

# HATCH TOWN BOARD MEETING

**January 17, 2024**

**Town Board:** Mayor Kerry Barney, Janell Barney, Duane Barnhurst, Jon Spendlove & Kurt Sawyer

**Staff:** Jacie Torgersen, Tyler Mendenhall

**Public:**

## **1. Meeting Called to Order**

Mayor Kerry Barney welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting began at 7pm with Jon Spendlove offering an opening prayer and Mayor Barney leading those present in the pledge.

## **2. Approval of November 15, 2023 Minutes**

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the minutes and Councilor Spendlove 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, the vote was unanimous.

## **3. Review Invoices, checks & financial report**

### **3.1 November & December**

Jacie Torgersen reviewed the town's accounts with the council. The signature cards were changed for the town and the cemetery with Mayor Kerry Barney, Jon Spendlove, Jacie Torgersen and Melissa Poulsen listed on the cards. Councilors Barnhurst and Barney will review the monthly bank statements that Jacie balances and sign them as requested by the auditor. Councilors Sawyer and Spendlove will sign the credit card statements each month that are checked by Melissa Poulsen. The council reviews all of the expenditures each month. Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the November and December expenditures and Councilor Barnhurst 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, the vote was unanimous.

## **4. Public Hearings**

## **5. Petitions, Remonstrations and Communications**

### **5.1 Council Member Responsibilities**

The council member responsibilities will be as follows:

Kurt – Roads

Jon – Fire

Duane -Water & Grants

Kerry – Grants & Water

Janell – Parks

### **5.2 2024 Town Celebration Dates**

The following dates were set aside by the council for 2024:

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Easter Egg Hunt

June 8<sup>th</sup> – Town Clean-up

July 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday – Independence Celebration

July 24<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Pioneer Day Celebration

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October 31<sup>st</sup> Thursday – Halloween Party

### **5.3 Council Conflict Resolution Forms**

Each member of the council signed a conflict resolution form and Jacie Torgersen will have them on file in the office.

### **5.4 Open & Public Meeting Training**

Mayor Barney and Janell Barney watched the open and public meeting training and the other council members will watch it before the next meeting. This will be the open and public meeting training for 2024.

### **5.5 Hatch Financial Statement**

Jacie presented the financial compilation compiled by Kimball and Roberts to the town council. They will have time to review it this month and then be prepared to adopt it next month. The auditors asked that the town have the council members sign the bank statements after Jacie Torgersen has reconciled them. Another item to note is that the water fund is in the red and has been for the last couple of years. It is not able to fund itself. Jacie Torgersen is working with Curtis Luvigson from the Rural Water Association to have an evaluation of the town's water rates done. He will be prepared to present this information at the meeting in March.

### **5.6 Riverside Resort Liquor License Application**

An application was presented for a class c liquor license at the Red Dirt Diner owned by Dieter & Holly Meltvedt. The application was complete with a copy of the bond and a credit card number to make their payment. This would be out next to the Riverside Campground. This would be for a seasonal license from May – October. They presented a local consent form to the town for permission to ask for a license from the state. This would give the town 3 liquor licenses. The gas station has a class A license and the bar has a class C license. Councilor Barnhurst asked if they were reviewed each year and they are when they are renewed. Kade Iverson would like to town to change the date for when the liquor licenses are due. He would like them to be due in February which is when they are due for the state. Councilor Sawyer would like to get an ordinance in place to limit the number of liquor licenses in town – he feels like there is enough. Jacie Torgersen will ask on a list serve to the clerks for some sample ordinances. Councilor Barney asked if there has any has been any problems with the liquor licenses and there have not been as far as anyone on the council was aware.

## **6. Ordinances**

### **6.1 Ordinance 2024-01 Meeting Ordinance**

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve ordinance 2024-01 designating the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month as the meeting date for town council and Councilor Spendlove 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, the vote was unanimous.

**6.2 Resolution 2024-02 Compensation**

The compensation rates are evaluated each year in January on behalf of the town employees. Tyler Mendenhall is now a certified water operator and also is cross connection certified. Mayor Barney said that the Paunsaugunt Cliffs Water Operator is paid \$800 each month. He looked at the amounts that the town paid out to the water department last year. Ben Neilson was paid \$225 for helping on an as needed basis. Kade Iverson was paid \$987 for reading meters and also doing work with his excavator. Tyler Mendenhall was paid \$5000 Mayor Barney proposed that the town pay the water operator \$550 a month along with \$50 for the cell phone so it would be \$600. Councilor Sawyer motioned the town give each employee a \$25 cost of living increase except the meter reader, Duane 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and the vote was unanimous for the water operator pay and other town employees. The rates go into effect on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**7. Report of Officers – boards – committees**

**7.1 Water Department – Water Usage**

Water usage for December 2023 was 42,000 from well #5 and 43,000 for November 2023. Tyler Mendenhall reported that the town’s inventory on water meters is looking pretty good. There are four – ¾ inch valves and 1 lid available for new meters.

**7.1.a Water Expenditures**

Tyler presented a proposal from VFC for an intrusion alarm at the tank, he feels like this is something that the town needs. There is an alarm at well #5 and the chlorination building but not at the tank. He feels like this is something that is important and needs to be done. The cost for this is \$3500.

He also suggested that the town install a fire hydrant next to Lee Porter’s home on 100 W. Everywhere else in town meets fire code for the distance in between hydrants except there. His estimated cost is \$4,000-\$5,000 plus parts and excavation.

He feels that the town should start looking for property for another water tank. It will be a need in the next few years and they to find somewhere to put it. Jacie Torgersen suggested looking at somewhere higher than where the tank is located now. Councilor Sawyer said his property may be an option.

Tyler Mendenhall had Jacie Torgersen looking for information about when the town deeded the old water system over to the irrigation company. He wanted to see if there was an actual deed. Jacie looked through the minutes and found when it was talked about and found an ordinance of when the new water system was in place. She also checked with Jolee Riggs and the irrigation company and they do not have a deed either. He was looking for this information for cross connections. The town needs to make sure they are covered if a question arises concerning that old water line that it does not belong to the town. There could be asbestos in the line with the old lead fittings. Mr. Mendenhall asked if the town wanted to have a legal document drawn up or just use the minutes and ordinance as the legal documents. This would be in case someone decided to sue the town concerning water

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from the old line. The town council did not feel like they needed something drafted up by legal counsel at this time.

### **7.2 Fire Department-**

The fire department did receive the new radios and they are just getting programmed right now.

### **7.3 Road Department-**

Councilor Sawyer and Mayor Barney would like to see the town purchase a backhoe that can be split between the cemetery and the town. They will look at state auctions and see if there is a state dealer that the town could work with to get a backhoe.

### **7.4 Parks & Recreation-**

### **7.5 Grants-**

### **7.6 Planning & Zoning Commission**

The planning and zoning commission will need to have a meeting to discuss a 4 lots subdivision of Jean Gottschalk's between Chad & Kerri Justus and Cassie Mack's home.

Councilor Sawyer stated that the town needs to get a map and do a master plan for all the roads. There was a change made in the town's ordinance to require a 66-foot road and Councilor Sawyer thinks that is too big. He feels like the town should go back to the 50 feet that they had before. The county changed theirs to 66 feet so that is why the town did. If the town decides they want to change it back they will have to go through the process of changing an ordinance with a public notice. Councilor Sawyer said when he was the planning and zoning chairman, they did a master road plan for all the roads in town. Jacie Torgersen is not sure where it is at, Councilor Sawyer would like her to see if she can find it.

Councilor Sawyer is concerned about the number of vacation rentals in town. He feels like young families can't afford to buy homes and live here. This is a problem across the U.S. He feels that the town is losing their sense of community with so many vacation rentals in town. The town needs people to live here and contribute to the community, not just to come and visit. He feels that the town should look at the number again for the amount allowed in town. Gordon Hilton actually has 6 rentals and it is only counted as one because he has one license. Councilor Sawyer feels that this should be considered a Planned Unit Development and treated differently. Councilor Sawyer would like to review the numbers and discuss it at next month's meeting. The town also needs to find a definition/state code reference for a mother-in-law apartment.

### **7.7 Cemetery**

The cemetery board needs to meet soon and figure out how to update/combine the cemetery plots on their new map.

## **8. Public Input**

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### **9. Unfinished or New Business**

Jacie Torgersen has been working on the Capital Assets Inventory for the town and it needs to be submitted by the end of January. She sent it out to the council to review and asked if there were any other changes or additions the council would like to have made to it. Councilor Spendlove suggested adding a shed for the backhoe under roads or fire department.

The next council meeting will be on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **10. Adjournment**

Councilor Sawyer motioned to adjourn the meeting and Councilor Spendlove 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Jjt