

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
November 5, 2015 7:00 p.m.
TOWN OF VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA
Rehearsal Hall

Council Present: Robert Erdall, Scott Petersen, Erin Leonard, Justin Gatewood, Scott Kelley

Staff present: Nancy Stewart Clerk/Treasurer, Roger Williams PWO, Jeff MacDonald, HPO, Victor Bunitsky, Attorney

Public Present:

1) Call to Order: Meeting in the Rehearsal Hall of Virginia City was called to order at 7:02 p.m
By Robert Erdall

2) Mayor and Commissioner's Reports/Comment:

- a) Councilman Gatewood thanked the town for the privilege of serving on the Council.
- b) Montana Bureau of Mines selected Virginia City for research on the town's water.
- c) Mayor Erdall stated that the DNRC awarded Virginia City a grant for \$10,000 for the water project.
- d) Mayor Erdall and the mayors from Twin Bridges and Sheridan will be on the County Agenda on November 16th to talk about a room in the courthouse for city court.

3) Comments from the Public:

- a) Janet Allestad invited the Council to VCPA's annual meeting at the Ellinghouse on November 7th.
- b) Elijah Allen, MHC, told the Council that MHC would like to help with improvements to the Community Center, once the Town gets bids. Also, there are grants available that need to be sent in before May.

4) HPO Report:

- a) HPO MacDonald stated that the poles for the solar lamps are in and the lamps should be put up before Christmas.
- b) The SHPO progress report has been sent in. The Town should receive a grant for \$5,500.

c) A survey of the Town's parks and properties is being conducted to develop an updated inventory of town lands and structures. The inventory and survey will include a brief conditions assessment of built elements and services, alongside general recommendations for improvements and priority. The inventory and survey will further lend to greater planning, budgeting, and future development fundraising for the various parks and structures.

The Tendoy Park initial site survey continues to reveal a substantial quantity of historic surface artifacts and other cultural materials.

d) The town Website has been successfully moved to new platform Wix.com. The upgrade includes potential for greater information sharing, and future web development.

5) Public Works Report:

a) PWO Williams has been doing a lot of water shut-offs for the winter.

b) Roger Williams stated that he is having difficulty getting gravel for the roads this year.

c) The County spent a day helping grade roads around Virginia City.

d) Williams has been busy getting water and sewer information to Great West Engineering.

e) A new fire hydrant was installed at the fire hall, along with a new parking lot.

6) HPAC Report:

**a) Keltner Fence Permit:
Postponed**

b) Jarvis Shed Permit:

MOTION: To approve the Jarvis shed permit. Motion made by: Justin Gatewood;
Seconded by: Scott Petersen. **The question was called. The motion was passed by voice vote; Bob Erdall, Justin Gatewood, Erin Leonard, Scott Kelley and Scott Petersen in favor. None opposed.**

c) Leonard Chicken Coop Permit:

MOTION: To approve the Leonard chicken coop permit. Motion made by: Scott Petersen;
Seconded by: Justin Gatewood. **The question was called. The motion was passed by voice vote; Bob Erdall, Justin Gatewood, Erin Leonard, Scott Kelley and Scott Petersen in favor. None opposed.**

A review of current zoning regulations and general discussion on past, present and future zoning and preservation considerations in Virginia City, continued throughout October.

Key considerations continue to center on current and projected growth in the community and surrounding area, and increasing need for greater protection of historic and cultural resources.

The review will continue into the fall and winter of 2016, with HPAC providing ongoing updates and recommendations to the town council – as part of the greater effort to update the town code.

7) New Business:

a) Jim Jarvis appointment:

Mayor Erdall nominated Jim Jarvis to serve on the Public Works Board. **MOTION:** To approve the Jarvis appointment. Motion made by: Scott Petersen; Seconded by: Scott Kelley. **The question was called.** The motion was passed by voice vote; Bob Erdall, Justin Gatewood, Erin Leonard, Scott Kelley and Scott Petersen in favor. None opposed.

b) Bill Koch variance for septic tank:

Mr. Koch would like to put a septic tank on his property, Block 62, lots 1-2 & 11-12. Sanitarian needs to okay this and then Mr. Koch will need to do all of the required permits for the town and bring them to the council.

c) Hiring of Intern for Water/Waste Water:

PWO Williams would like to hire Darby Combs as an intern. Ms. Combs would be a back-up operator. This position would go towards college credits for Darby. The position would start in January and be a total of 32 hours per month at \$12 per hour. **MOTION:** To approve Darby Combs as an intern for Public Works for 5 months. Motion made by: Justin Gatewood; Seconded by: Erin Leonard. **The question was called.** The motion was passed by voice vote; Bob Erdall, Justin Gatewood, Erin Leonard, Scott Kelley and Scott Petersen in favor. None opposed.

8) Minutes and Consent Agenda for October, 2015 and Minutes for September 3, 2015:

a) Minutes for Council Meeting, September 3, 2015

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the September 3, 2015 council meeting. Motion made by: Scott Petersen; Seconded by: Scott Kelley. **The question was called.** The motion was passed by voice vote; Scott Petersen, Scott Kelley and Robert Erdall in favor. None opposed. Justin Gatewood and Erin Leonard abstained.

b) Minutes for Council Meeting, October 1, 2015

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the October 1, 2015 council meeting. Motion made by: Erin Leonard; Seconded by: Justin Gatewood. **The question was called.** The motion was passed by voice vote; Bob Erdall, Justin Gatewood, Erin Leonard, Scott Kelley and Scott Petersen in favor. None opposed.

c) Consent Agenda:

MOTION: To approve accounts payable for October, 2015. Motion made by: Robert Erdall; Seconded by: Erin Leonard. **The question was called.** The motion was passed by voice vote; Justin Gatewood, Erin Leonard, Scott Petersen, Scott Kelley and Robert Erdall in favor. None opposed.

9) Public Comment:

a) David Bacon will be a new council member as of January 1st, 2016. Mr. Bacon will replace Robert Erdall. Justin Gatewood was re-elected to serve on the council.

b) Roger Williams thought it would be a good idea to get the Planning Board, Public Works Board and the Council together for a meeting.

10) Adjournment:

MOTION: To Adjourn. Motion made by: Erin Leonard; Seconded by: Scott Petersen. **The question was called:** Motion was passed by voice vote, all in favor. None opposed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted and attested,

Robert Erdall
Mayor

Nancy Stewart
Clerk Treasurer