11.

WAM Conference: I couldn't attend due to illness.

FCAG: Hudson was the host for the February FCAG meeting. All the mayors and commissioners loved our new chairs! The meeting went a long time, and the longest discussion included a proposed FCAG MOU regarding the ½ cent economic development tax and the FCAG Administrator will be presenting to Town Council tonight. During the meeting, I resigned my position as Co-chair of the Shooting Complex work group. It was taking too much of my time and I chose to spend my time helping Hudson as a priority.

Wyoming Business Council: I continue contact with Patrick Edwards for help with ideas for improvement and forming a solid goal setting plan. Our meetings are very informational, and I usually end up with another resource to try to help our town.

This report ended up longer than I thought it would! Sorry ..... 😊



#### **CLERK – TREASURER REPORT**

#### March 2024

March has come in like a lion so I am hopeful that it will go out like a lamb, and we will get some warmer weather.

The Town Hall has been busy as usual. With the horrible housefire last month, I had many visitors in my office with donations for the Watts family and spent a lot of time coordinating with them to deliver donations.

Our new Code Enforcement Officer has started notifying residents about the need to get their dogs licensed with the town. There will be a license clinic held on March 9 to hopefully get more animals in compliance. I know I have had a lot of people coming in either to register their dog, or to question the requirements and restrictions. I know there are several residents that would like the ordinance amended or changed. They have been invited to appear before the council.

We have been gearing up for Hudson Daze in June and it is going to be huge! Maralyne has gotten more people involved and has been working with Becky Nicol to put on a great event for Hudson this year! I will be there with my games and prizes for the kids and hope to have a door prize drawing for a nice prize for a kid and one for an adult.

We have completed the new employee manual and will have copies ready for all employees to sign once approved at council.

Our electronic sign is up and working! We have had more positive feedback than negative so that is a great thing. People notice it and we are able to get information out to the public. So far, Maralyne has been taking care of what is displayed on the sign because I simply have not had the time to learn the system or to put upcoming events on the display. We are very appreciative of the Wind River Visitors Council for providing the sign and for Maralyne for keeping up with the events!

This is an election year, and we will have three seats up for election. Brady and Kevin's terms expire and Helen's seat is available for a two year term since MaryAnne resigned less than half way through her term. That seat will then be open for the usual four-year term in 2027.

I filed for our annual reimbursement from the Fremont County Weed and Pest for costs of spraying noxious weeds over the summer.

We have purchased several new canopies for the town to use during Hudson Daze. This gives us more shades for the car show, our booth in the park, and one at the ball field.

The Wind River Visitor Council has more funding than ever this year and we have applied for funding to help with Hudson Daze. Helen Wilson emailed me and said we should be receiving a check later this month.

We received several applications for the maintenance position and interviews were held with two offers extended and subsequently turned down. After discussing the position last month with council, and making some changes, Mayor Oler was able to offer the job and get an acceptance. Steve Gisi will begin working Monday, March 11.

I spent a great deal of my time last month finding documents, scanning them in and uploading them to the auditor. It seemed like for every one item I sent, she would request three more to prove it. It was a challenge to say the least, but we have prevailed and got our report filed!

With the end of the month, comes the flurry of entering meter readings, preparing utility billings, doing payroll and month end duties. I begged Taylor to come help me stuff envelopes and do some filing. She was nice enough to come and help out.

I continue to have residual illnesses cropping up. I have been able to work through most of it, but again am concerned about having someone to back me up when I cannot be here. It is difficult to keep up or play catch up all the time. I am hopeful we can find monies for an office assistant to work as needed.

### February Maintenance Report 2024

Week of Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. perform daily maintenance duties for maintenance, wwtp lagoons and water plant. Locate performed at 580 S. Indiana for Black Hills Gas Comp. at Watts residence. Contacted Tim Bails to have him come and give an estimate for cleaning up debris at brush pile this spring and he will contact when weather is better. Rebuild water meters for any replacements needed till new ones are installed. Introduced myself to the new code enforcement officer and went through the operation of the vehicle he will be using. Don Rood on call weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, called out on the 4<sup>th</sup> to lagoon for lift station light on. After inspection, it was determined only one pump working as the other inoperable till new retrofit happens and it was struggling to keep up with inflow of extra flow from rain and snow melt and warm weather.

Week of Feb. 5th. Perform maintenance duties for maintenance, WWTP lagoons, and water plants throughout the week. Move and clear snow, sampled quarterly's and sent to energy labs in Casper. Clear street drains to permit run off to dissipate from streets. Lift station valve stuck open light on, remove blockage return to service. Work order for 680 west 6th street the old town house basement full of water. Used trash pump to empty and turn off curb stop that was previously work ordered to be turned off and wasn't. Assemble 7 new council chairs. Contacted Stotz and received purchase order for generator that's missing and forwarded to mayor and clerk. Zeke Bonella here to inventory military pumps at water plant. 26 gallons in flatbed from lander county yard into flat bed. Purchased two new flashlights and chain saw bar oil from Ace Hardware. WWTP E. Coli grab sample taken and delivered to Riverton. Received monthly testing kit from Energy labs via Fed Ex. Harry on call for weekend of the 10th and 11th.

Week of Feb. 12th. Monday Harry is off, medical leave for Drs appointments. Perform duties for maintenance, wwtp lagoons, and water plant. Met with Seth Woods contract operator from Dubois and Jerry Cox at blower house for info need to program new PLC. Snow removal. Discussed aspects of our snow removal system vs his proposed system if hiring his snow removal company. May be a possibility for big snow events we can't handle but our program sufficient for normal weather events. Worked with James from HDR on meters via phone call. Attempting to get live trap back from Don Hankins who borrowed it for Racoon issues...... he loaned it to John Strickland, as of this report we haven't seen trap yet. Found river pump door open and old 2002 lock open hanging in hasp. Closed the door and removed the old lock and replaced it with new lock, Kathy has the key. E. Coli grab sample taken and delivered to Riverton for testing. Work order for old jail high electric bill found register in comfort zone 70 degrees and very warm, turned down to 55 degrees. Work order for streetlights out and gave list of pole numbers to Kathy for power company to fix. Weekend of the 17th and 18th Doon Rood on call.

Week of Feb. 19th. Monday the 19th Harry out for holiday. Perform daily and weekly duties for maintenance, wwtp lagoons and water plant. Met with Seth woods for our weekly time as per contract. Work order for Mike Dabich, street cones making people aware of sandbags in front of his driveway. Received a recall on the new Hustler mower purchased last fall for electrical issues. Call Brown Comp and informed and they will be in contact back with us. Kathy ordering study Material for level 3 water plant license and I will begin studying to challenge test. Met with Fair Field tree services and he'll email determination of tree issues in cemetery. He took the sample back to lab to see if possible, mite infestation is cause. He will email analysis and procedures to correct the issue if possible. Within that he's going to give us an aerial view of trees and locations of affected trees along with analysis of soil and grass health. E. Coli grab sample at Riverton lab for testing. Clear

main street drains. Harry on call weekend of 24th and 25th. Sunday check for reported water leak on north 1st street and surrounding streets finding nothing.

Week of Feb. 26th. Perform daily and weekly maintenance duties for maintenance, wtk's, wwtp lagoons, and water treatment plant. Meet with Seth woods for weekly lagoon inspection, shock cells with bugs. Received our WYPDES program renewal for the wastewater treatment plant. Move snow, attend zoom webinar for EPA lead service line inventory. We will have a new format for the template for WYO rather than the general one for all states. Pump showed up with out 24hr notice will come back next day. Remove snow to be able to get pump through wtp door. Investigate possible water leak 108 north Illinois Dorothy residence. Attempt to locate curb stop not successful. They stated they will keep in touch with progress on the issue. Pump and motor delivered and pushed inside water plant with backhoe. Work order to locate area where state will deliver sand to for sand bagging. Move benches back in front of maintenance shop.

### Water Treatment Plant Report to Council

March 12, 2024

The Treatment Plant Produced 1,764,150 Gallons of water for the Month of February

2024, averaging 60,833 gallons per day.

February Bacteriological sample was collected and made it to the State Lab in Cheyenne on time and was satisfactory.

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. I'm still working on it.

Desiccant cartridges were ordered from HACH for the filter turbidimeters as well as a low value Secondary Standard for low NTU calibration values necessary for proper calibration of the HACH Tu5300sc turbidimeters. If this is not successful, I may need to get an on-site visit from a HACH Instrument technician to put our issues behind us and hopefully identify a defective unit and a warranty adjustment.

The new High Service Pump from AmbienteH2O has been delivered. There were communication issues with the freight company that were resolved. The delivery also included a 20-horsepower electric motor that was an option but never ordered. I've finally established communication with AmbieanteH2O on resolution as what is the remedy for returning the motor. We were not billed for the motor but resolution as to how the return will be handled is still being worked out between AmbientH2O and the pump manufacturer.

The motor to be reused on the new High Service Pump will have new bearings installed by ITCET. The bearings have been ordered and I'll have the motor ready for operation before installing the pump.

The VFD and HMI modules for the lagoon blower system have arrived and were programmed and installed. Harry is working with ITCET for some minor glitches in the programming.

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 are being replaced. The quotes came in and the membrane cassettes have been ordered from Veolia. The estimated delivery time is however up to 47 weeks. Veolia is the only source for our filter membrane cassettes. The cassettes are manufactured in Europe. The EPA was informed of membrane replacement issue with the February SWTR report for February.

After the final installation of the new water meters and good readings for a couple of months, we should be able to accurately calculate our water loss in the distribution system. I'm adding formulas to the spread sheet for production and waste at the WTP. and doing daily data entry to our XL worksheet daily.

Happy St Patty's Day next Monday.

Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to approve the department reports, seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. The motion unanimously passed.

<u>Wind River Visitor Council Update:</u> Helen Gordon reported on the latest happenings at the WRVC. She said they attended training in Cheyenne and received so much wonderful information. She stated that 35 years ago, Wyoming was not very welcoming to tourism. Now Wyoming welcomes visitors and relies heavily on tourism dollars. They are working on a budget for next year.

Helen explained the Visitor Council Amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement and the need to get the budget passed. They would like to change it to a majority vote requirement rather than a unanimous vote. Mayor Oler explained that everyone must agree, or it holds up the entire budget approval process for WRVC. Helen stated that they missed out on advertising dollars and opportunities because of a hold-up on their budget approval. Mayor Oler said she fully supports the amendment.

Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to approve the Mayor signing the Amendment on behalf of Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed with vote from Mayor Oler due to Councilwoman Gordon recusing herself from voting.

#### **Old Business:**

**SEWER LAGOON & LIFT STATION REPAIRS:** We are still waiting for the parts for the lift station repairs. Mayor Oler reported that the parts are still waiting for shipment. She hopes we will have a fix before the next council meeting.

<u>WTP MEMBRANE ISSUE</u> Don was successful in ordering new membranes for the WTP. There is a lead time of 42-47 weeks from order to delivery. Mayor Oler signed the purchase agreement, and we

need to ratify the purchase approval. The amount needed to purchase the new membranes is \$150,000 and they are expected to last up to ten years. The ones currently in use at the treatment plant are 13 years old. Maralyne Middour asked if there were any grants available to help offset the cost. Or Technical assistance to help. Mayor Oler would like to look into it more before committing. Mr. Sollars asked about the payment arrangements. They are 30% upon ordering; 30% upon shipping date; and the rest upon installation. We are basically held hostage because these membranes are a specialized item and only available from the Netherlands and very expensive. Councilman Kummer asked if there was anything else that could be used.

Motion to ratify the purchase agreement for new membranes for the Hudson Water Treatment Plant was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon and seconded by Councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

H.E.R.O. Committee Recommendations: Mayor Oler reported on the Hudson Economic Recovery Organization recommendation for funding allocations of the ½% Economic Development Funds. Funds were approved for Helen Gordon's sewing business. Bub Parker explained they want to wait for the Town's request for using some of the funds for cemetery and ballfield use. Mayor Oler stated that it is her understanding that other communities can apply for our funds if we do not use them.

Motion to approve funding allocation for Helen Gordon was made by Councilman Zeke Bonella and seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Mayor Oler voted as Helen recused herself from the vote.

### RESOLUTION 2024-01—A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL FOR THE TOWN OF HUDSON, FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING.

<u>Personnel Policy Manual</u>: The new personnel policy manual was presented at last month's meeting for review. There were no suggested changes.

Motion to adopt Personnel Policy Manual and approve Resolution 2024-01 A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL FOR THE TOWN OF HUDSON, FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon and seconded by Councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion Passed.

Mr. Sollars recommended a payment be made to employees as an incentive to sign the new policy manual since they were not hired under the new manual. A payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00) was agreed to and a motion to approve that all employees receive the incentive payment was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon and seconded by Councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion carried.

March 12, 2024

<u>Frank's Waterline Bid Opening:</u> Mayor Oler reported on the bid opening for the Frank's waterline project. The bids all came in way over the remaining budget for the project of approximately \$189k. The bids were:

Bornhoft Construction: \$359,473 Viper Underground: \$341,766 Ramshorn Construction: \$312,760

Mayor Oler stated there will be discussions with Frank's on how to proceed. We will wait on bids until the next meeting. Matter tabled until April meeting.

### RESOLUTION 2024-02—A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWN OF HUDSON, FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING.

<u>Fee Schedule:</u> Presentation of the proposed Fee Schedule to be approved. There being no questions or discussion, motion to adopt the Fee Schedule, effective April 1, 2024 and approve Resolution 2024-02 A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWN OF HUDSON, FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING was made by Councilman Zeke Bonella and seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. Motion passed.

### RESOLUTION 2024-03 – AMENDING THE 2023-2024 BUDGET

**Budget Amendment**: Presentation of the proposed Budget Amendment Resolution. Mayor Oler explained the expenses and necessity of amending the budget items.

Motion to approve Budget Amendment Resolution was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon and seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion carried.

#### Executive Session: Personnel

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session was made by Councilman Zeke Bonella and seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:03 p.m.

Motion to adjourn out of Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon, seconded by Councilman Zeke Bonella and unanimously passed. Executive Session adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

The upcoming Easter Egg hunt was discussed and there will be an egg filling activity at Town Hall on Friday, March 19 at noon. Followed by the Hunt at the Fire Hall on Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the council. Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Helen Gordon. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

### TOWN OF HUDSON

### MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting 333 S Main Street

Councilman, Brady Hamilton

HUDSON, WY 82515 March 12, 2024

Attest:

Approved:

Mayor, Sherry Oler

Councilwoman, Helen Gordon

Excused