

TOWN OF HUDSON  
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting  
333 S Main Street  
HUDSON, WY 82515  
May 14, 2024

Mayor Oler called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:02 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 Brady Hamilton were present. Councilwoman Helen Gordon was absent. A quorum was declared.

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

**Audience:** The John and Amber Nations family, Tony Scott and Cressie Mahaffey, Mike Dabich, Jerry Kendall, Marsha Anderson, Danny Svilar, and other 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.

**Public Comments:** Tony Scott – Mr. Scott stated that he would like the speeding addressed on 3<sup>rd</sup> street past his house. He stated that there used to be a speed bump and it was removed at some point. There is no law enforcement to stop speeding. The Mayor said the town would investigate the cost of a speed bump, but it is likely to be too expensive.

Jerry Kendall—Mr. Kendall stated that several weeks ago the white crosses along the fence of Gold Star Park were removed and put in the town shop. He heard that they may not be returned to Gold Star Park but may be placed up at the Cemetery. He gave some history of the park and the crosses. If they are placed on the back of the park, that is a slap in the face to the soldiers that served. He stated he has a petition of over 100 signatures asking that they be returned. Mayor Oler stated she appreciates his service and has researched the veterans that have served from Wyoming and Fremont County. She stated that there were twenty-two veterans that died in Iraq from Wyoming, yet we only have twelve crosses. She would like to see ALL the veterans from Wyoming recognized. She would like to investigate a possible bronze memorial that can be placed with the others on the monument. Discussion was held about the crosses being the image of Hudson and some would like to see them put back. The council agreed that the Mayor should research the cost of a memorial and return the crosses until a memorial can be purchased and placed.

Danny Svilar—Mr. Svilar would like to have a catering permit for Hudson Daze to have a beer garden in the park. Attorney Sollars asked who will be responsible for security for the beer garden. Not just bartenders. There is a need for more security with such an endeavor. There needs to be a fenced off area set out for the beer garden that patrons must remain in while drinking. After discussion, the matter was tabled, and Danny will fill out the permit for the beer garden once an exact location and parameters are decided.

**Consent Agenda:**

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

**Financial Report:** Correction or approval of the April 30, 2024, financial report.

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**Payment of Bills:** Corrections or approval of the payment of bills for May 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 Councilman Brady Hamilton. The motion unanimously passed.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Mayor Report - May 2024**

**Water Meter Replacement Project:** Publication and bidding was held on May 8, 2024. Viper Underground was the only bid received. HDR will present to the Council on Tuesday.

**Brush Pile:** We received the cameras, now we are waiting for rental of a man-lift or installation by Jerry Cox.

**Frank's Meats Annexation:** The Wyoming Business Council accepted our request to extend the time to complete this Franks waterline project. The Annexation agreement will be signed as soon as Frank's receives a price for installation of the fire hydrant.

**Grant Applications:** 1) Applications are currently being prepared to cover engineering costs for assessing Hudson's sewer lines, lift station, and sewer lagoon. 2) I received a positive report from Homeland Security, I believe it looks good for us to receive funding for the pre-engineering report for flood mitigation.

**Corral Ditch Meeting:** I went to the ditch meeting and found out there are a couple of irrigation gates needing replacement. I also found out the town is responsible for replacing them. We were able to order one gate and hopefully, the gate by the cemetery will be installed prior to the ditch flow on May 15.

**FEMA Flood Training:** I attended a 4-day course to learn how to be a Certified FEMA Flood Administrator and ultimately increase our odds of receiving flood mitigation grants. Engineers surrounded me, but after 4 grueling days of information, I successfully passed the course! Whew! I am glad that is behind me.

**Town Hall Floor:** The town hall floor will be replaced under a warranty claim. I asked them to wait on the floor until after Hudson Daze.

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Hudson Daze: Meetings and plans continue for Hudson Daze, the Ballpark revitalization, and improvements for Gold Star Memorial Park, including coordinating volunteer help from the local Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and VFW.

Ballpark/Vinich Sports Complex: The Rotary clubs from Lander and Riverton agreed to hold a service project to benefit Hudson's baseball park. This past weekend, I joined all the volunteers and scraped, painted, cleaned, etc. the dugouts and the ticket booth for the ballpark. It looks so good! Marie, an artist member of the Lander Rotary club, will try to copy my photos of the artwork and re-paint the dugouts when she gets back from her travel abroad.

Memorial Day Ceremony: the VFW and junior color guard agreed to help with the Memorial Day ceremony, and Senator Cale Case will speak at the ceremony, hopefully, Lloyd Larson will be able to attend as well. There will be cookies and coffee afterwards at town hall.

Brownstone Project: Cindi Martinez will come to town council to present her presentation of the Wyoming SPURR program potentially involving and helping Main Street property owners with assistance addressing problems with their buildings. I have invited the property holders to the council meeting. This program is a 100% cost free program paid through the DEQ's philanthropic division.

Budget Planning: Kathy and I spent a day with our budget, 'tis the season, and we discussed many things and will be discussing in our council budget session.

Town Code Enforcement: We are still working with PAWS for Life on assistance with housing stray dogs/cats and costs. Residents are complying with Code Enforcement contacts and if the residents need more time, the town has worked with them. For the few residents who are resistant to following the codes, we have our first court date scheduled with Judge McKee on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hopefully, residents will choose to avoid going to court.

Vicious Dog Ordinance: Public hearing should be scheduled later this month or in June.

Town Clean-up Day: Hopper Disposal offered to bring two roll-off dumpsters and one metal dumpster to Hudson during the last week of May. I will be discussing the expense at our meeting.

Mosquito spraying: Harry went to Worland for the Spraying Class/Workshop on May 9<sup>th</sup>. His license was re-certified, and we were able to get our old equipment re-certified. However, the people holding the workshop warned us that if we can get the equipment certified next

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year, it will be the last year. We will need to discuss replacement of the equipment and its expense or contracting with another entity to spray our mosquitos.

Level 1 Water Master Plan: the kick-off meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16. I will fill you in after the meeting about what we can expect moving forward!

Sorry about the length of my report again! More to come next month... Sherry.

**CLERK – TREASURER REPORT**

**May 2024**

Town Hall has been busy as usual. There have been a lot of meetings, comings and goings, general traffic, and a few sick days as usual.

There continues to be a numerous animal licenses sold. People are getting active and working on their properties. We have had several phone calls about ordinances and more than a few unhappy visitors. With busy residents comes branches and leaves. I have had numerous residents come in for the key to the brush pile. Some were nicer than others when they were told it was closed until after the cameras are mounted. Most were understanding, others were angry and stormed out.

There were several meter readings that came in overly high this month. I have been requesting re-reads for them and filling out work orders. I think we will all be incredibly happy when the new meters are in!

Hudson Daze is heating up! Maralyne, Becky and their crews have gotten more people involved and have been working hard to put on a spectacular event for Hudson this year! I will be there with my games and prizes for the kids. I have received numerous vendor applications already and it looks like the parks will be full!

Our electronic sign is working great! We have an opportunity to gain some revenue from advertising other events not associated with Hudson on the sign as well. Lander charges for all events posted on their sign. People notice the sign and we can get information out to the public quickly. Maralyne can change it from anywhere, so it is a great asset to the town! I simply have not had the time to learn the system yet, so we appreciate Maralyne taking that on for us! We are also very appreciative of the Wind River Visitors Council for providing the sign!

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 halfway through her term. That seat will then be open for the usual four-year term in 2027. **FILING OPENS MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>!**

Town Hall has had several events this month and we are getting revenue from that. The floor will be replaced over the summer from a warranty claim. Stay turned...

We have had a couple of requests to reserve Svilar park already so I think it may be a busy spring and summer over there as well.

It is also budget season and Sherry and I spent a full day working on a draft budget and have more hours to put in before next week's budget work session.

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I continue to work on updating forms for the town when I have time. It is a slow process. I have also had some people coming in to register to vote or change their addresses. There have been a couple of utility shut offs for non-payment as well as new payment arrangement set ups. The aging report is getting smaller!

With the end of the month, comes the flurry of entering meter readings, preparing utility billings, doing payroll and month end duties. I continue to ask Taylor to come help me with stuffing envelopes and filing.

On a personal note, I continue to have residual illnesses cropping up. I have other issues that will require several medical visits to Salt Lake, and I have been missing in action a lot lately getting my mother moved into assisted living. I know I sound like a broken record, but I would like to advertise for an office assistant. It is difficult for me to keep up or play catch up all the time. There are very few municipalities in Wyoming that have a one person Town Hall.

Water Treatment Plant Report to Council

May 14, 2024

The Treatment Plant Produced 1,293,440 Gallons of water for the Month of April 2024, averaging 43,115 gallons per day.

The April Bacteriological sample was collected and delivered to the state laboratory on time and tested satisfactory. May's Bacteriological sample was collected on May 13 as well at the EPA required Nitrate and non-organic (metals) sampling from the distribution entry line from the WTP.

I attended the Spring Rural Water Conference in Casper and acquired the hours needed to renew my Leve IV Water Treatment Plant License. Eight hours of the course work covered cyber security. The treatment plant is in very good condition in preventing cyber attacks to the SCADA system.

The contact hours from the conference have already been submitted to the DEQ and the license will be renewed.

A new dedicated UPS was installed on the SCADA computer, isolating it completely from the general use computer at WTP.

The low value Secondary Standard for low NTU calibration values for proper calibration of the HACH Tu5300sc turbidimeters was delivered. I still need to get an on-site visit from a HACH technical rep because the calibrations are still not successful with the new Standard, however we are able to operate the #1 Low Pressure Membrane with the standard in the turbidity meter without the unit shutting down. We can temporarily operate this way if we run routine turbidity samples at least every 4 hours with our portable turbidity meter.

The motor bearings to be used on the new High Service Pumps have finally arrived and are waiting to be installed. Both upper and lower bearings are being replaced after the new high service pump is installed.

The delivery of the 20-horsepower electric motor that was delivered by mistake has been offered to us for a \$1,000 discount instead of returning it. We have decided to keep the new motor and have the rebuilt ones on the shelf for standby replacement.

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We've received the manual for the new High Service Pump but I'm waiting for a technical rep from Ambient H2O to verify my measurements before replacing the old pump with the new.

Harry started the spring hydrant flushing on Monday, May 13.

The CCR, consumer confidence report, information for 2023 is being gathered and I'll be working with Harry on how it is constructed and posted as per EPA regulation.

Don

There was no Maintenance Report available for May.

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

**Old Business:**

**METER PROJECT BID OPENING:** Mayor Oler reads the information regarding the bid opening for the water meter project. There will need to be an adjustment to the bid. The Bid came in at \$348,678; and the engineering estimate was \$309,000. The loan amount is for a total of \$525,000. Mayor Oler requested an extension and a lower interest rate on the loan. The extension was approved, and we secured a lower rate of 1.5%.

Councilman Brady Hamilton moved to accept the bid with councilman Kevin Kummer seconding the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Amendment to the Agenda- Mayor Oler asked to amend the Agenda to move the presentation from the Brownsfield Assistance Program up so that they may get on the road. Motion to amend and move the presentation up was made by councilman Brady Hamilton and seconded by councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion passed.

**DEQ BROWNFIELDS ASSISTANCE PRESENTATION:** Cindi Martinez provided a presentation regarding the Brownfields Assistance Program. She described the process and how it works and said that they would like to do area wide planning. They would like to hear what residents are interested in. What can be done? They can prepare presentations on making a building structurally sound, replacing/repairing plumbing, infrastructure, broadband, sewer, water, etc. They can address potentially contaminated properties.

There is no match in funding required. They are grant funded and want to help the town. They can do some nice things for the town. They are not here to make someone do something they do not want to

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do. They want to help others get behind the beautification of the town. The question was raised about incorporating the history of the town. Christina explained that the first step is to talk to the community members. Preserve history and bring prosperity to the area. They plan to talk to a lot of people. They want to get family stories and the history of the area. There are no ramifications if you do not take their suggestions. They are not regulatory. They can give data to the property owners and the owners can decide how they want to proceed. The Brownsfield Assistance program is funded philanthropically, and the intent is to get funding into the community to help revitalize the community. They can provide drawings and data information. The Mayor stated that she spent half the day with them waling around and talking to business owners. There is no commitment. They just provide the information. If anyone is interested, just contact them and they will get the ball rolling. The first step is to do a plan for the Main Street businesses and get feedback and collect ideas. Councilman Zeke Bonella stated that he thinks it is a great idea. There are a lot of projects that can be done and they can start by doing some concept boards and post them in town hall.

Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to approve and sponsor the project. Motion was seconded by councilman Brady Hamilton. Motion passed unanimously.

**SEWER LAGOON & LIFT STATION REPAIRS:** Mayor Oler reported that the lift station parts finally came in and have been installed. There is still no way to isolate the pumps yet.

**ORDINANCE 811:** Mayor Oler reported on the updated Ordinance. Changes have been submitted to the council and they will review the proposed ordinance. Once there is an approved Amendment to the Ordinance, it will be posted, and a Public Meeting will be scheduled. Concern was raised about a reminder system for licensing. Heather Minnich suggested creating a database and would be happy to help the enforcement officer get one set up.

**Frank's Waterline/Annexation:** Mayor Oler reported that Frank's has agreed to annex into the town limits of Hudson. Mike Dabich questioned whether the town will have the capacity to absorb the additional sewer usage. It was explained that Frank's has been hooked into the town sewer for a long time already, but the mayor has applied for a sewer study.

**BRUSH PILE:** Mayor Oler stated that the cameras are here and charged. They will be mounted this week. We hope to have the brush pile open by the end of the week. The Mayor further stated that if there is any vandalism to the cameras. The town will have no option but to close the brush pile permanently.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER/OLD TOWN HALL:** We have requested a use analysis to be done on the meter by Rocky Mountain Power due to higher than normal bills. An update has been requested.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

**LIVESTOCK PERMIT:**

Brook & Kourtney Bekken  
272 W 2<sup>nd</sup>

4-H and FFA lambs (2)

\*Motion to approve Livestock Permit was made by councilman Kevin Kummer and seconded by councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion passed.

**SET-BACK PERMIT:**

Kevin and Rebecca Stossel  
181 Illinois

12' x 16' shed install in back yard.

\*Motion to Approve Stossel Setback Permit was made by councilman Brady Hamilton and seconded by councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF WIND RIVER VISITOR COUNCIL BUDGET AND UPDATE:** Helen Wilson reported on the WRVC and budget. Ms. Wilson stated that the total revenue for the Wind River Visitor Council was just over \$1M. She said the TAD monies for 2025 will be \$4,900 for Hudson. The revenue is higher than prior to COVID. They are working more on an international campaign and will have more art banners to put up. They will also be running a welcome tent at Hudson Daze. Helen further stated that the last three years have been incredible for the community. They will be doing a podcast from Hudson Daze that will run later in the year.

Motion was made by councilman Kevin Kummer to approve the WRVC Budget. The motion was seconded by councilman Zeke Bonella and passed unanimously.

**REQUESTED DEVIATION FROM NOISE ORDINANCE FOR FLAG DAY:** Maralyne Middour asked for a deviation from the noise ordinance to have a Flag Day Ceremony where a cannon will be fired.

*Whereas the Town of Hudson is without a Chief of Police to issue a Permit for Exception described under Ordinance 8-19, the applicant, Maralyne S. Middour, in conjunction with Lander V.F.W Post 954,*



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*American Legion "Don Stough" Post 33 located in Lander, and Lander Boy Scout Troop 52, hereby seeks permission to accentuate the Flag Day Ceremony and Flag Retirement Ceremony taking place inside Gold Star Memorial Park with controlled cannon fire that will create noise in excess of 80 decibels between the hours defined as civilian 12 o'clock (Noon) and 2 o'clock p.m., and militarily defined as 1200 hours and 1400 hours.*

Discussion was held that advance notice needs to be given. Suggested posing flyers and putting them on Facebook and the digital sign so people will be aware. Motion to approve cannon fire for flag day ceremony was made by councilman Zeke Bonella and seconded by councilman Brady Hamilton. Motion carried.

**TOWN CLEANUP DAY:** A discussion on funding a Town Clean up Days event from May 25-June 1, 2024, was held. Hopper Disposal will give the town a discount for three roll off containers. Two for regular trash and one for metal only. They will place them for one week and empty when needed for \$1,000.

Motion to approve funding request for Town Clean up days was made by councilman Kevin Kummer and seconded by councilman Brady Hamilton. Motion carried unanimously.

**FY 2024-25 BUDGET WORK SESSION:** Town Council will have a Budget Work Session next Tuesday, May 21 at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be served.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Personnel

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session was made by councilman Brady Hamilton and seconded by councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion passed at 7:37 p.m.

Motion to return to regular session was made by councilman Brady Hamilton and seconded by councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed and return to regular session commenced at 7:51 p.m.

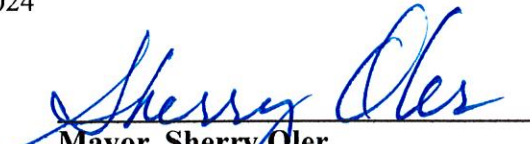
**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the council. Councilman Zeke Bonella moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

**Attest:**

**Approved:**

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Clerk/Treasurer, Kathy Shoopman

  
Mayor, Sherry Oler

Excused  
Councilwoman, Helen Gordon

  
Councilman, Kevin Kummer

  
Councilman, Zeke Bonella

  
Councilman, Brady Hamilton