

Burns Town Council  
December 8, 2014  
Council Meeting Minutes

The Burns Town council met in regular session on December 8, 2014. Members present were Mayor Judy Johnstone, Council Members Ralph Bartels, and Dennis Bastian. Council Members Harvey Humphrey and Charlie Vosler were absent from this meeting. Also present were Town Clerk Toni McNamar, John Thompson, Sharon Fain, and Jan Montoya with Cheyenne Light, Fuel, and Power, Sgt. McPherson with Laramie County Sheriff's Department, Jim Archer, Jackson Archer, Randye Bastian, Sophia Arehart, Jenny Michaud, Brian Eveleth, and Betty Nussbaum.

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 Humphrey is feeling under the weather and Council Member Vosler had a previous engagement.

Approval of the November 10, 2014 Council Minutes

Approval of Town Vouchers

Approval of Utility Vouchers

Approval of Town Treasurers Report

Council Member Bartels moved to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Agenda Requests:**

Sharon Fain with Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power was present to request renewal of the franchise fee with the Town of Burns. Sharon reported that Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power pays the Town of Burns 2% of the revenue from the natural gas service in the town of Burns. The agreement is for 25 years.

The Council was presented with Resolution 2014-12-08-01, A Resolution establishing a franchise fee. . Council Member Bartels moved to approve Resolution 2012-12-08-01. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. A roll call vote was called; Bartels – aye, Bastian – aye, Johnstone – aye. Motion carried.

The Council was presented with Resolution 2014-12-08-02, A Resolution granting Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power a natural gas franchise and the authority to construct and maintain natural gas service in the Town of Burns. Council Member Bastian moved to approve Resolution 2014-12-08-02. Council Member Bartels seconded this motion. A roll call vote was called; Bartels – aye, Bastian – aye, Johnstone – aye. Motion carried.

Sophia Arehart reported that Burns Day has elected to have leadership on the committee. The committee wants to have an event each month to help raise money for Burns Day on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Sophia reported that in August we had a garage sale, September a potluck dinner and dance, October a sloppy Joe dinner and hay ride, in November we had the Christmas craft show, and in December we will be doing concessions for the Winter Classic basketball tournament in Burns. All events have been successful and money made.

Sophia inquired if there are any areas in town that the Burns Day committee is not allowed to use for Burns Day. We will try to keep everything as close to Main Street as possible and will provide transportation from the tractor pull to Main Street throughout the day.

Sophia reported that she and Betty Nussbaum will be making banners to hang on the light poles that will tell who the sponsors for Burns Day are.

Sophia reported that the Burns Day Committee would like to get the liquor license for Burns Day and sell the beer themselves; this would produce more profit for Burns Day. We would like to serve beer at the tractor pull, the horseshoe pit and at the dance in the evening which we would like to have in the south gym.

The Burns Day committee is checking into having live radio coverage during the day.

For future events, in January a benefit will be held for the Deselms family with all proceeds going to the family. In February we will be having a Valentine's Dance and a gun show in March.

Sophia Arehart also wanted to discuss additional space for The Room with the Council. Sophia reported that The Room has been a great success and benefits many people. This is the only service of its' type in eastern Laramie County. We also get people from Cheyenne as the Salvation Army has closed. Sophia would like to request the room next door to her current room as that way they can have an adult's room and a children's room.

Sophia reported that we have to send items to Needs in Cheyenne as we become full. Sophia reported that Needs will be providing us with diapers and hygiene items. Sophia will be meeting with them on Wednesday. The Room will also be included in The Day of Giving now.

Sophia reported that the Giving Tree is up at the bank and there are 61 people on it so far. For Christmas we will be taking names of families that are in need of a Christmas dinner box. We're taking names until the 17<sup>th</sup> of December and the boxes will be available for pick up on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Anyone knowing of someone in need may submit their name to the Burns Town Hall.

Sophia reported that we gave out many hams and turkeys to those in need on Thanksgiving.

Council Member Bastian moved to provide a second room for The Room at no cost. Council Member Bartels seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mayor Johnstone suggested that The Room needs more volunteers as a lot of this is starting to fall on Toni and she has her own job to do.

Sophia inquired about putting a door between the two rooms. Council is okay with this, as long as a qualified individual does the work.

The Council was presented with a letter from Kurt Wilson regarding funding for the DARE program. The Sheriff's Department no longer provides funding for this program. Council Member Bartels feels this is a good program and moved to donate \$500.00 to the DARE program. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Archer was present to introduce himself as the new leader of Cub Scout Pack 38. Jim Archer also requested that the Town of Burns re-charter the Pack for the upcoming year. Council Member Bartels moved to re-charter the Cub Scouts for the next year and to pay the \$40 charter fee. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

### **Sheriff's Department Report:**

Sgt. McPherson reported that the Sheriff's Department things are going well. He thanked the Council for their donation to the DARE program.

### **Ambulance Report:**

Brian reported that the ambulance has been having some mechanical problems and that it needs a new starter. Brian asked permission to purchase the parts necessary and Jeff Bartels will do the repairs. Council

Member Bartels moved to purchase parts necessary and do the repairs. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Brian requested approval of appointments to the Ambulance Board. Brian Eveleth as Supervisor, Jenny Michuad as Assistant Supervisor, Jeff Bartels as Training Officer, and Holly Lieniger as Supply Officer. Council Member Bastian moved to approve appointments on the ambulance. Council Member Bartels seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Utility Board Report:**

Utility Board President Ralph Bartels reported that the board had discussion on rate increases but tabled this until the next meeting. He reported that it is a tough decision as if we do not continue to prove we are self sustaining it may affect us getting funding for repairs or emergencies in the future.

Ralph also reported that there was discussion on transferring the water rights from the A-3 well to the A-7 well. The Board does not want to do this at this time as the moratorium will be up in April and they will hopefully get permitted for the A-7 well at this time. The Board will be holding a special meeting with Lidstone and Associates to discuss this on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. The engineers feel that we should do the transfer, however the Board does not feel we should.

Utility Board President Bartels reported that the Board wants to have election of board president and secretary in July rather than in January. July works better as it follows the council election and it is the beginning of the fiscal year.

It was determined that the landowner will pay to have the water service connected to their property and will hire a qualified plumber to do the work. The town will provide the meter and meter pit for a fee. Once the connection is complete and approved by the Town, the town will then take responsibility for the line to the meter including the meter. Anything beyond the meter is the responsibility of the property owner.

**Maintenance Report:**

The maintenance report was reviewed.

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Johnstone reported that the Health Department found some issues at the Community Center. Some of the issues have already been addressed or are being addressed. Mayor Johnstone will be contacting Jim Clark to see if some of these issues are the responsibility of the Housing Authority.

Mayor Johnstone reported that we are in need of donations of bags of potatoes and turkeys and hams for the Christmas boxes which will be donated to those in need.

Mayor Johnstone had a letter prepared for Wyoming Rural Development requesting that the Town of Burns be allowed to participate in the upcoming housing assessment. This is a free service. Randy Bastian will be the liaison for this project.

Council Member Bartels moved to have Mayor Johnstone send the letter to the Wyoming Rural Development to allow the Town of Burns to participate in the study and to have Randy Bastian as the liaison. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Johnstone reported that the purchase of the A-7 well site was now complete.

Mayor Johnstone reported that the SLIB meeting will be on Thursday and that the new town truck is up for approval.

Mayor Johnstone opened the cleaning bids. Two bids were received. One was from Charlene Smith at an amount of \$775.00 a month and a \$17 an hour charge for additional work. The second bid was from Quality Commercial Cleaning in the amount of \$860.00 a month with a \$20 an hour charge for additional work. There was discussion on the bids.

**Council Member Reports:**

Council Member Humphrey was absent from this meeting

Council Member Bastian reported that he has reached out to Fire District #6 to try to better our relations with them. Council Member Bastian believes that everyone wants everything to run smoothly and we need more people willing to volunteer. He believes that everyone needs to quit criticizing and complaining about what everyone else is doing and get along. Council Member Bastian believes things will work more smoothly if everyone gets along.

Council Member Vosler was absent from this meeting.

Council Member Bartels reported that he had visited with Deputy Wilson regarding some of the traffic issues around town.

**New Business:**

Council Member Bartels moved to table the approval of the cleaning bids until Mayor Johnstone had a chance to talk to those who presented bids. Council Member Bastian seconded this motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Announcements**

December 9 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 – 6:30 Rabies Clinic at the Burns- Plex
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	10 am special Utility Board meeting
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	6 pm Burns Day Meeting
December 21-26 <sup>th</sup>	Town Office Closed
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	Town Offices closed
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	6 pm Utility Board meeting
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	6 pm Council meeting.

If you know of anyone who is in need of a Christmas dinner box please submit their names to the Burns Town Hall by December 17<sup>th</sup>.

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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**

Ralph Bartels	President	631-5007
Harvey Humphrey	Council Rep	547-3545
Steve Newton	Utility Board Member	547-2214
Harry Pauli	Utility Board member	287-7673
Matt Fields	Utility Board Member	

**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