

HATCH TOWN BOARD MEETING

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

Staff: Jacie Torgersen & Tyler Mendenhall

Public: Sarah Fischer Barnhurst, Karlee Burrows, Russ Riggs, Gary Goble, Kerri Justus

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting started at 7:15pm with Councilor Barnhurst offering an opening prayer and everyone repeating the pledge. Mayor Barney thanked everyone for their input in the earlier meeting regarding the water rates.

2. Approval of April 17, 2024 Minutes

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the minutes and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

3. Review April Invoices, checks & financial report

Councilor Janell Barney motioned to approve the invoices and Councilor Sawyer 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

4. Public Hearings

5. Petitions, Remonstrations and Communications

5.1 Deann Brown – Garfield Memorial Hospital Update

No one from the hospital came to the meeting so there was no need for discussion.

5.2 Building Inspector for town

Mayor Barney had been asked about the town having their own building inspector. Right now, the town just pays a percentage to the county for the number of inspections done in town so it isn't very expensive to the town. Jared Woolsey, the current building inspector is certified and does it for the whole county. It would be a big expense to the town to have their own. It was decided that was not something that needed to be done right now.

5.3 Leak in DUP Building Roof

There is a leak in the DUP roof and Mayor Barney wanted to know whose responsibility it was to repair it. Jacie Torgersen will look in the lease documents and see what she can find out.

5.4 9/11 Day of Service

Scot Walter is coordinating that day of service with Hatch Ward. He wanted some ideas from the town of what service could be done. Some ideas suggested were:

- fence on south side of park
- cottonwood trees behind backstop
- woodchips under playground
- cement or grass behind community center
- new platforms on playground

5.5 RV Ordinance Amendment

The amendments were discussed that were presented last month for approval. The two changes that were being made were regarding living in an RV while building a home and using them as housing for employees.

Councilor Sawyer is not in favor of making the amendments and thinks it is wrong. Jim Kabonic feels like the town needs to do what it can to help employers because if they do not have workers, they cannot make revenue and keep their business open. Tyler Mackaben has 4 full time employees living in RV's and it is necessary for him to operate here. Russ Riggs does not understand why the town would want to make an exception to the rule for people who are here 6 months out of the year as opposed to full time residents. Mayor Barney feels like the businesses bring in a lot of revenue to the town so the town should help support local businesses.

Councilor Sawyer feels like these recreational vehicles should go in a RV park. The town is choosing which businesses they are supporting and which businesses they aren't supporting by taking business away from the Riverside RV Campground. Raquel Thompson stated that it would cost \$1500 a month to rent a spot at Riverside and this is more than most employees can afford.

Russ Riggs is wondering why the ordinance was good a year ago when it was adopted and now it is not. Instead of enforcing the ordinance the town is just changing it. He feels that the town should enforce the ordinances that they have, just not change them to fit needs as issues come up.

Tyler Mackaben said that he has 17 employees in town. He will work with the town to make the area where the recreational vehicles are located presentable. The RVs would stay on the property whether they have people in them or not. The business owners in Hatch have a good working relationship with each other and help each other out. The business owners feel that the town benefits from the businesses so they appreciate the town working with the businesses.

5.6 Paunsaugunt Cliffs Lease of Building & Use of Backup storage

The Paunsaugunt lease is currently set at \$700/year and \$25 a meeting. Councilor Barney motioned to approve the lease amount for this year and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

Paunsaugunt Cliffs is also going to share the backup storage with the town. They will pay \$412 to go towards the installation of the backup.

5.7 Hatch Irrigation Co – storage of equipment

The Hatch Irrigation Company would like to store some equipment in the park shed. Tyler Mendenhall is going to be the water operator for both companies. Mayor Barney motioned to charge the irrigation company \$150 to have a section in the water shed to store equipment and Councilor Barney 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

6. Ordinances

6.1 Resolution 2024-04 Restriction of Liquor Licenses in town

Jacie Torgersen sent out the liquor license resolution prepared by Barry Huntington for the council to review. Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the resolution to go forward with having it in writing and ready to approve at the next board meeting and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion. Councilor Barney also voted to move forward. Councilor Spendlove voted against it because he has not had time to read and review it yet.

7. Report of Officers – boards – committees

7.1 Water Department – Water Usage

Water usage for April 2024 from well #4 is 551,000 gallons

7.1.a VFC Quote

The intrusion alarm has been installed on the water tank thanks to Ben Neilson. VFC just came and wired it together.

Sunrise Engineering has done an evaluation on the town’s water system. They feel that the water system should be good for the next 10 years with the building and tank. Some of the pipes are old but will probably be ok until there are multiple breaks in the pipe. Well #4 takes 5 ½ hours to fill the tank because it is a smaller pump. Well #5 takes 2 hours to fill the tank since it is a bigger pump. The town will need to work on the water piping to the RV park with bigger pipe and also new fire hydrants in a few areas so that they are in compliance with the distance between hydrants. The tank will also need to be drained at some point in town to take care of the sediment at the bottom. The water system is in pretty good shape.

Russ Riggs suggested creating a special improvement district for Riverside to make those water improvements. The town has no obligation to areas that are annexed in to provide them the same services. When that water line was put in it was a 3 -inch pipe on personal property. Mr. Riggs doesn’t feel that the town should have to pay for other people’s improvement.

7.1.b Meter Reading @ Butch Co Road

In order to read Scot Walter’s water meter, you have to go up his private road and jump his fence to read it and he doesn’t want people jumping his fence. Scot Walter requested that his meter be put up there instead of having it at the road like others are and the town let him put it there. Russ Riggs feels that the town did Scot a favor by letting him put the meter up that high so he needs to put a gate in the fence and provide access to the meter or the town can move it and require him to pay for it.

7.1.c Raising Water Rates

This will be in an ordinance to be voted on next month.

7.2 Fire Department

The sensor for the fire engine is here. Councilor Spendlove will contact an ISO rep to see what the town can do to improve their ISO rating.

7.3 Road Department-

Councilor Sawyer has talked with a representative from UDOT today. They will be having a meeting in Garfield County on June 27th. They are planning on putting in two passing lanes north of Hatch. There was a concern brought up about that increasing the speed of traffic coming into town. The town residents would like to see what can be done about slowing traffic down as it comes into town.

7.4 Parks & Recreation-

7.4.a Town Clean-up

Town clean-up will be June 8th at 10am. People can plant flowers in the planter boxes and pick up garbage around town. Councilor Barney will have a hot dog lunch ready around noon for those who came to help.

7.5 Grants-

7.6 Planning & Zoning Commission

7.6.a Master Road Plan Map

There was a moratorium put in place to develop the master road plan. This moratorium is on land use ordinances which affects subdivisions and building permits where the roads could be located.

Sarah Fischer Barnhurst has a lot that they have been planning on building on for the last 4 years. They contacted the town to get a building permit and found that they would not be able to get a permit right now because there was a moratorium in place. She stated that their property is a century land farm and they want to build a home there as their permanent residence. It has been a dream of her husband Dallas to build a home in Hatch and come here to stay. The master road plan map shows a road going right through their property so they would not be able to build in the location that they have planned. The moratorium was put in place so that they town would have time to develop the plan. The master road plan map is a suggestion, the town wants to set aside property to develop and expand with future growth. Mrs. Barnhurst feels like this was not the proper time to put a moratorium on in the middle of the summer when people can build in Hatch. The moratorium is in place until August or until the map has been decided and voted on and then it can be removed. The moratorium is impacting her life and she is ready to get a building permit now and build and the town is hindering her from doing so. She wants the town to lift the moratorium for 24 hours so she can get her building permit and then put it back in place. She wants to start digging this week. She feels that the road is not feasible through their property and would just go to a dead end because of the river and swamp ground there. There have been 7 generations that have owned that property and it is wrong to keep them from building there. Jacie Torgersen will talk with Roger Carter from the Five County Association to get some more information and see if the planning and zoning commission can schedule a meeting to review the map and move forward with it.

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Karlee Burrows had a question about her water bill. She got her first water bill for her new home and it is a very large bill. She would like to see a break down of the charges so she knows what she is paying for.

7.7 Cemetery

8. Public Input

9. Unfinished or New Business

Blackburn would like to add some showers in the building that they are leasing from the town. The council said that would be fine. The town will also get a porta potty from Blackburn Propane to have out at the kiosk/picnic area.

5.8 2025 Budget

The council reviewed the budget to see what numbers needed to be amended for this year and what numbers they would like to set for next year. They reviewed each item line by line through the general fund, capital projects fund and enterprise fund.

10. Adjournment

The next meeting will be on June 19th. Jacie Torgersen will reach out to the planning and zoning commission to get an emergency meeting scheduled and then the town council would have to meet to review their recommendation to get the moratorium lifted on land use ordinances.

Councilor Sawyer motioned to adjourn and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 10pm.