

Stevensville Town Council Meeting
Minutes for
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Roll Call: Council members Gibson, Shourd, Vick and Holcomb. Staff and members of the community were also present. Mayor Dewey was absent.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. August 5, 2019

Councilmember Holcomb made the Motion to approve the Aug. 5, 2019 Minutes. Councilmember Vick Seconded that Motion. Council member Gibson called for the Vote, 4-0; Passes unanimously.

b. August 6, 2019

Councilmember Holcomb made the Motion to approve the Aug. 6, 2019 Minutes. Councilmember Vick Seconded that Motion. Councilmember Gibson called for the Vote, 4-0; Passes unanimously.

c. September 12, 2019

Councilmember Holcomb made the Motion to approve the Sept. 12, 2019 Minutes. Councilmember Gibson would like the following changes noted in the minutes. *New Business a.) Councilmember Gibson mentioned that if the bid was too high, we do not have to accept it. *b.) Rescind the Mayor's Compensation of \$25.00 Immediately. *Addition: Councilmember Gibson asked about where we were in the budget process as far as revenues and spending. *The Mayor's salary was a raise from the previous \$833 and that be effective Oct. 1, 2019. * Unfinished Business.) Councilmember Gibson spoke about water rates: Surplus of \$149,000, Bonds \$431,000, Sewer rates \$455,000, and the Bond \$279,000. There was also discussion about how many new users in the last 5 years and the point of the discussion was to ease the burden on the tax payer. He recommends we hold off on the 2021 project to apply for TSEP opportunities, where we could possibly get up to \$750,000.

*Councilmember Gibson spoke about being against increasing taxes and fees, and fees or taxes. Councilmember Gibson made the Motion to delay Action on the Minutes until the next meeting, when the corrections have been made. Councilmember Holcomb Seconded that Motion.

Councilmember Gibson called for the Vote, 4-0; Passes unanimously.

d. September 18, 2019

Councilmember Gibson would like there to be more discussion included on the TSEP opportunities in the future included on the Phase Four Water Project discussion. He would also like to see more consistency with Public Comment; writing Minutes with Public Comment on a certain subject, include them all. There was almost all Public Comment in favor of a reduction but that was not included. It was brought up that we needed a special Resolution which needs to be included in the minutes. After the Vote on the Motion to Decrease the water & rates by 3% November 1st 2019, the Mayor said that we need a special Resolution at that time; Councilmember Gibson requested that be on the Agenda the next meeting, that would have been Sep 24th meeting, and it was not on the Agenda. *Councilmember Gibson asked if the 2% across the board was less than the Proposed Budget, and he would like it to be noted that, yes, the 2% Increase was less than the original proposed by the administration. *There was also an update request on the revenues and expenditures.

Councilmember Gibson made the Motion to delay Action on the Minutes until the next meeting, when the corrections have been made. Councilmember Vick Seconded that Motion.

Councilmember Gibson called for the Vote, 4-0; Passes unanimously.

e. September 24, 2019 Public Hearing

Councilmember Gibson requested the Resolution for the 3% changes be on the on the Agenda but it was not.

f. September 24, 2019

On the meeting of the September 5th 2019, it was asked if the Agenda would just include the airport project, it was said yes, and later included the Budget and Lighting Districts (That has already been amended in the September 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes. * New Business) Councilmember Gibson thanked the people involved for their time put into the budget but overall, it's the Council that approves the budget. Councilmember Holcomb made the comment that the Ad Hoc committee formation did not follow proper protocol. *Public Comment) To clarify Mr. Tadvick's comment, on clarification on the mileage, the Town is not paying mileage for any employee to drive from their house to work. It was clarified that would not happen.

Councilmember Gibson made the Motion to delay action on the minutes until the next meeting, when the corrections have been made. Councilmember Holcomb Seconded that Motion. Council member Gibson called for the Vote, 4-0; Passes unanimously.

4. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

a. Claims #15505 – 15554

Questions concerning Claim #15526, with Northwest Energy, for the pool for \$816.78; It was verified this amount is true and accurate. Claim #4129, explaining the NOVA Subscription.

Councilmember Holcomb made a Motion to approve Bi-Weekly Claims #15505 – 15554. Council member Vick Seconded the Motion. 4-0 Vote, Motion Passes.

5. Administrative Reports

There are no Administrative Reports this evening.

6. Guests

Matt Anderson and Steve Brown, from the US Forest Service gave an update on current projects to reduce fire risks.

7. Correspondence

Letter from Loey Knapp, Re: Continuance of the Main Street organization.

8. Public Comments

Stacie Barker, 104 Winslett Ave.

Council votes need to be done individually, rather than a whole.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Resolution 449, Adopting the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2020

Councilmember Gibson, with regards to the Mayor's absence tonight, he would like to hold off on passing the budget this evening. The budget being late is not Council's fault, the process should have been started a long time ago. Councilmember Shourd expressed his concern on not passing the budget as far as the town moving forward. Council President would like to hold off on passing Resolution 449 out of respect for the Mayor, with that, until the next meeting he recommends staff look at moving the \$10,000 to the General Fund and the \$250,000 used for salaries out of the W&S fees.

Discussion took place on the FY2020 Salaries & Wages Schedule hand out.

There was agreeance to hold off on passing the budget this evening.

Finance Officer brought up the need to hold a Special Meeting next week to pass Resolution 450. Councilmember Vick made a Motion that Council meets on October 30, 2019 at 7:00 pm. It was Seconded by Councilmember Shourd. 4-0, Motion Passes.
Councilmember Gibson would like to table the budget until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Councilmember Shourd made a Motion to hold a Special Meeting: Resolution 449, Adopting the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2020. Councilmember Vick Seconded the Motion. Council President took the Vote, starting with Councilmember Holcomb "No," Shourd "I," Vick "No," Gibson "No." Motion Fails 3-1.

b. Discussion/Decision: Attorney's Report regarding Fireworks Claim
Attorney, Scott Owens discussed the Fireworks Claim. He referenced both sides and both the concerns with the fireworks claim being budgeted for, the payment for the fireworks and the information being relayed back to the citizens after the fireworks show. Neither party, the Mayor or council person, Michelson, at the time received any financial gain. Therefore, neither parties had any criminal intent. The fireworks were budgeted for in the FY'18/'19 Budget and that Budget was passed by Council. Therefore, the fireworks were approved by Council in the budget, making it a valid claim.

Councilmember Holcomb replied with, the claim was never approved. Claims need to be approved by Council before they are paid. This is the same for contracts, as the Mayor cannot negotiate a contract without Council's approval. Councilmember expressed having a problem with the Mayor paying claims which are not approved by Council. The money for the fireworks, in the budget was to pay for the fireworks of the prior years. Council President referenced back to the fact that the claim for the fireworks has already been paid, Councilmember Vick agrees.
Councilmember Vick made a Motion to approve the Fireworks Claim. The Motion was Seconded by Councilmember Holcomb.

Council President called for Public Comment.

Stacie Barker, 104 Winslett Ave.

Asked the question; If this is a claim, then why are we asking for donations?

Jim Chandler, 405 Charlos St.

He referenced the claim as part of the budget and if something is designated for a prior year, and they are approving the budget for "this year" it needs to be specific, as the claim applies for that fiscal year's budget.

Vicki Motley, 318 9th St.

Clarified the ability to vote on this if the claim itself was not on the Agenda, verified it was.

Council President called for the Vote; Council member Holcomb "No," Shourd "I," Vick "I," Gibson "I." The Motion passes, 3-1.

Councilmember Vick made a Motion of Censure against Mayor, Brandon Dewey and asked for a Second on the Motion. Councilmember Holcomb Seconded the Motion. Councilmember Vick continued to read his letter; On June 26, 2019, the Mayor knowingly violated MC 7-6-4005, Expenditures limited to appropriations. The payment of \$4501.50 to pay for the fireworks violates the above code.

Councilmember Shourd asked for clarification on the Motion; Vick continued to explain there is no punishment, it's a public shaming.

Council President called for the vote, starting with Councilmember Holcomb "I," Shourd "No," Vick "I," Gibson "I." Motion passes 3-1.

Councilmember Holcomb made a Motion for the Mayor pay the town back for the fireworks in the

amount of \$4501.5 by the end of the year and Council needs to see proof that it was paid. Council member Vick Seconded that Motion. Council President clarified that Councilmember Holcomb is "requesting" that he pay it back because we can't make him pay it back.

Discussion continued; Councilmember Holcomb spoke about the charges last year for snow removal and now fireworks.

President took the Vote; Councilmember Holcomb "I," Shourd "Abstain," Vick "I," and Gibson "I." Motion passes 3-1. It was clarified this was just a "Request."

10. New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Climate Action Advisory Board

Council President asked Council Member Vick if he placed this on the Agenda. Councilmember replied that he did not, and has no further comment on it.

Councilmember Vick made a Motion that we table this to the next regularly scheduled council meeting. Councilmember Gibson Seconded the Motion. No further discussion and Council President took the vote; Holcomb "I," Shourd "I," Vick "I," and Gibson "I."

11. Executive Report

12. Town Council Comments

Council President would like to know when the Planning and Zoning Board meets next and would like to meet with the Planning and Zoning Board before the end of November, as it was a recommendation from the Ad Hoc Committee. Ms. Hoffman will reach out to the Planning and Zoning Board with his request.

Council President verified what needed to be done to request an Agenda item on the next Agenda, as he has an item he would like on the next Agenda.

Live feed discussion was then discussed, as per public open meeting laws. Technical issues with the connectivity and not having a specific/designated IT person/company as part of the problem.

13. Board Report

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

Monica Hoffman, Town Clerk