# P. O. BOX 529

## WHITEHALL, MT 59759

## **FEBRUARY 11TH, 2019**

The Whitehall Town Council held their regular meeting in the Council Chambers at 207 East Legion Street, Monday, February 11th, 2019.

<u>PRESENT</u>: Council Members: Montina Rawson, Logan Reiff, Francine Janik, Jason Good, Gary Housman, Barb Gagnon, Mayor Mary Hensleigh and Town Clerk/Treasurer Summer Fellows.

<u>VISITORS</u>: Dale Morse, Bridget Morse, Maxine Samuelson, Lori Young, Vera Jensen, Scott Irven, Jenny Scott, Bonnie Brown, Katy James and Alison Richardson.

Mayor Mary Hensleigh called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call was taken. All Council Members were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### IV. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Francine moved to approve the agenda with Montina seconding.

Francine: I'm wondering too if in the future we shouldn't date our Council Minutes? We were dating our Council Minutes and now we're not. That way, we give the public notice which Council Minutes they are going to be, what we will be discussing and approving.

Mayor Hensleigh: Ok. Easy enough to do.

#### THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Montina Rawson made a Motion to approve the January 14<sup>th</sup> minutes. Jason Good seconded the Motion. Francine Janik abstained from voting due to being absent at the January meeting.

#### THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## VI. REPORTS:

## Mayor's Report:

Mayor Mary Hensleigh: I must admit it's been such a hectic day, I forgot to write my report. We just got finished with a nice training with Dan Clark from MSU Local Government. It was very informative. I always learn something and we'll try to put that into practice at tonight's Meeting. It's been fairly quiet with this cold weather, it's kind of kept everyone at home trying to keep warm so here at Town Hall has been fairly quiet. So I don't really have all that much to report. Ed is not here so we'll move on to Summer's report for Clerk/Treasurer.

## Officer's Reports:

Attorney's Report: Ed Guza was not present.

## Clerk / Treasurer's Report:

Summer Fellows: We are staying busy with the normal. There have been a few adjustments with utility bills, water leaks and things like that. I want to just mention to the Public that we've been getting reports of people with the online scams calling people and saying that their social security cards have been cancelled. Of course, people call here worried about accidentally giving out information and what to do so, I suggest that people call the Sherriff's Office to report that you think you have been scammed. We can't do anything here but, just don't give out any information. If they called you, they have your phone number. If they want your address they should have it. They can do their homework, don't give out any information on the phone. It's crazy. We had a lady call here and she was very upset because they told her that her social security card was cancelled. It was kind of sad. Other than the Clerk of Court, stuff is going ok. Still on a learning curve.

## <u>Public Work's Report</u>:

Kory Klapan: So, I don't have a whole lot to report on. We did have a sewer main break. It is fixed and taken care of. It was a contractor working with a property owner here in Town that hit it and broke it. It actually happened last summer. When the water table gets up high enough, it was actually filling water into our sewer. We spent four days out at the sewer lagoon field filling pivot divots. We've put 180 yards of conda fines (gravel) in the divots. We probably have a day or day and a half left out there. Cemetery, we had one grave and then the garbage truck has been working really well until today. Today, we had a

coolant leak. We were able to fix that. I think last week the check engine light came on. We're going to have it checked out. Then, the driver's seat in the truck broke. So besides that everything is going good.

## Fire Chief's Report:

Fire Chief Jeremy Ward was absent so Summer Fellows gave the report.

Summer: Two things, we are still looking for volunteers. We need volunteers very badly. Jeremy would have been here tonight but he was out until two, three o'clock in the morning plowing roads and then had to be back to work this morning. Second, we've got the I AM respond up and running. We're still learning and working out some of the bugs in it but we really like it. It's all on your phone, it's really nice.

#### Sheriff's Report:

Mayor Hensleigh: There is no Sherriff's report. I did talk to Chad today and he said with this cold weather, it's been pretty quiet.

## Committee / Board Reports:

## Planning Board:

Lori Young: We held a meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>. All of our members were in attendance. We discussed new business. One of our board members recommended Bonnie Brown to replace our board member who stepped down and we voted and passed for her to join us so welcome Bonnie Brown to our board as long as the Council approves her and the Mayor. We are still, if anyone wants to join our board we still have room. We can have as many as we want on there and we definitely have projects in the works. We passed Steve Irven's fence project. We pre-approved it but he is going to get a survey before he starts the process of that. He just wanted pre-approval so he didn't spend the money on the expensive survey prior to. We approved the Trinity Methodist Church addition and Dan Poff. He wanted to have a rental on his property of an RV and the Town does not allow RV's to be lived in as a permanent residence. In this area of the property we also recommended that he talk to the County to see what the requirements are for recreational vehicles to be lived in as a permanent property because there are different laws so that was tabled. Then we worked on the zoning and talked about that for a little bit with Summer prior to the meeting when she dropped in. We discussed Mountain Horizons. They did remove a car that had been there since the beginning of time and they're still working on it. There is still some junk around and we're asking them to keep working on that process.

Recreational Complex Board: No meeting.

**Pool Commission:** No meeting.

<u>Trees, Parks and Cemetery:</u> No meeting.

## Water/Sewer/Garbage:

Montina Rawson: Our meeting was Monday the 4<sup>th</sup>. Committee present were Kory, Gary, myself and Dale Morse. There were no others present.

#### Old Business:

Water: No Adjustment

Sewer: Three Adjustments one for service line break, one for leaky toilet and one for freeze plate on a water meter.

Garbage: Excess Garbage Charges, note each week there is excess garbage it is a five dollar increase which is \$20 a month minimum and extra can is only \$18 a month.

#### **New Business:**

Sewer break between Yellowstone and 2<sup>nd</sup>: There was a break on the sewer line between Yellowstone and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on the Ossello property. It was caused when the pond was built this spring, the contractor from the project came back and fixed the break caused when the pond was constructed. While they were looking for break they came across a small break not caused by the construction. It was an old calcified break but they also discovered that sewer main isn't lined and would like to look into doing so.

Growth Policy and Capital Improvement Plan: Potential items to discuss with Jason for Capital Improvement Plan: Line asbestos sewer line from Yellowstone to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, line asbestos water line on Rocky Mountain Drive.

Public Works Meter Repair/Backflow Preventers: Resolution for changes made at last Council Meeting.

Reline water tank and find curb stops: Kory would like to make a plan to get the water tank relined and look into finding and mapping all the curb stops in Town.

Water tank leak: The water tank is leaking at the bolts and has some rust Kory is concerned about. Gary recommended replacing bolts that need replaced and repainting the rust area. Gary has the bolts and paint that need to be used and said he would give those to Kory.

Dump truck repair: Both dump trucks need \$3,000-\$4,000 worth of work done to make them street worthy. Committee would like council to discuss and vote on replacing or repairing the trucks.

Surplus Sale: Public Works would like to take some items we haven't been using or would like to replace to the Surplus sale. Committee recommends the gas dump truck as well as John Deere Finish mower. Council to discuss and vote.

Freightliner for sale at surplus sale: Public Works is looking at a small Freightliner dump truck to replace the current trucks. It has approximately 10,000 miles and they are asking \$18,000. Public Works will look at it when they go to water school this month to see if it would work for the Town.

## Streets/Alley/Sidewalks:

Montina Rawson: Monday February 4th, 2019 @ 9:30 am

Committee Present: Kory Klapan, Montina Rawson, Gary Housman, Dale Morse

Others Present: No visitors.

Old Business:

Roads:N/A

Alleys: N/A

Sidewalks: N/A

Gas Tax Money Project (East of Town Hall Drainage): Postponed to spring

Maintenance Planner- Montina will get a copy of planner to post at Town Hall.

#### **New Business:**

Gas Tax Money- The Town will be receiving roughly \$19,546 in gas tax money this spring. The Streets/Alley/Sidewalks Committee recommending using these funds to address concerns we have had with our streets which are as follows:

Drainage between First and Legion on Division St. – Water pools in front of Community Center causing street failure and safety hazard. Committee recommends putting in another storm drain in front of the Community Center and repairing the road where the water has caused damage.

Drainage on Whitetail Drive- Drainage was never addressed when the subdivision was put in so the water flows down the street and into garage at the end of the cul-de-sac. Committee recommends putting in a French Drain at the end of the cul-de-sac to disperse water before it flows to the garage.

Millings not holding up at Post Office and in front of Ace Hardware on Main Street.

Street failure on West 1st.

Street failure on Yellowstone.

Street failure on Paul Gulch to the bridge.

Mayor Hensleigh: Bridget, do you want to give a report on the budget and the Grant application?

Bridget Morse: Certainly. We met on January 16<sup>th</sup>, had our meeting and looked at our budget. So you should have a copy of the budget. We approved our Grant application with a change to the due date of April 15<sup>th</sup> and we budgeted some money for that. That was something we had some people asking us to do so we thought we would give it a trial run and see how it goes for the first year. If we get some responses and people take us up on that the \$25,000 dollars that we'd like to budget for that could turn into \$50,000 for improvements Down Town which would be quite a good thing it's a one to one. They have to put in their own due diligence. You can read the Grant application on your own but I think it's pretty good. Sullivan wrote it like ones for other TIFF districts (TAX INCRIMENT FINANCIAL FUND) and he made it just a little bit shorter. Some of them were 16-17 pages long. He got it down to brass tacks. So anyway, we worked on our budget and I think you all have a copy of our budget there. On the top half there, I have different things that we put in that we were thinking of, some of them are just carrying forward and some of them are new. I can go through these individually if that's what you would like, or describe them.

Mayor Hensleigh: Why don't you just go through them.

Bridget: The signs are just sort of ongoing. We are working on three signs that are going to be made and we're going to install them this Spring. Then we were planning on two more signs. One for the Town Hall and trying to make them match the whole theme and they would be the same laser cut steel so we'll have to get them designed. And then the other one was for Public Works. So they would both get laser cut signs that could be installed on the outside of the building. We figured \$4,000 dollars was enough for that. Then the Grant application process, we put \$25,000 to that. The RV dump station to go over to the Rec Complex. The cements already paid for so this is just installing it, the piping and stuff to bring the sewer and the water over like a French drain. And prepping the site. So we put \$5,000 to that. The flag, that's like a big flag that Mary was thinking of having to install down here in front here like they use to have at the other Town Hall in front. One that would be a mounted flag outside.

Francine: Will it have lights and be raised and lowered?

Mayor Hensleigh: Yes.

Bridget: It would follow all the rules of proper flag etiquette and we'll put \$4,000 toward that. Pool improvements that's some special boards that go in the chemical room. Maybe a cabinet for the chemicals to keep them separate. And a checker that automatically checks where the chlorine levels are at and records that so everyone's nice and safe and we put \$5,000 toward that. And then at the Rec Complex fence that goes around the electric, we have those new electric panels over there. The one that's behind where the well is and then there's the one on this side. And just to keep people from parking too close. We had some horse trailers that got too close, a fence sort of delineates that and we never got any of the cement ones that we were trying to get quite a while ago. So we sort of changed tactics and we are thinking metal fence and metal well casing with cement to match the return alley way and would be painted to match. So it will look nice, it will just be that light gray color. So we put \$6,000 toward that. I don't think it will cost that much. And then sidewalk repairs, we put \$10,000 toward that and that includes completing that last block in front of the old Forest Service Buildings. I guess they're still there, where the fire crew goes right next to Stageline Pizza. That last half of a block, we couldn't do it last year because it had to be hand dug. And then in looking at the sidewalk next to it, the sidewalk elevation is kind of funky and it dips way down and so we've decided that we would just put it all to the contractor and have that whole section redone and make it correct. Handicapped at the end or flow

down into their parking lot so people can walk. And that includes a lot of curb that is falling away. Notably in front of the K-Bar. There's no curb and it looks bad. And then there's a section down by Bob's little station where there is no sidewalk at all for I don't know how long for 10-15 feet or so. So we have a couple sections like that we have picked out and we want to fix that and that's \$10,000. Then the holiday seasonal banner and décor, we just thought we would perk that up. The old banners can't hang anymore, there's something about the brackets breaking and failing and the old ones are very faded. So, we were just thinking \$8,000 for that. Last year, and I think the year before we did tree trimming for \$5,000 and we're careful to keep that in the T.I.F.F. (TAX INCRAMENT FINANCIAL FUND) District and not trim trees outside the T.I.F.F. district but you already have a budget for trimming trees that you could use for those areas. So it's just to help keep the Town looking good. And then the Rec Complex hard surfaces, we put \$10,000 toward that and that's basically trying to bring more available parking. And in front of the covered bleachers there is no sidewalk. So, just to make it match the other sidewalk. This will help to give people a better option. So then the fire truck repairs we'll put in \$500 dollars. The oldest fire truck is going to go over to the museum and they're building a building for that I guess and just to get it up and running. So I understand that the Town has already allocated \$500 dollars for that and they think it might go over a little over that so we just allocated \$500 dollars on the pretense that the City's money would be spent first and if it went over there was some money there. It just needs some batteries to get it up and running so it can go on parades and get from where it's at to over there. Land purchases we put \$27,500 and that's just if something comes up, let's see if it's a house that needs torn down and the land owner is not capable to do that, we could purchase and remove the house. We could make it a viable lot and sell it. We're not in the business of owning property it's just to make a decision on something like that if it came along. Maybe a house caught on fire and it burnt down and it was structurally a nuisance and the land owner didn't want to clean it up, so that's what that's for. The total budget we have marked down as "to be determined" as \$137,500. (See recording for more details regarding the TIF budget).

#### **VII. Public Comment:**

No Public comment.

## **VIII. Consent Agenda:**

Mayor Hensleigh: As I learned tonight from our workshop, we are to open consent agenda up with "Is there any public comment on the Consent Agenda items?" I can read those to you. The business licenses are Jefferson Valley EMS and Rescue, Southwestern Montana Heating and Cooling. The Planning Board we have Bonnie Brown letter of intent in joining the Planning Board, Steve Irven, he's been preapproved for fence pending a survey at 408 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Trinity United Methodist Church for a 20 x 30 shed. Dan Poff's has been tabled. So any public comment?

Montina made a motion to approve the consent agenda with Logan seconding.

THE MOTION PASSED AND FRANCINE JANIK ABSTAINED.

#### Presentations:

Vera Jensen: I'm here to give this to you. I hope this gets the garbage truck fixed.

Mayor Henseigh: Yes, so our Angels of the Country Store have donated \$20,000 dollars for the new garbage truck to the Town of Whitehall and we just can't thank you enough. Everything you do in this Town is just so helpful and we couldn't do it without you.

Vera: We are glad we are able to help.

Mayor Hensleigh: Yes. Thank you. I will turn this check over to the Treasurer because the Mayor cannot touch money. Ok, our next presentation is Alison Richardson who will give a presentation on Montana Community Review.

Alison Richardson: I work out of the MSU Extension Office here in Whitehall. I do community economic development for Jefferson County and I'm also the manager of the Jefferson Local Development Corporation. I'm going to try to keep this as quick as possible for you, I know you've been here for a while. I just wanted to share with you an opportunity for Whitehall to participate in something called a Montana Community Review. It's formerly known as a Resource Team Assessment. There has been approximately 48 of these conducted in several states. Many of which have happened in Montana. Choteau is a good example so if you want to learn more and get some more detail there is a website attached to that packet I gave you. It can show kind of what the end results have been. This Montana Community Review is through Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) and that's a group that leads this process with assistance from the Montana Department of Commerce and the Montana State University Extension. It's a citizen driven strategic planning process designed and conducted in coordination with leaders, business owners, non-profits and residents on your community. A two or three day visit to your community by a team of commuting economic development professionals is the centerpiece of this program. The members of this visiting team volunteer their time and talents to help rural communities manage change, build capacity and pursue goals on their own terms. So, in the end this process will leave Whitehall with increased clarity about its goals and opportunities, improve coordination among businesses and community organization and awareness of available funding and other resources. Some of the benefits would be to add to this process needs and opportunities on which residents agree, more effective collaboration and coordination among key local organizations, stronger relationships and increased communications between community members. And the success of the Review depends on the degree of commitment and participation from a broad perception of community. Think of this as an opportunity to engage with diverse stake holders and involve those with a different perspective. There's a few different phases, which I'm not going to get into a whole lot of detail about. There are three phases; phase one is basically a team comes and kind of prepares and meets with some stake holders initially kind of set it up. Phase two is where a lot of the action happens. There's a lot of opportunity for citizens to come together and hold meetings on topics that are important to them that have been identified through the application process and through a survey that's handed out and mailed out to area residents. There's also an implementation and follow up and so this is what's really key to this is you'll get a final report and steps going forward as a community. So, on page 5 of the packet I gave you, MEDA does require a local contribution or a match as a demonstration of your community's commitment and capacity to take full advantage of Montana Community Review. If you flip to the next page it outlines what the possible costs are. There are available grants through MSU right now and some other state universities and we've talked to the Jefferson Local Development Corporation who are willing to offer staff support and the rest of that money. So, instead of it being \$10,000 as an estimate essentially, we would find a way to bring this here and make it free to the community. JLDC would step in to help with that. There's different type of focus

areas that can happen. One of which has to be economic development, it's a required area in the application process. There is a way to look at and identify some of the other areas that we could look at to include infrastructure, grant use planning, education, seniors and youth civic life, community involvement, tourism, housing, health care and transportation. And again, this is just an opportunity for a lot of people to come together. Hopefully we're not just going to get the same people that are involved in coming to Town Council meetings, the people that just show up to Board meetings. We really want to get a whole cross section of people to come in and be involved and we would step in and assist with that. That was a really quick run-down of it but you can see on your last page kind of what a time line would look like for the phases and an outline of what each day would consist of. I also included the application for your review and if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them now and if I don't know the answer I will get back to you on that. We're having a meeting tomorrow.

Francine: What is your anticipated time to start?

Alison: They're going to want to start sooner rather than later. Sometime this spring before summer. We're thinking April sometime. I'll know specifically more tomorrow to see what their timeline is for that.

Francine: So, would our March meeting be soon enough to approve it or do we need to add it to our special meeting?

Alison: It would be helpful if you would add it to your special meeting.

Mayor Hensleigh: Ok, we can do that and that will give us time to study it.

Alison: And if at any time you have questions, just give me a call. I can leave you my business card or I'd be happy to come down and talk to you in person as well.

Mayor Henseigh: Thank you Alison.

## X. Unfinished Business:

A. Discuss Businesses License, Nuisances, Streets, Alley's and Sidewalks.

Summer: I don't think any of us have had time to look at it.

Mayor: Ok. We will table that then.

B. <u>Discuss Council By-Laws</u>

Summer: I've heard nothing from the Council.

Mayor: Ok. We will table that also.

C. Update on Jefferson County Sherriff's contract/Sheriff Doolittle has sent the County Attorney.

Summer: I've talked to Doolittle and that's as far as he's gotten. He's just sent the contract to the County Attorney and I'll maybe touch base with his sometime this week to see how that's going.

Mayor: Ok. As soon as we know, we'll let all of you know.

#### D. Discuss and vote on four-year appointment for Judge Anderson.

Mayor Hensleigh: By law it has to be a four year appointment.

Francine made a motion to approve the appointment of Judge Steve Anderson and Montina seconded that motion.

Mayor: Discussion?

Montina: Could you give a brief run-down of why we appointed Steve Anderson?

Mayor Hensleigh: I appointed Judge Anderson because he contacted me and showed interest in the job. I did not hear from the elected Justice of the Peace. He did not come in and talk to me, call me, text me, write me a letter or anything that he was even interested in the job. I wanted a smooth transition from Judge Guilio. Judge Anderson has substituted for Judge Guilio in his absence over the past five years so he was highly qualified. That's why I appointed him.

Montina: How are we handling the finances when our new budget comes up for four years?

Mayor: So, for now until the new budget year we are paying him \$1000 dollars a month and mileage. For the new budget year, he would be requesting the same as the Town Attorney which is \$195 an hour plus mileage. So we will have to work that into the budget.

Maxine Samuelson: How does that compare to what Judge Guilio was getting?

Mayor: Judge Guilio was paid mileage and \$700 a month.

Summer: It doesn't compare. Judge Guilio did everything and you know now, that's not really happening. Not just him, but all over the State. These judges that were on an old agreement, they just did it. Really and truly, I didn't know how much he did until I took over doing most of what he does even when the new Judge is here and it's crazy. He did a lot and got paid very little.

Katy James: Once a month?

Summer: Well, right now we are doing the first and third Tuesday's of every month and Boulder is doing the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor: Boulder also hired Judge Anderson as their City Judge.

Summer: He's got the law background too. He's done criminal, private and he's got his own practice.

Maxine: I don't understand the County and the Town law while it was a County wide election and Hildebrandt won.

Summer: The County right. He won.

Mayor: He's the County Justice of the Peace.

Summer: Dennis was the Town Judge on a contract. It had nothing to do with the JOP. They are two different positions.

Francine: Since we're an Incorporated Town, we have to have a Judge and we have to have our own Police Department we've contracted out to the County. We still have to contract out for a Judge for his

services. In the past, we've been fortune enough to contract Judge Guilio and we had done it for such an extended amount of time we got the "good guy" deal for many years. But, that "good guy" deal isn't available anymore.

Summer: And the other thing too is just to add quickly is so everybody knows is, Francine is exactly right. More importantly, if he's here 4 hours or he's here 8 hours we pay him \$195 an hour. The more we do on our end here, helps that time. But that being said, they are now changing from the full Court to a new system. That's going to be coming out in the next few months and chances are we're going to be getting on that which is a whole other training to go through. I think it's going to affect all of us on how things are done. There is no more doing it the old way. The Supreme Court is coming down saying this is the way it's going to be done. We don't have a choice.

Maxine: Ok, Hildebrandt won the County election. How come those that live in Town have his name on our ballots? Because we elected him also.

Summer: Because you elected him as a JOP for the County.

Mayor: Because you're a member of the County.

Summer: It has nothing to do with the Municipal part of the Judge.

Montina: I was under the impression too that Dean was not wanting to handle Municipality. That's what he told Boulder.

Summer: That's what he did with Boulder. First of all, everything was going to change. It's up to the Judge how he wants his Court Room set up and between the two, Steve is more willing to deal with what we have here and Dean had different ideas.

Maxine: Ok, you said Dean had different ideas, I thought he didn't come here?

Summer: He came here with Dennis, I met him. I talked to him but he never contacted the Mayor.

Mayor: Summer's job is not to hire or appoint. That's the Mayor's job.

Maxine: Right. I understand that.

Summer: And I really like Steve. He's very fair.

Francine: I think you need to realize too that the Justice of the Peace. There's some stuff coming down that will make their Court room much more complicated and the Justice of the Peace may not have time to serve the Municipalities because they may be becoming a Court of Record which is a huge deal.

Summer: And she's right. We're not a Municipal Court either. We are a City Court. Which we do not have to be in a Court of Record. Right now, so far she's right. So as these come down especially in Supreme Legislation, we're a City Court and not a Court of Record. But, everyone else is or going to have to be. That's a big difference and you're talking about a lot more monies involved and this Town cannot afford it.

Katy James: Another question. With you being our Town Clerk, are we tracking your salary separate from Court?

Summer: That's something that's going to have to happen. I talked to Boulder, and there they talked about Ellen getting a pay increase because she's taking on the same job I am. More importantly, come budget time we have to account for that. I can tell you right now, the day that the Judge is here we've had some pretty long days because I have two days a month to stack everything. I try to stack them all into those two time frames and it's a lot of time scheduling.

Katy James: It's a lot of additional hours put on your time. It's an extra position besides handling the day to day routine.

Summer: And I'm passing on some duties to my Deputy. That's what she's there for and I do have a part time person in the office a couple days a week but we are taking on more and more here all the time.

Mayor: Anymore discussion?

#### THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. <u>Discuss and vote on Resolution 2019-1 Water Protocol.</u>

Francine moved to approve with Montina seconding. (Montina reads Water Protocol. See recording).

Gary Housman: What about water meters? I think if we own the meter that's in the basement, and we exchange them, the City should be liable for the parts. How did we word that?

Summer: We already voted on what was written there. It was voted on at the last Council Meeting. So if we change it, we'll have to undo that.

Gary: How did we have that worded? If the City owns the meter and if the meter goes bad, we'll just replace it. We shouldn't have the home owner pay for the parts right?

Summer: If the freeze plate freezes and breaks, it's the property owner's responsibility.

Gary: Right.

Summer: We actually had someone put a heater on their water meter and melted it.

Gary: So? That's their problem.

Summer: Right, that's what I'm saying if it's a faulty meter.

Montina: Gary, in our minutes you said, (Montina goes on to read the January minutes pages 11 and 12).

Francine: So, just as far as, can we get a "period" in the Town of Whitehall is responsible from the main to the curb stop period? And just say the property or business owner is responsible from the curb stop. I just want it really spelled out. Also, can we get an "e" in the last result?

Mayor: Ok.

Montina: It should also say, "including" the Town's responsibility is from the main to the curb stop including curb stop.

Mayor: Ok.

Francine: Just some technical stuff.

Summer: So then I'll put this back on the Agenda for next month.

Montina: Yes please.

<u>Francine moved to table with Jason Good seconding.</u>

#### XI. New Business:

A. <u>Discuss and vote on the priorities of BaRSSA (Gas Tax) money of \$19,546.20.</u>

Kory: So I think our biggest concern are two separate projects. One would be the drainage issue at the bottom of Whitetail Drive. When it thaws and water runs down the street it's actually pooling into a resident's garage at the bottom of the hill. We've tried to brim it up and defer it but we can't do it so I think that's probably the biggest project in terms of need. Then I would say that the next one would be what is in front of the Community Center now on Division, Legion between and 1st. There's a huge drainage problem there and it's retaining water on the street making the street fail. There's some pretty big holes there. There's no sense in fixing the street without getting rid of the water.

Francine: Do you think it would be possible to fix that and make that a handicap accessible corner with the sidewalk?

Kory: Are you talking about 1st Street?

Francine: 1<sup>st</sup> and Division yes. They put in a new sidewalk there and it's totally inaccessible for a handicapped person.

Kory: That whole sidewalk does not fall into code. I don't know when it was put in, it was before my time but I think recently. But, even where the driveway approaches are on that sidewalk, it doesn't follow code to any means. It drops like 4 inches in a matter of 6 inches and for every inch you are supposed to go 2 feet or something. It's drastically wrong.

Mayor: And we don't have the gas tax money, which wouldn't that fall under TIFF money to fix that sidewalk?

Bridget: It could.

Francine: That's a high usage area.

Mayor: Yes it is.

Francine: And I just feel that we've done a disservice to the Public by not making that corner

handicap accessible for the handicapped people that live in that area.

Summer: Who put that in?

Francine: It was approved by the Council.

Kory: It was approved by the Town I think.

Summer: And it was put in by?

Francine: Sean Dunnagen.

Summer: Ok, so my question is, isn't it supposed to be engineers?

Francine: They're supposed to be.

Summer: And it wasn't though.

Francine: The Council approved it.

Summer: Right.

Mayor: And that happened five years ago.

Francine: Well, the Town paid for it.

Dale Morse: Was it the Veterans?

Summer: It wasn't the Veterans.

Francine: No, it was the Town. The Town put in that sidewalk and then put in for it to be approved

because they had to go and fix a piece of it but they approved it as it sits today.

Kory: Yeah and the entrances should be fixed too.

Francine: Yeah, It's just such a high usage area. It's just used too much.

Kory: I totally agree, and I think that will eat up whatever funds are there. A couple more are Main Street, where we put the millings down on Main where people are pulling in and parking, when they turn their wheels to back out, it's tearing up the millings and they're not strong enough.

Francine: I have a question, there's a special kind of adhesive you put down and from what I understand, it was not added to those millings.

Kory: Yes, you are correct. We did the same thing on Olive and the same thing on Kelly. What they recommend doing is putting them down and spraying the activator oil on top of them and it was done on all three.

Francine: I just know that I talked to an engineer that specialized in roads and he said that the way that that was put down it wasn't going to hold up and he was right.

Kory: Yeah, and Kelly and Olive are doing pretty good.

Francine: They don't have the heavy traffic.

Kory: Correct. I'm not disagreeing with that at all. We never had an engineer look at it on the millings portion of it but on the chip seal there was. So anyway, I think that would be a third if we could look at it.

Mayor: Is there a motion?

Francine: How fast do we need to approve this? We obviously need to look and get some ideas of how much it's going to cost us so we can appropriately go after what we're going to do.

Mayor: Are we on a time frame?

Summer: I think we're good if we can push it until March. We have certain dates of when we have to apply with the Government and State. So I think we are good until March.

Mayor: So we can table it if you prefer until March.

Francine: I would like to line out the project and know how much it's going to cost and vote exactly on what we are going to do.

Mayor: Ok, not a problem so, motion to table?

Francine moved to table with Jason seconding.

## B. Discuss and vote on items to take to Surplus Sales.

Kory: So what I have going to Helena to the Surplus Sale is the old plow truck and the old gas powered dump truck with the blade and the sander because we purchased a better one. So I'd like to bring that up there. Also, the old John Deer lawn mower that we purchased there a few years ago. I think we need upgrade that and bring that back there and sell that one. I think those are the only two items right now.

Francine: When is the next Public Auction? I know that they can sell it.

Kory: Correct. So, if we were to take it up there right now, it would just sit there if nobody was to purchase it. Is it August or September? I'm not really sure. I know it's before it gets too cold but it's in the fall. I would say September.

Francine: I'm just curious, is it to our advantage to take it up there now in these bad roads and weather or wait until the weather breaks?

Kory: Obviously right now I wouldn't take them. I think I'll load that plow truck on a trailer and bring it up instead of trying to drive it. So yes, as soon as we have a clear day I would like to get them there before we hit June and we are swamped.

Mayor: Is there a motion?

Francine motioned to approve the two items for surplus sale with Montina seconding.

Mayor: Discussion?

Gary: Why are we getting rid of the John Deer mower?

Kory: So, the John Deer mower works great, it runs great and it may be something we could purchase a new deck for it. It's a finish mower so as long as our grass doesn't grow more than an inch or inch and a half, it mows like crazy. The problem we have with that mower is we can't keep up with it. So, when the grass gets tall it won't mow the tall grass.

Gary: Well, for two years you got by with it. Would it be a good idea to keep it for a spare? I thought we had a broom and all kinds of stuff with it.

Kory: There is a broom with that too. I don't know if we'd use it Gary. Instead of it just sitting there, I thought we could use the funds to put to a new mower was my thought but that's the Council's call.

Mayor: Any more discussion?

Francine: Is there any way you could find out if we could get a different set up for it to make it mow better?

Kory: I can check.

Francine: And see what the cost is? I know John Deer is going to be spendy no matter what we do. Maybe we could get a cost analysis on it or a rough estimate of what it's worth.

Kory: Yes. I can do that and that's the problem with surplus. We don't know what we're going to get.

Francine moved to amend that the plow truck can go to Surplus and the mower needs a cost analysis done before the Council makes a decision on whether or not to send it also to Surplus. Jason seconded the motion.

## THE AMENDED MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. <u>Discuss and vote on dump truck repairs or other alternatives.</u>

Kory: The first gas powered truck, I actually had Ford give me an estimate and I actually didn't bring that with me it was just under 4,000. That truck is a 1988 I believe. The odometer says 84,000 and I believe it has 184,000 miles on it so it's definitely used. So I chose the better of the two trucks which is this diesel which I believe is a 1991 truck and it's a diesel. It's a Chevy and it has 204,000 miles on it. I have a cost of repairs on it at \$2,973.00. My opinion and the gentleman who gave us this bid opinion is this truck is not worth it. These are the known problems but the truck is still worn out. So that's what I have.

Mayor: So your recommendation is?

Kory: I would like to see not a brand new truck but a newer truck in a lot better shape. Just to give you an example, last week we were using it out at the Sewer Lagoon and we were filling divot pivots and the door keeps opening. So you got to wear your seatbelt. You're driving along, and the door will just open. It's just extremely well used. So therefore, I don't think a brand new truck is needed but a newer truck would be nice. I think one option would be maybe taking the dump bed off of that truck and putting it on the new Dodge plow truck we got. That truck seems to do really well. It's only got 80,000 miles on it, 4 wheel drive and I think for around Town it would be a good truck. Maybe have the beds swapped over.

Francine: Question, are we signed up for the Federal Surplus list? Because they have dump trucks all the time that they give to Municipalities all the time.

Summer: Honestly, I couldn't tell you.

Mary: I've never heard of it either.

Francine: Any Local Government, fire district, whatever can get on this federal list and they will give you federal surplus equipment for free and there are dump trucks that come up before they surplus, before they go on sale.

Mayor: Ok.

Summer: I'll look into it.

Francine: I can probably get you info by next week. I won't be able to do it by the end of the week but next week I can give you that and you can sign up for it. There are all kinds of things like road graders, everything.

Kory: That would be awesome.

Mayor: That would be great.

Francine: I think before we decide what we're doing, I think we need to look on maybe what they have in their cash.

Kory: And this truck is actually working so it's not something we need to do ASAP.

Francine: I think the door is something you need to deal with. Not to mention, we are liable if someone falls out.

Kory: True, it's in rough shape.

Mayor: The motion would be to do the repairs or not and it's Public Works recommendation that it would be a poor way to spend our money.

Francine: I moved to fix the door so that it does not come open and table the repairs until the next meeting. Jason seconded the motion.

Mayor: Discussion?

Montina: Do you want to have Arnie do it?

Kory: The door repair? I can do it.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## XII. BILL/ CLAIM APPROVAL LIST TO BE SIGNED BY ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Francine motioned to approve with Montina seconding.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## XIII. Adjourn:

Mayor Hensleigh adjourned the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

Mayor Mary Hensleigh	Date	
Clerk/Treasurer Summer Fellows	Date	