

**TOWN OF BEAR RIVER
MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2024**

**Mayor: Vernon Condie
Councilpersons: Clyde Kofoed
Troy Nolan
Lance Norris (virtual)
BJ Stokes**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The May 14, 2024 Town of Bear River Council Meeting was held at 7:20 p.m. at Town Hall. Vernon Condie, Clyde Kofoed, Troy Nolan, Lance Norris (virtual), BJ Stokes, Clerk/Treasurer Barb Couture, Public Works Supervisor Dave Dasher and Attorney Dean Stout attended.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Condie entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Councilperson Nolan moved to approve the agenda. Councilperson Kofoed seconded the motion. The agenda passed with no opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan, Norris and Stokes.

Mayor Condie entertained a motion to approve the April 9, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Councilperson Stokes moved to approve the meeting minutes. Councilperson Nolan seconded the motion. The meeting minutes passed with no opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan, Norris and Stokes.

Mayor Condie entertained a motion to approve the vouchers. Councilperson Kofoed moved to approve the vouchers. Councilperson Stokes seconded the motion. The vouchers passed with no opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan, Norris and Stokes.

Mayor Condie entertained a motion to acknowledge the April 2024 financial statements. Councilperson Nolan moved to acknowledge the financial statements. Councilperson Stokes seconded the acknowledgement of April 2024 financial statements. Acknowledgement of the April 2024 financial statements passed with no opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Norris and Stokes.

Executive Session: Mayor Condie entertained a motion to go into session at 7:18 p.m. to discuss salaries of the 3 employees. Councilperson Nolan moved to go into executive session. Councilperson Stokes seconded the motion. 4 yeses: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan and Stokes. Mayor Condie entertained a motion to come out of executive session at 7:25 p.m. Councilperson Kofoed moved. Councilperson Stokes seconded the motion. 4 Yeses: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan and Stokes.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Verizon Wireless-MD7 Acquisition:** The Buyer offers to acquire a perpetual easement under and around the communication tower located on the premises of 373 Loop Road, Bear River, Wy 82930 and all related assets and improvements, including interests in the Verizon tenant lease and all other property related to the communications tower (collectively the "Assets") owned by

the Town of Bear River, in exchange for \$115,000 in immediately available fund. As of the closing, the Assets shall be free from and liens or encumbrances. The Buyer will not assume any liabilities or obligations with regard to the real property other than for the period following closing.

Mayor Condie stated that Attorney Stout has advised that we contact Verizon and clarify some issues involving the proposed acquisition. The three important issues are: 1) Change to a 40 year cap instead of perpetual. 2) 5 years of none use would be considered abandonment with a definitive description of abandonment. 3) Who would be responsible for reclamation?

Mayor Condie stated once he hears from Verizon he would have Attorney Stout review it and address the information gathered at the next Council meeting. No action was taken on the Verizon Wireless-MD7 Acquisition.

- 2) Councilperson Nolan entertained a motion to appoint Vernon Condie as the Voting Delegate and Clyde Kofoed as the Alternate Voting Delegate at the WAM convention in Pinedale, WY June 5th. Councilperson Stokes seconded the motion. Condie as Voting Delegate and Kofoed as Alternate Voting Delegate passed with no opposition. 3 Yes votes: Nolan, Norris and Stokes.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Mayor Condie entertained a motion to amend the **2nd Reading of ORDINANCE 2024-02: TOWN OF BEAR RIVER, WYOMING PROPOSED BUDGET. FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING July 1, 2024 AND ENDING June 30, 2025.** The amendment being moving the revenues of \$115,000 from Verizon because the letter of intent was not signed and the \$115,000 will be taken from the general fund and put into supplemental revenue to balance the proposed budget. Councilperson Nolan moved and Councilperson Kofoed seconded the motion. No opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan, Norris and Stokes.
- 2) Mayor Condie entertained a motion to table the **2nd Reading of ORDINANCE 2024-01: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF BEAR RIVER, WYOMING, PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF BEAR RIVER, WYOMING AND PROVIDE DESIGNATED EXEMPTIONS. "FIREARMS" DEFINED AS; ANY WEAPON WHICH WILL OR IS DESIGNED TO EXPEL A PROJECTILE BY THE ACTION OF EXPOSIVE GASES.** Councilperson Stokes moved to table the **2nd Reading of ORDINANCE 2024-01.** Councilperson Kofoed seconded the motion. The **2nd Reading of ORDINANCE 24-01** to be tabled passed with no opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan, Norris and Stokes.
- 3) Mayor Condie entertained a motion re-open and proceed with the Curb and Gutter Project Grant. Councilperson Nolan moved to re-open and proceed with the Curb and Gutter Project grant. Councilperson Stokes seconded the motion. To re-open and proceed with the Curb and Gutter Project grant passed with no opposition. 5 Yes votes: Condie, Kofoed, Nolan, Norris and Stokes.
- 4) **Reports:**
 - a) **Planning and Zoning:** Dave reported no new permits have been issued. Of as late there has been inquiries of VRBO's being able to operate in the Town of Bear River.

- b) Roads:** Dave reported that gravel will be applied to Quarter Horse. The first week in June all the Town roads will be graded and dust garded.
- c) Sewer/Water:** Dave reported that the sewer system is operating with no incidents. Dave reported that while he was at the water rural conference there was a water break in Meadow Village. The BRRJPB thanked Scotty for the great job in rectifying the water leak.
- d) Fire:** Councilperson Nolan announced there will be an Open House on June 8th at the facility located on Hwy 150. The department will be offering different props. Food will be served.
- e) Economic Development:** Councilperson Kofoed reported the focus is still on the Long Range Shooting Range by securing a engineering firm to draw the plans. Formed a committee to create a workforce development for Uinta County to train people new skills to get better jobs.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Mayor Condie pointed out that WYDOT has followed through on their commitment such as the flashing red lights and bus stop signs.

Candidate packets are available at Town Hall beginning May 16th through May 31st. Filing Fee is \$25.
Position open: Mayor and two Council seats.

Joe Ricks asked if the Firearms ordinance is available for the citizens to view. Barb stated it is on the website and a hard copy is available at Town Hall.

MEETING ADJOURNED @7:50 p.m.