

TOWN OF DRUMMOND
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Drummond Town Hall, 114 A Street, Drummond, MT 59832

January 21, 2025 - 7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Gail Leeper called the January Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Mayor Leeper & Council Members McLure and O'Dell; Town Attorney McGill; Town Clerk-Treasurer Wight and Public Works Director Harrington. Council Member Clute was in attendance remotely via telephone. One Council Seat remains vacant.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Leeper led the Pledge of Allegiance at the Public Meeting.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Luke Ulatowski, representing Philipsburg Mail; Calvin Wight.

GUEST COMMENT: None

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Law Enforcement Report was provided to Drummond, for the December Town Council meeting.

MINUTES:

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the December Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve the December Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

CLAIMS:

Council Member O'Dell looking how the town can help save on charges billed to the Town, asked for clarification of the Blackfoot Communication and NorthWestern Energy Claims.

Clerk/Treasurer Wight explained, Blackfoot Communication bill is divided into three numbers: Fax/Internet, Town Hall and Justice of the Peace. For added cyber security the Town utilizes a business grade Wi-Fi, not residential which was utilized previously. Followed by explanation provided by Blackfoot for box placement.

Council Member O'Dell questioned the need of hardwire telephone verses cellular system. Mayor Leeper clarified the need of wired telephone, along with the need for a cyber secure system.

In regards to NorthWestern Energy, Council Member O'Dell asked for clarification if light poles had been converted to LED lighting.

Mayor Leeper confirmed, light poles had been converted to LED some years prior.

All questions were addressed and discussion of claims ended.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the claims. Council Member Clute made a motion to approve the claims. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

INVESTMENTS: Investment sheet provided to the Town Council.

FINANCIALS: Financial sheet provided to the Town Council.

Citizens Alliance Bank - Sewer Fund 4-Month Certificate of Deposit Maturity Date 01/24/2025.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve closure of Sewer Certificate of Deposit held at Citizens Alliance Bank; then re-open new Certificate of Deposit account with accumulated interest. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve the closure of Sewer Certificate of Deposit held at Citizens Alliance Bank; then re-open new Certificate of Deposit account with accumulated interest. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

ACTION ITEMS:

Adobe Acrobat Pro for Teams – OCR for ADA Compliance

Discussion and Decision of utilizing Adobe Acrobat Pro for Teams to comply with Municipal Impact ADA (American with Disabilities) requirements; allowing pdf files to be converted to OCR pdf documents meeting requirements for disability accessibility.

Discussion continued, reviewing the available seven-day trial period, monthly cost per plan, required number of licenses purchased for lower monthly rate, monthly rate vs annual subscription. Followed by clarifying; Town of Drummond does not currently meet the need to utilize more than one license subscription.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve Adobe Acrobat Pro for Teams Subscription. Council Member Clute made a motion to approve Adobe Acrobat Pro for Teams Subscription. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTIONS: None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- **Executive Session, Helena – February 2025**

Mayor Leeper and Clerk/Treasurer Wight are planning to attend Executive Session in Helena, the last week of February.

Mayor Leeper informed the Council, they are welcome to attend Executive Session as well.

- **Head Waters Report –**

Mayor Leeper reported, she was unable to attend the Headwaters meeting in person; however, she will print out the report for those of the council who would like to review the meeting information.

- **Blackfoot Communication Update –**

Jason met with Mayor Leeper at Town Hall; he provided an update, noting Blackfoot has stopped work for the season and will resume when weather permits.

- **Subcommittee Testimony –**

Mayor Leeper thanked Clerk/Treasurer Wight, for providing testimony at the State

Capital in her absence; on behalf of the Drummond Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project.

ATTORNEY: None

PARKS:

- **Boat Ramp** – Discussion of corn spread on the boat ramp at the Drummond City Park concluded with a reminder; leaving food for wildlife is a violation of State Law.

ROADS:

- **Front End Loader** – Council Person O’Dell spoke with Paul Alt, Granite County Roads Department; clarification was discussed, as to which entity is responsible for maintenance work done on the loader.

Town of Drummond is responsible for current maintenance work while equipment is utilized by Town.

Council Member O’Dell is working with Terry to provide cost for routine maintenance work, along with looking at breaks.

Attorney McGill interjected; the Town needs to have a written agreement for these services.

- **Bob Cat** – Currently looking into pricing.
- **Stop Sign** – Stop Sign located at D Street and Front Street, by Fic’s; discussion was had how to protect stop sign from continuously being ran over. The use of jersey rails is being considered, along with use of caution paint to help with visibility.

Public Works will reach out to Chris Hagan; to inquire what coating product would best be suited to prevent paint wearing off.

It was also noted; this stop sign needs to be raised to the proper standard.

FLOODPLAINS: None

SEWER: None

CITY COURT: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Vacant Council Seat**– Mayor Leeper reached out to Montana league of Cities and Towns, Attorney Thomas Jodoin; confirming the Town can conduct municipal business with three members until the vacant council seat is filled.

Attorney Jodoin confirmed; the Town can utilize 3-member council while council seat is vacant. Majority vote would take two council votes, with mayor breaking a tie vote.

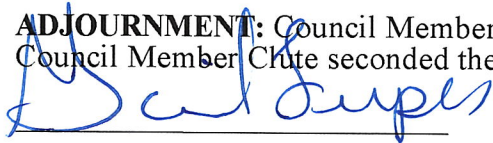
Mayor Leeper and Council Member O'Dell have reached out speaking to individuals regarding the vacant council seat.

The Town as also placed legal notices in Philipsburg Mail, notifying of vacant seat.

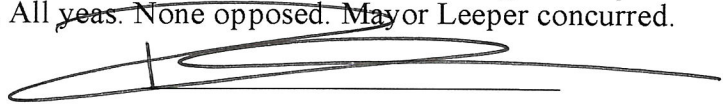
- **Fireworks Town Hall** – Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:00PM – 7:00PM

Next Town Council Meeting: Scheduled Tuesday, February ¹⁸21, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member McLure made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22pm. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All ~~yeas~~. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.



Gail Leeper, Mayor



Robin Wight, Town Clerk-Treasurer