

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
August 5, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN OF VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA
Elks Lodge & Zoom Meeting

Council Present: Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Amy Grice, Jon Osborn, Erin Leonard (by Zoom)

Staff Present: Nancy Stewart and Timber Baceski Clerk/Treasurer, Robert Erdall PWO, Eric Barsness HPO

Public Present: Mike Parry, Scott Petersen, Hannah Clark, Bobbie Dirks, Kacey Smart, William Moore, Tanya Engle, Curtis Lindner, Erin Leonard, Chad Anderson DEQ, Kelly Rasmussen, Toni James, Stephanie Kruer, Richard Zimmer

1) **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Justin Gatewood, Mayor

2) **Mayor and Commissioner's Reports/Comments:**

a) Amy Grice reported on research she conducted in response to public comments on the appearance of the electric car chargers. She reported that there are no safety regulations per the US Department of Energy Plug-In Electric Vehicle Handbook for Public Charging Station Hosts that prohibit shielding the charger, though the need for it to be recognizable for the public was noted.

b) Mayor Gatewood stated that bears are in the area and emphasized the need to be cautious.

c) Mayor Gatewood stated that the Delta variant of COVID-19 is present in Madison County. There will be another vaccination clinic on August 14th. Twenty-three people were vaccinated at the last clinic.

d) Mayor Gatewood introduced the new Clerk/Treasurer, Timber Baceski.

e) The Town's ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) application was completed and submitted.

f) The Town asked for \$400,000 from Madison County's ARPA allocation. The county decided to give each town \$250,000. The Town applied for a grant that would double those funds.

g) Amy and Scott Kelley, owners of the Burnt Tree Brewery, pledged \$4,500 to Virginia City Ice from sales of their brewery products.

3) **Councilmember Leonard Resignation – Appoint New Councilmember**

a) Erin Leonard resigned from the Council; Councilmember Leonard's seat needs to be filled until the election occurs in November.

b) Kacey Smart was named as the temporary Councilmember. Ms. Smart was officially sworn in.

4) **Public Comment:**

Toni James noted that Calamity Jane's still has a mannequin placed on the boardwalk. HPO Barsness is to handle this Town Code violation.

MOTION: To move the Moore Complaint Letter up on the agenda. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Dave Bacon. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

5) New Business:

Moore Complaint – Bill Moore read the complaint letter against Richard Zimmer aloud. Mr. Zimmer stated that he and Bill Moore spoke earlier today; Mr. Zimmer and Mr. Moore have decided on a plan to resolve the issue. Mr. Moore read a second letter from 2004 regarding zoning regulations being ignored. Mr. Moore asked for a definition for “viewshed”. Kacey Smart noted that “viewshed” is defined in the Growth Policy as “what can be seen from Historic Commercial”.

6) Clerks Report:

- a) Timber Baceski, the new Clerk/Treasurer, will begin working full-time on Monday, August 16th.
- b) Either Nancy Stewart or Timber Baceski will contact Signs West to order signs for the parking lot.
- c) Resort Tax income is up 56% this year compared to the year 2020.

7) HPO Report:

HPO Eric Barsness passed around a permit application flowchart. It was decided that the application process would be discussed with Town employees this month.

8) HPAC Report:

Site/Zoning Permit - Clark Loafing Shed/Hannah Clark

MOTION: To accept Clark’s Site/Zoning Permit for the new loafing shed in Block 16, Lots 1-3 & 10-12, with the caveat that they receive an excavation permit and an easement from the Town.

Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

9) New Business:

Petersen re-platting Block 58:

Scott Petersen would like to do an aggregation on his lots. Mr. Petersen will need to file this with the County Planning Department, then bring it back before the Council.

10) Public Works Report:

- a) The bathrooms at the park are in working condition.
- b) PWO Erdall has been pulling weeds.
- c) Jack McCormick has been mowing lawns and working on roads.
- d) Gravel has been put down in the alley behind MCH, Picture Gallery, and the Bale of Hay.
- e) The water tank output is good; there is no need for water restrictions currently.

11) Consent Agenda:

a) Minutes from July 1, 2021, Council meeting:

MOTION: To approve the July 1st minutes as amended. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Jon Osborn. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

b) Accounts Payable, Receivable, Adjustments and Checks July 2021:

MOTION: To approve the July Accounts Payable, Receivable, Adjustments and Checks. Motion made by Justin Gatewood; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called.** The motion passed by voice vote, Justin Gatewood, Dave Bacon, Jon Osborn, Kacey Smart, and Amy Grice in favor. None opposed.

12) Public Comment:

- a) The County is working on the old Courthouse.
- b) Changes can be made to LED streetlights by the addition of side shields on a case-by-case basis.

13) Adjournment:

MOTION: To Adjourn. Motion made by Dave Bacon; Seconded by Amy Grice. **The question was called: Motion was passed by voice vote, all in favor. None opposed.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm

Respectfully submitted and attested,

Justin Gatewood
Mayor

Timber Baceski
Clerk Treasurer