

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting of the Evansville Town Council, Evansville, Wyoming

May 11, 2020

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.

Council Meeting Livestreamed via You Tube.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jennifer Sorenson at 7:00 p.m. and upon roll call the following were present: Council Members Chad Edwards, Joe Knop, and Sheena Hixson, Town Attorney Scott Murray, Town Treasurer Lexi Erickson, Chief of Police Mike Thompson, Assistant Fire Chief Mark Cornett, Public Works Director Ron Emond, Town Clerk Janelle Underwood.

Council Member Aaron Vigneault and Fire Chief Leo Malsom asked to be excused.

Mayor Jennifer Sorenson 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 CONSENT AGENDA:

- A) Minutes for Regular Meeting on April 27, 2020
- B) Approval of Business Licenses for Davidson Mechanical, Techpoint, and Triangle G
- D) Approval of Bills

Motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Chad Edwards to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION AND OATHS OF OFFICE FOR NEW POLICE OFFICERS: Chief of Police Mike Thompson spoke about the History of Law Enforcement and the colors and meaning of the patch and badge that they carry for the Town of Evansville. Chief Thompson then introduced Officer Mike Hawes and Connor Bateman

Town Clerk Janelle Underwood administered the Oaths of Office and the Jurats were signed by Officer Bateman and Officer Hawes.

AWARD OF BID FOR POLICE PATROL UNIT: Town Clerk Janelle Underwood advised that the Town of Evansville advertised for bids for the purchase of a 2020 Dodge Durango Police Pursuit with the trade-in of a patrol unit. She advised that Fremont Motors submitted a bid for a 2020 Dodge Durango Police Pursuit with a trade in for a total amount of twenty-six thousand two hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$26,239.00).

Chief Thompson stated that he was looking at trading in a 2014 Ford Explorer that has a steering column issue that will cost about two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) to repair and because of the water pump/engine issues that those particular models are having only has a trade-in value of about five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) however, the Town has a 2013 Ford Explorer that has an issue with the Power Take Off that involves the AWD and Four Wheel Drive that will cost the Town about three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400.00) to repair. He stated that this vehicle was in an accident in 2016 and probably should have been totaled but was not. He stated that the trade-in value for the 2013 Ford Explorer is three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) and he would like to recommend trading in the 2013 Ford Explorer.

Motion was made by Chad Edwards and seconded by Joe Knop to award the bid to Fremont Motors for the 2020 Dodge Durango Police Pursuit with the trade-in of the 2013 Ford Explorer in the amount of twenty-six thousand two hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$26,239.00). Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION #6-2020: A Resolution Waiving the Rollover Limitation of the Employee Vacation Usage Due to Covid 19 and Rolled Over Vacation Time to be Utilized by June 30, 2021. Town Clerk Janelle Underwood summarized Resolution #6-2020.

Motion was made by Sheena Hixson and seconded by Chad Edwards to approve Resolution #6-2020. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #6-2020: An Ordinance Amending the Evansville Employee Handbook to Add a Fraternalization Policy Governing Employees and Town Officials. Third and final reading. Council Member Sheena Hixson asked how it would be handled if one of the Council Members was not able to vote on something such as Fiscal Year Budgets because it directly impacts somebody in that department that they may have a relationship with and the vote is then tied, what is the backup plan then.

Mayor Sorenson stated that she is the split vote meaning that if the four Council Members were split, two and two then she would be the split vote.

Town Attorney Scott Murry stated that he would then refer to Roberts Rules of Order book.

Council Member Joe Knop asked if the ordinance could be tabled until they had an answer especially since they are getting ready to look at budgets for the upcoming year.

After further discussion, motion was made by Chad Edwards and seconded by Sheena Hixson to approve Ordinance #6-2020 on third and final reading. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #7-2020: An Ordinance Establishing Animal Control. Second reading. Tabled April 27, 2020. Motion was made by Sheena Hixson and seconded by Joe Knop to remove Ordinance #7-2020 from the table. Motion carried.

Mayor Sorenson stated that she would like to address a comment that had been made to her in regards to the leash length in Section 5-3-8 not to exceed six feet (6') in length at all times when in public places. She stated that some people like to walk their dog on a retractable leash so she would like to propose changing the length to no more than twenty feet (20').

Council Member Chad Edwards stated that he has had conversations with citizens and that he believes that the Town will benefit by having its own animal control officer. He stated that Evansville has an agreement with Mills to house the animal, but our first choice is going to be getting that animal home. He stated that we do not want to drive twenty miles to house an animal that will then incur a fee. He also stated that just because the animal control officer picks up your animal and takes it home that that person is not necessarily going to get a citation. He also stated that the ordinance states that after three citations are issued, the animal could be deemed a nuisance and stated that just because your animal was to get picked up three times doesn't mean you are going to be cited three times and the animal deemed a nuisance. Councilman Edwards stated that if that does happen, that there is a process that must be followed through the Town's attorney and Municipal Court.

Council Member Joe Knop stated that if people chip their animal then the officer knows where that animal belongs.

Council Member Chad Edwards stated that registering the animal will get the animal home and he would even consider looking at reducing the registration fees when they come up for renewal and perhaps if the animal is spayed or neutered and chipped maybe waiving that fee.

Council Member Sheena Hixson stated that she has been in discussion with citizens and they are afraid that their dogs are going to be taken from them or deemed a nuisance. She stated that after reviewing the proposed ordinance again that she does not read it that way.

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After discussion, motion was made by Joe Knop and seconded by Chad Edwards to approve Ordinance #7-2020 on second reading as amended. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Sorenson called for any public comments. She advised that those that wished to comment could call in to 234-6530 to make their comments. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion was made by Chad Edwards and seconded by Sheena Hixson to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Motion carried.

APPROVED:


Jennifer Sorenson, Mayor

ATTESTED:


Jahelle Underwood, Town Clerk