

Burns Town Council  
October 13, 2014  
Council Meeting Minutes

The Burns Town council met in regular session on October 13, 2014. Present were Mayor Judy Johnstone, Council Members Charlie Vosler and Dennis Bastian. Council Members Ralph Bartels and Harvey Humphrey were absent from this meeting. Also present were Town Clerk Toni McNamar, Maintenance Man Darius Mandel, John Thompson with Cheyenne Light, Fuel, and Power, Jeff Bartels, Jim and Kari Clark, Laramie County Commissioners Buck Holmes and Amber Ash, Randye Bastian, Debby Johnson, Jessica Loyd, Paulette Dunnan, Sarah Smith, Seth Wilson, Xavier Wilson, Brie Barth, Jennifer Winslow, Camdon Elliot, Sterling Barth, Jeff Smith, Mark Anderson, Erica Maddison, and Scott Maddison.

At 6:00 pm Mayor Johnstone called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed. Those present were informed that the meeting was being recorded.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Absences - Council Member Bartels is currently out of town and Council Member Humphrey is recovering from an illness.

Approval of the September 8, 2014 Council Minutes

Approval of Town Vouchers

Approval of Utility Vouchers

Approval of Town Treasurers Report

Council Member Vosler moved to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Jeff Bartels from Pack 38 was present to inform the council that there would be a flag retirement ceremony at 133 S Washington on November 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be a potluck at noon followed by the flag retirement ceremony at 2 pm. Everyone is invited.

Jeff also reported that it is time to renew the charter. Council Member Bastian moved to table this vote until we have a full council. Council Member Vosler seconded this motion. Motion carried.

Jim Clark was presented with a plaque in appreciation of all of his years of service to the Town of Burns. Jim has been involved with the Town of Burns for many years in many capacities. Cake was served.

**Agenda Requests:**

County Commissioners Buck Holmes and Amber Ash were present to discuss the importance of the 5<sup>th</sup> Penny Tax that will be on the ballot in November. This tax has been approved every four years since 1978. Commissioner Holmes explained how important this tax is to Laramie County. This tax provides funding for public works, local fire departments, the Sheriff's Department, the library system, and many other projects in our county.

**Sheriff's Department Report:**

Don Hollingshead with the Laramie County Sheriff's Department spoke on how important the 5<sup>th</sup> Penny Tax is to the Sheriff's Department. He also reported that they should have more deputies in both ends of the county very soon.

Brie Barth with the Boy Scouts was present to discuss the Council chartering the Boy Scouts as they currently do for the Cub Scouts. Mayor Johnstone asked that she come and present at the November meeting when they have a full Council.

### **Utility Board Report:**

Darius Mandel reported that the UPRR Utility Crossing is complete and on line.

Both water towers have been cleaned and inspected.

Darius reported that the Utility Board had voted to move forward with the replacement of the sewer line on Luther Ave from Second Street to behind the library. Scott Cowley is currently working on getting this project ready to go out for bid.

Mayor Johnstone reported that the land purchase with the Buzards is complete, giving the town an easement from the end of First Street to County Road 148. We are currently working on the land agreement with Mark Anderson to purchase the land where the A-7 Well is located.

Mayor Johnstone asked the Commissioners to keep her involved in the discussion of water issues in Laramie County. Amber Ash reported that they have many people wanting to be involved in the project and that they would probably have to make a list.

### **Maintenance Report:**

The maintenance report was reviewed.

Darius reported that the water fill station is in and we are waiting for WG Dale to connect the power. On Monday EleMech will be here to teach us how to operate the system and the billing for this system.

Jessica Loyd was present to discuss her concern with the air quality in the building. She wanted to know if DEQ has been out to monitor the air quality.

Mayor Johnstone reported that we have worked on this smell for the four years we have been here. It comes and goes and we cannot make any guarantee that it will not come back.

Jessica Loyd reported that she used to attend church here but has not since she moved her daycare out as she is not sure the air quality is safe. There was discussion back and forth.

Town Clerk Toni McNamar reported that she is in this building more than anyone else here - 40 to 50 hours per week - she has not had any symptoms, and does not believe that coming to church for an hour will kill anyone. The smell comes and goes and we have spent many hours and dollars trying to resolve it.

Jessica Loyd asked Mayor Johnstone if she had dropped the ball on contacting DEQ. Mayor Johnstone reported that she had not and that we had tested it with our monitoring equipment and it did not even register.

Council Member Vosler asked Jessica where she got her numbers she presented. Council Member Vosler reported that we have worked on the issue and have done all we possibly can for the moment. We don't need to continue on this matter.

Jessica Loyd would like the town to take the blame for her removing her daycare from the building, she feels that the town owes her and the families that lost daycare, and those that lost jobs because they had to leave this building. And she wants the town to apologize.

Mayor Johnstone reported that we have done all we can for now and will continue to work on the issue as it arises.

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Johnstone reported that the maintenance truck has been approved by the county now it will go to the City of Cheyenne and then on the SLIB in December for approval. We should be able to order the truck by February.

### **Council Member Reports:**

Council Member Humphrey was absent from this meeting

Council Member Bastian had nothing to report.

Council Member Vosler wanted to make a public statement as to why he quite the fire board. Charlie reported that he left because he feels that there are leadership and administrative problems with the departments. He wanted to let the public know that he resigned and will not serve again.

Council Member Bartels was absent from this meeting.

### **New Business:**

Town Clerk Toni McNamar reported that we had received a request from Scott Cowley with AVI for an additional \$1200.00 for engineering fees for the UPRR Utility Crossing project. Toni reported that the additional engineering cost came from dealing with UPRR to get the permits to cross under the tracks. Council Member Vosler moved to approve the additional \$1200.00. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. Motion carried. .

### **Clerk's Report:**

Town Clerk Toni McNamar reported that we need to go out for cleaning bids again. We are to do it on a yearly basis and it has been a couple of years since we have. Toni had written a description of what the job entails. There was discussion regarding if the Main Street bathrooms should only be opened for special occasions or when people rent the gazebo. We spend the entire summer repairing these bathrooms due to vandals. Mayor Johnstone asked that the Council think about this.

The council was in agreement to proceed with advertising for the cleaning bid due in December.

Mark Anderson was present to present the Town of Burns with a check in the amount of \$2540.64 to use for recreational purposes. This money is from an account the Mark Anderson and others had started years ago to work towards an all weather track for the high school. Now that the high school has the track he would like to have the Town of Burns use the money. Mayor Johnstone reported that we need a new slide at the Bob Steege Park and Merry-Go –Round on this play ground. Thank you to Mark Anderson for his donation.

### **Ambulance Report:**

Erica reported that she is still gathering information for billing but that the ambulance service will be billing shortly.

The Council can purchase the AED for the Community Center. Erica has sent the link to Mayor Johnstone.

Erica also requested an executive session.

At 7:24 Council Member Bastian moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel. No decision will be made.

**Announcements**

October 16<sup>th</sup> 6 pm Burns Day Meeting in Council Chambers  
October 25<sup>th</sup> 5 – 8 pm Hay ride sloppy Joe dinner sponsored by Burn Day Committee  
November 3<sup>rd</sup> 6pm Utility board meeting  
November 4<sup>th</sup> Town Hall Closed Election Day 7 am – 7 pm  
November 10<sup>th</sup> 6 pm Council Meeting  
November 11<sup>th</sup> Town Offices Closed.

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE HAY RIDE AND SLOPPY JOE DINNER ON OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> FROM 5 PM – 8 PM. \$4 PER PERSON. SPONSORED BY THE BURNS DAY COMMITTEE.**

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Mayor Judy Johnstone

Attest:

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Town Clerk Toni McNamar

**Town Council**

Judy Johnstone	Mayor	316-0020 630-7305
Charlie Vosler	Council Member Safety/ Town Compliance Officer Ambulance Liaison	286-7996
Dennis Bastian	Council Member Cemetery Board	547-3848
Harvey Humphrey	Mayor Pro Tem Utility Board Representative Parks and Recreation	547-3545
Ralph Bartels	Council Member Streets and Alleys	631-5077

**Utility Board**

Jim Clark	President	630-6305
Harvey Humphrey	Council Rep	547-3545
Steve Newton	Utility Board Member	547-2214
Harry Pauli	Utility Board member	287-7673
Ralph Bartels	Utility Board Member	631-5077

**Town Hall NEW HOURS STARTING JANUARY 2, 2012**

**Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 547-2206**  
**Friday 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m**

Toni McNamar	Town Clerk	630-5557
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**Maintenance**

Darius Mandel	Maintenance	287-0537
Ted Kellner	Maintenance	286-2771