

**TOWN OF DRUMMOND
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Drummond Town Hall, 114 A Street, Drummond, MT 59832

March 26, 2025 – 1:30PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gail Leeper called the March Special Town Council Meeting to order at 1:32pm. Present were Mayor Leeper & Council Members McLure, Clute, and O'Dell; Town Clerk-Treasurer Wight. Town Attorney McGill and Public Works Director Harrington were absent. Attorney McGill available via telephone, should the need arise.

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

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Engineer Brad Koon, representing Triple Tree; *attending virtually via Teams Meeting* were Sarah Sampson, Grant Specialist Triple Tree Engineering and Jennifer Baldassin, representing USDA/RD.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade; USDA Grant/Loan Funding Package Discussion and Decision –**

Mayor Leeper opened discussion on United States Department of Agriculture /Rural Development March 21, 2025 Sewer Application, CFDA NUMBER 10.760.

Jennifer Baldassin, representing USDA/RD, provided a thorough overview of the entirety of the agreement.

Once, the entirety of this agreement was reviewed, and questions addressed; the Drummond Town Council discussed the review of the agreement.

It was determined, by Mayor Leeper and the Drummond Town Council; this is the final phase of the Drummond Wastewater Facility Upgrade, that though this is at large cost to the community of 17% of the current project cost, grant packages committed to the project are 83%. This cost not only effects the entirety on the Town citizens, but also the sitting elected officials as they also reside in the Township.

Sewer rates will be determined, once bid number are returned to work with actual numbers vs assumptions; again, preventing placing unnecessary burden of multiple public hearings when numbers are currently unknown, only suggested.

USDA/RD rounded numbers for the purpose of this agreement, which are as follows:

RD Loan	\$ 500,000.00
RD Grant	\$3,394,000.00

Applicant	\$ 500.00
Other Funding	<u>\$4,475,500.00</u>
Total	\$8,370,000.00

The above number are provided as a reference for the USDA/RD portion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade only, for a full list of all grant funding for the entire project reference Triple Tree Financial Budget Spreadsheet.

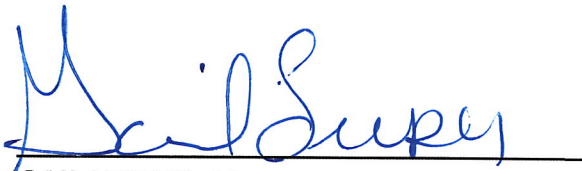
Special attention addressed need to proactively work on delinquent taxes, as the sewer rate annual fee is currently placed on Granite County Taxes; which are collected by Granite County, then payments are paid to the Town of Drummond by Granite County.

Further discussion determined this grant funding opportunity may never be seen again, in the foreseen future; resulting in a unanimous decision to move forward with the project.

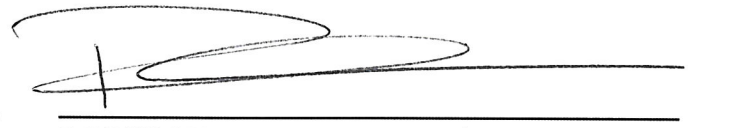
Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve signing Wastewater Treatment System Improvements Sewer Application CFDA Number 10.760 agreement. Council Member McLure made motion to approve Mayor Leeper signing Wastewater Treatment System Improvements Sewer Application CFDA Number 10.760 agreement Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Next Town Council Meeting: Scheduled Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member McLure made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:33pm. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.



GAIL LEEPER, Mayor



ROBIN WIGHT, Town Clerk/Treasurer/Paralegal