

Dutton Town Council Meeting Minutes May 4th, 2020

Call to Order

Mayor Fleshman called the meeting of May 4th, 2020 to order at 7:05 pm.

Present

Mayor Susan Fleshman; **Councilpersons:** Bob Dauwalder, Pete Klein, Kara Fuhringer, and Pat Bayala. **Public Works Director /Finance Officer/Clerk** Jeremiah Kjensmo **Press:** Vonnie Jacobson

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

March 2nd, 2020 Town Council Meeting Minutes

There was no discussion on the March 2nd, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion made by Councilman Klein to approve as presented, second by Councilwoman Fuhringer. Motion carried unanimously.

Current Bills

Mayor Fleshman went over the bills for April first explaining that we did not have anything out of the ordinary but the normal housekeeping bills were paid on time we just needed to approve them. There were no questions on the April bills. Councilman Dauwalder made a motion to approve the expenditures for April, Councilwoman Bayala seconded. Motion passed unanimously to approve the expenditures for April.

Mayor Fleshman asked if there were any questions on the May bills then asked Mr. Kjensmo if all the bills were in. Mr. Kjensmo told the Council that there were still a couple left to come in, only normal monthly ones, Century Link, and the Co-Op and a couple of others. Councilman Klein made a motion to pay the May bills,



along with those yet to come in. Councilwoman Fuhringer seconded. Motion Carried unanimously.

Audit Review

Mayor Fleshman went over the Audit and explained some of the findings and that the audit is on file at the office for any residents that may want to look at it. Mayor Fleshman asked Mr. Kjensmo to explain a couple of the findings she wanted more clarification on for the Council's knowledge. Mr. Kjensmo explained that the ones in question were due to the fact that we do not administrate the fire departments relief association funds and we would most likely get hit with those findings in every audit because we aren't doing actuarial studies for the viability of the fund as it is too cost prohibitive. Mr. Kjensmo went on to explain that the other findings were for the most part due to the change over in software and the learning curve that goes with it when one person has to change the entire way a company does business, coupled with issues with the programming and that for the most part he feels audit went well, and that the auditor was impressed with the new way of doing things and thinks it will be an improvement moving forward.

Ratify Emergency Declaration for Covid-19

The Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency on January 31, 2020, under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d), in response to COVID-19, a Virus originating in in Wuhan, China and rapidly spreading around the world. As this situation unfolded Mayor Fleshman thought it prudent to join with the other Mayors and Towns across the country in being prepared for the worst should it come to pass, and declared the Town of Dutton as part of the emergency zone, ensuring that if the Town of Dutton ended up in the thick of this issue or it go so bad everywhere else our citizens couldn't get essential supplies we would be eligible for all aid available through federal agencies. It was thought that it would

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be better to declare and not need aid than to sit idle and wait to see what happens.

At the first available Meeting after making the Declaration, Mayor Fleshman felt it imperative that the matter be decided by the Council moving forward. After explaining the reasoning behind the swift action, she said she would entertain a motion. Councilman Dauwalder moved to ratify Emergency Declaration made by Mayor Fleshman in response to the public health concern of Covid-19 stating that he thought it was a good idea and the right move. Councilman Klein seconded. Motion carried unanimously

Insurance Claim Status

Mayor Fleshman reported to the Council that we received a check from MMIA as an initial payment on the Water Tank, made to help with the immediate need of the funds to start construction on the new tank. She went on to say that in receiving this payment the worry about a possible rate increase is now alleviated and we are in good shape moving forward with the construction using the insurance payout and our current loan structure. Mayor Fleshman also informed them about getting the payout on the claim for water damage on the Depot roof and that we had a contractor that was recommended and sent over to bid it from MMIA and that the contractor had agreed to re-roof the Depot for the estimated cost the insurance adjuster had it figured to be so that it would not cost us any extra out of pocket to get that done. At the same time, she talked to him about the possibility of getting the roof of the shelter at the park done as well if we cover that cost. He was agreeable to that idea and will come to talk more about it at a little later date.

Construction Applications

The first construction application for determination was for Dierdre Larson. Mrs. Larson requested to put up a fence around her property on Main Street with some privacy panels going in

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front of the windows under 6 feet high. There was no discussion councilman Klein Moved to allow the fence, Councilwoman Fuhringer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The next construction application was for Scott Johnson for a new garage on his property. Mayor Fleshman explained what it was and asked for questions, comments, motions. There were no questions. Councilman Klein moved to allow Scott Johnsons garage, Councilman Dauwalder seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayors Report

Mayor Fleshman reported to the council that we have had some issues in the office with the network and asked Mr. Kjensmo to elaborate. Mr. Kjensmo explained that there has been ongoing issues of compatibility and reported that the computer that the majority of the Towns data resides on is aging and that it is nowhere close to the class of machine that a government agency would be comfortable trusting all their data to and that storage was an issue now that everything is scanned and attached too every transaction and that as a government agency we couldn't just use a regular cloud provider they had to be compliant with the law one of those issues being most of the big companies won't say where their servers are located and we have to know for a fact our data never leaves the country and our legal jurisdiction. He voiced his frustration with the amount of time he spends chasing bugs out of the multiple different computers all independent of each other yet tied together in a motley fashion. Mr. Kjensmo was asked to come up with some options to look at moving forward to see what the costs would be in moving to government sector cloud or setting up a server or whatever he can find out. Mr. Kjensmo agreed to investigate it and expressed that he thinks he can get the Town some good deals through the suppliers he uses for his company.

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Councilwomen Bayala and Fuhringer both inquired about Dog and Cat day. Mayor Fleshman said she would be calling to set it up if the Veterinarian was willing to do it this Year.

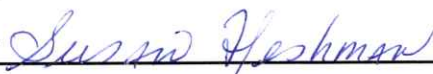
Mayor Fleshman talked briefly about the new tarps for the swimming pool and how nice it was that the Dutton Civic Club was so successful in fund raising that they funded the whole project. It was decided to put a thank you advertisement in the Choteau Acantha. Councilwomen Bayala and Fuhringer said they would happily hand deliver a thank you card signed by the Council to the next meeting of the Civic Club.

Next Meeting

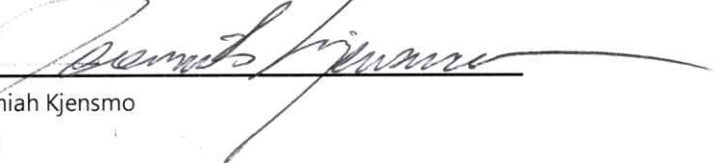
Mayor Fleshman set the next meeting for April 6th, 2020 at 7:00pm

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

X 

Susan Fleshman
Mayor

X 

Jeremiah Kjensmo
Clerk

