

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting of the Evansville Town Council, Evansville, Wyoming

May 29, 2019

The regular meeting of the Evansville Town Council of the Town of Evansville, County of Natrona, State of Wyoming, was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jennifer Sorenson at 7:00 p.m. and upon roll call the following were present: Council President Aaron Vigneault, Council Members Chad Edwards, Joe Knop and Sheena Hixson, Town Attorney Kyle Ridgeway, Chief of Police Mike Thompson, Fire Chief Leo Malsom, Public Works Director Ron Emond, Town Clerk Janelle Underwood, and interested citizens.

Mayor Jennifer Sorenson and Town-Engineer Shane Porter asked to be excused.

Council President Aaron Vigneault led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Chad Edwards and seconded by Sheena Hixson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the regular meeting on May 13, 2019, were presented for approval. Motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Chad Edwards to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

CHARLES RANDOLPH AND RESOLUTION #8-2019: Charles Randolph introduced himself to the Governing Body and advised that he was a retired dispatcher with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad employee. He stated that he worked for the railroad for thirty-nine (39) years and explained the duties of the dispatchers, the duties of the two-man crew that operates the trains and the importance of the working crew. He stated that the railroad is proposing either a “one-man” or a “no-man” crew on these trains by way of operating with a satellite. He stated that technology is great when it works but asked if the Town wants to rely on technology to run a train through Evansville that carries molten sulphur, propane, butane, fertilizer, and other various chemicals. He asked if the train is manned with one person or no one and the train breaks down, how long it would take for someone to respond to the area to repair the train. He also stated that the trains are as long as nine thousand feet (9000’) and asked that if a train did break down, would it block all three crossings in Evansville. He asked what would happen if all three crossings were blocked and there was an emergency, how police or emergency services would cross over.

Council President Aaron Vigneault stated that the Town is working on this very issue of access out of town if the crossings were blocked by a train.

Mr. Randolph asked what would happen if a train is being operated by satellite and there is a solar flare. He stated that a solar flare will knock out radio communications which affects the satellites that BNSF wants to run trains on satellites. He stated that this was presented to the Wyoming Legislature in 2019, that it was passed by the House, that it was moved to the Senate, and that it was moved to the Senate Transportation Committee. He stated that not one person understood why it is so important to have a two-man crew. He stated that this proposal did not pass but that it will be brought up again during the 2020 Legislature. He stated that with the proposed Resolution, it will show the Legislature that Evansville wants to continue seeing the trains operate with a two-man crew. Mr. Randolph stated that he will be going to other municipalities that are affected by this proposal and ask for their support in passing this Resolution. He stated that this is not about jobs, it is about the safety of the citizens.

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Council President Aaron Vigneault asked if the technology was there for the railroad to run the trains by satellite right now.

Mr. Randolph stated they currently have the technology and that they have remote control engines that are called Distributor Power (DP) units which are at the end of a train. He stated that last year there was an accident that killed two men because the DP unit wouldn't shut down and kept pushing the train down the tracks. He stated that the two men couldn't stop the train and that it rear-ended another train. Mr. Randolph thanked the Governing Body for their time and asked for their support of the proposed resolution.

Town Clerk Janelle Underwood summarized Resolution #8-2019. Motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Chad Edwards to approve Resolution #8-2019. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #9-2019: A Resolution Adopting the 2019 Region 2 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Town Clerk Janelle Underwood advised the Governing Body that in 2018 the Town adopted the Natrona County Hazard Mitigation Plan. She stated that the State of Wyoming Homeland Security has decided to divide the state into regions rather than by counties. She stated that Natrona County would be in Region Two with Converse County and Platte County.

Town Clerk Janelle Underwood stated that Fire Chief Leo Malsom is also the Town's Emergency Management Coordinator and that he stated that nothing changes as far as the adoption of the plan. Motion was made by Chad Edwards and seconded by Joe Knop to approve Resolution #9-2019. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #3-2019: An Ordinance Adopting the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget. First reading. Town Clerk Janelle Underwood summarized Ordinance #3-2019. Motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Sheena Hixson to approve Ordinance #3-2019 on first reading. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #4-2019: An Ordinance Amending the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget. First reading. Town Clerk Janelle Underwood summarized Ordinance #4-2019. Motion was made by Chad Edwards and seconded by Joe Knop to approve Ordinance #4-2019 on first reading. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE FOR NATRONA COUNTY TRAVEL & TOURISM COUNCIL: Town Clerk Janelle Underwood advised the Governing Body that Jim Ruble, Manager of Sinclair Oil, has been representing the Town of Evansville on the Natrona County Travel and Tourism Council. She stated that he has agreed to continue representing the Town.

Motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Sheena Hixson to appoint Jim Ruble as the representative for Evansville on the Natrona County Travel and Tourism Council. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES: Approval of Business Licenses for Absolute Vinyl Fence and HB Rentals were presented to the Governing Body for approval.

Motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Sheena Hixson to approve the business licenses for Absolute Vinyl Fence and HB Rentals. Motion carried.

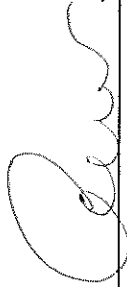
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PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Sheena Hixson to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried.

APPROVED: 
Aaron Vigneault, Council President

ATTESTED: 
Janelle Underwood, Town Clerk