

TOWN OF DRUMMOND
DECEMBER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

12/19/2023

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Gail Leeper called the December Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Mayor Leeper & Council Members McLure, Clute, and Stuart; Town Attorney McGill; Town Clerk-Treasurer Wight and Public Works Director Harrington. Council Member Powell was absent.

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

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Engineer Brad Koon, representing Triple Tree Engineering.

GUEST COMMENT: None

LAW ENFORCEMENT: No Law Enforcement Report was provided to Drummond, for the December Town Council meeting.

MINUTES: Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the November Regular Meeting minutes. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve the November Regular Meeting minutes. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

CLAIMS: Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the claims. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve the claims. Council Member Stuart 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.

- Clerk Treasurer Wight is continuing to work with MT League Consultant Marlene Mahlum and Newland CPA Nancy Clark; in completion of FY23 AFR.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Resolution 2023-10 Funding Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017 Discussion and Decision.**

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2023-10 Funding Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member McLure made a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2023-10 Funding Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Discussion and Decision of Resolution 2023-10 was made, in regards to the WWTF Upgrade needed Funding Amendment.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2023-10 Funding Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member Stuart made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-10 Funding Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member McLure seconded the

motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

- **Resolution 2023-11 Lighting District Fund / Town of Drummond General Fund Transfer Discussion and Decision.**

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2023-11 Lighting District Fund/Town of Drummond General Fund Transfer. Council Member McLure made a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2023-11 Lighting District Fund/Town of Drummond General Fund Transfer. Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Discussion and Decision of Resolution 2023-11 was made, in regards to prior years incorrect coding.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2023-11 Lighting District Fund/Town of Drummond General Fund Transfer. Council Member Clute made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-11 Lighting District Fund / Town of Drummond General Fund Transfer Discussion and Decision. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

- **Resolution 2023-12 Engineering Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017 Discussion and Decision.**

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2023-12 Engineering Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member McLure made a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2023-12 Engineering Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member Stuart seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Discussion and Decision of Resolution 2023-12 was made, in regards to the WWTF Upgrade needed Engineering Amendment.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2023-12 Engineering Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-12 Engineering Amendment Request No. 1, Drummond WWTF Upgrade AC-22-0017. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

- **Resolution 2023-13 MLC&T Scholarship Application, Local Government Service May 2024 Institute Discussion and Decision.**

Resolution 2023-13 MLC&T Scholarship Application, Local Government Service May 2024 Institute; tabled for the December Town Council Meeting, until receive scholarship application document for completion.

- **HB 355 Project List Discussion and Completion**

See attachment Exhibit A: Allotted Funds: \$25,594; Town of Drummond HB 355 Infrastructure Funding Potential Eligible Projects.

1. Repair Fire Suppression Water Line.
2. Street Maintenance and Improvements within Township.
3. Repair and Update Sidewalks.
4. Park and Recreation Road Maintenance.
5. Town Hall Building Improvement.
6. Add Radar Speed Sign.

- **Oath of Office:**

1. Council President Cary McLure – 4 Year Term
2. Council Person Carla Stuart – 4 Year Term

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- **Open Public Meeting Training Opportunity, with Daniel Clark of Local Government Center, January 10, 2024 at 2:00 PM; Location: Granite County Courthouse.**

- Mayor Leeper expressed, this would be a beneficial training opportunity; and encouraged all Drummond Town Council Members to attend this meeting.

- **LEPC Meeting**

- **Mock Disaster** - Next Fall there will be a major countywide mock disaster, within the Township of Drummond; presently, the mock disaster is anticipated to be a house explosion. This mock disaster will involve Emergency Services, Fire Department, EMS, Railroad and Montana Department of Transportation.

Philipsburg will follow with a major mock disaster; approximately two years, after Drummond.

- **Coast to Coast Ambulance** – Mayor Leeper requested; the new ambulance service Coast to Coast, housed in Philipsburg, contact Drummond Volunteer Ambulance. In hopes, the two entities will be able to work together. Mayor Leeper will follow up in January, to help facilitate this communication.

Coast to Coast Ambulance provides a canine search and rescue/narcotic drug dog; as part of their provided service.

- **Solid Waste** – As Mayor Leeper learns more regarding discussions, pertaining the Solid Waste Sites and Solid Waste Hauling Services; she will update Drummond Town Council.
- **Meeting with Senator Tester Representatives** – December 18, 2023, Mayor Leeper met with Shibu Arens and Arthur Pettit, representing Senator Tester’s office, they were in Granite County as part of an outreach program, taking the opportunity to meet with Mayor Leeper; discussing any concerns the Town of Drummond may have, and offering their services as an outlet to contact; should the need arise to address any issues for the Town.
- **Commissioners Meeting** – December 19, 2023, Mayor Leeper attended the Commissioner’s Meeting; Representative John Fitzpatrick was on the agenda for this meeting. Representative Fitzpatrick discussed, funding available for hydroelectric projects.

TOWN ATTORNEY: None

PARKS:

- **FWP (Fish, Wildlife and Parks) Fishing Boat Access Agreement.**

Discussion was made, as to Drummond's fulfillment of the original FWP Fishing Boat Access Agreement, signed into place 25 years prior. This contract is set to expire February 2024; FWP is expected to request another contract for continued Fishing Boat Access of Clark Fork River, at the Drummond City Park.

Discussion continued, as to a future contract; items brought to the discussion, for negotiation with FWP were: the need of bear proof garbage cans and the possibility of an additional vaulted toilet, at the Drummond City Park.

The Town Council was instructed; continue to reflect on the Town's needs regarding negotiating the future contract with Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Mayor Leeper also discussed, extending an invitation to regional representatives with FWP to attend January's Town Council Meeting, for further discussion and negotiation.

ROADS:

- **Tow Sign Enforcement:**

- **Broad Street** – Discussion was made of implementing no parking and placement of tow signage on Broad Street; including enforcement of illegal parking in alleyways. Verbiage was discussed, of adding "Tow at Owner Expense" to no Parking Signs.

Authorization given to Mayor, by Town Council for placement of said signage.

- **City Park and East End Park** – Parking Signs were discussed for both Town Parks; City Park, Maximum 5 Night; and East End Park, No Overnight Parking.
- **Railroad Easement** – Discussion was made regarding posting No Parking Signs along Railroad easements.

Discussion led by Town Attorney McGill; clarified opening the no parking/tow service to more than one Towing Company; as not to create a monopoly. Further discussion led to the idea of utilizing multiple Tow Companies, each assigned to the different problem locations.

Mayor Leeper will reach out to the Towing Companies, within the Drummond community; to learn more of what the companies could offer as a service for the Town.

FLOODPLAINS: None

SEWER:

- **Engineer Brad Koon, Triple Tree Engineering – WWTF Upgrade**
 - Engineer Koon provided Town Council a current diagram, reflecting on the project

scope: sludge removal; change from a one cell lagoon, into a three cell; Lining; UV treatment built on a pad, within the SW corner; discharge location, within same SW corner; pipe valve between each cell to regulate/change flow.

Council Member McLure requested clarification; the road would continue around the SW corner. Engineer Koon replied, there will be a 25 x 60 pad built in the SW corner. Presently, it is unclear if the road will go around the SW corner.

Currently it is anticipated, avoiding pumps in the UV System, movement would be achieved with elevation and gravity, DEQ has agreed to this. This would allow a funding savings in the purchase of pumps.

SRF Loan/Loan Forgiveness; Triple Tree Engineering addressed SRF comments regarding hand and power auger for the brims.

Discussion continued, regarding types of UV Systems; pumps; and a tank mounted on truck for cleaning every few months.

Sludge removal was discussed in depth; as to the amount to be removed, identifying location for placement, negotiation and contract with land owner; hauling options and safety; how sludge would be spread at end location.

Triple Tree Engineering will contact land owner to begin negotiation discussion. They will also be updating cost estimate, for funding agencies.

Timeline of Waste Water Treatment Facility is as follows:

- ✓ BID Early spring
- ✓ Construction May 2024
- ✓ Completion December 2025

Council President McLure requested visual of liner choices, Triple Tree Engineering will be consulting with Jacobsen Engineering, in regards to liner specifications. Then will present to Council for review and approval.

Project will go out to bid once we have DEQ final approval. Discussion was made to how bids will be advertised to contractors; through Philipsburg Mail Newspaper and Montana Contractors Association; and, as to the bidding steps, process and legalities.

Triple Tree Engineering will make a written recommendation; as to their contracting company choice; which will be reviewed by the Mayor, Council and Attorney. Town Council will make the final decision and authorization of awarding contract; after review of all bids and pricing.

After Contractor selection, Town of Drummond will contract with chosen Contractor for the work to be performed. Triple Tree Engineering will oversee all contractor work, having a qualified person on site.

All funding agency requirements are being met and going well, there is concern as to budget numbers and inflation; funding agencies have been stepping up, to meet these additional funding challenges. At this time, it appears Town of Drummond should have up to \$750,000 in forgiveness. Drummond is in good shape, from previous project completed in 2005.

As recommended by Bond Council, sewer rates will need to be reviewed and increased,

the current rate is at 24.38. Mayor Leeper is anticipating a small yearly increase to meet these needs.

Once bids are in, Funding and Bond Council will help in calculating loan amount; which will dictate what the sewer rate increase needs to be. Sewer rates must sustain end project.

Sewer rate increase is anticipated at 2024 fiscal year end. There will be public hearings and comment periods prior to sewer rate increase.

- **Engineer Brad Koon, Triple Tree Engineering – Drummond Water PER (Preliminary Engineer Report)**

- Received authorization of grant funding for PER from RRGL for \$15,000; applied for the second half of the PER cost from MCEP, still waiting to hear back. Triple Tree Engineering will follow up regarding PER grant funding.

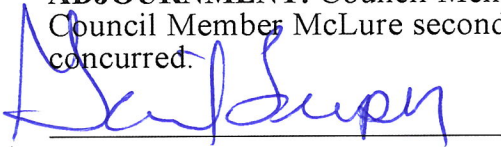
CITY COURT: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Next Town Council Meeting scheduled Tuesday, January 23, 2024 (Fourth Tuesday).

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Stuart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.



Gail Leeper, Mayor



Robin Wight, Town Clerk-Treasurer

December 19, 2023

Town Council Meeting Minutes

EXHIBIT A

Town of Drummond

HB 355 Infrastructure Funding

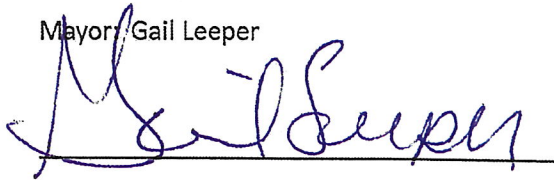
Allotted Funds: \$25,594

Potential Eligible Projects:

1. Repair Fire Suppression Water Line.
2. Street Maintenance and improvements within Township.
3. Repair and Update Sidewalks.
4. Park and Recreation Road Maintenance.
5. Town Hall Building Improvement.

ADD Radar Speed sign

Mayor Gail Leeper



Date:

12-19-2023