

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting of the Evansville Town Council, Evansville, Wyoming

December 11, 2023

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 Chad Edwards at 7:00 p.m. and upon roll call the following were present: Council Members Candace Machado, Dacia Edwards, Greg Flesvig and Phil Gierke, Town Attorney Scott Murray, Town Engineer Shane Porter, Town Treasurer Lexi Erickson, Chief of Police Mike Thompson, Fire Chief Leo Malsom, Public Works Director Robert Lewallen, Town Clerk Janelle Underwood, and interested citizens.

Mayor Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Greg Flesvig and seconded by Phil Gierke to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting November 27, 2023
- b) Approval of Business License – JL Construction and Landscaping
- c) Approval of Bills

Motion was made by Phil Gierke and seconded by Dacia Edwards to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #7-2023: An Ordinance Repealing the Town of Evansville Employee Handbook. First reading. Town Clerk Janelle Underwood read Ordinance #7-2023, by title only.

Mayor Edwards stated that this is to repeal the existing employee handbook that is old with at least five addendums to it. He stated that the plan is to repeal the current handbook and once that is repealed, a new handbook will be presented for approval by Resolution.

Motion was made by Greg Flesvig and seconded by Phil Gierke to approve Ordinance #7-2023 on first reading. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Town Engineer Shane Porter that the Town received several bids for the 2023 Sidewalk Project. He stated that as they have been seeing, the bids are coming in higher than expected with the low bid from Crown Construction in the amount of four hundred ninety-three thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$493,250.00). He stated that the estimated project cost for engineering and construction was five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) of which four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) is from a WCDA Grant that the Town received. He stated that they are seeing an increase in the construction costs and do not see these costs going down anytime soon. He stated that the Town has the option to reject any and all bids, reduce the scope of the project and send it back out for bids or if the Town can afford the shortfall, then accept the low bid because he is afraid that the prices are not going to get any lower.

Mayor Edwards stated that the Town has been fortunate this year in seeing a little higher than anticipated Fifth Cent tax revenue and he checked with the Town Treasurer and the Town can manage the excess amount by utilizing the unallocated Fifth Cent monies. He stated that if the Council chooses to, the Town does have that revenue source to supplement the excess of the bid.

Town Engineer Shane Porter stated that the shortage is in the amount of forty-two thousand six hundred fifty-nine dollars (\$42,659.00), but he recommends that the approval of the coverage be for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) just in case there are any issues that come up.

Council Member Phil Gierke asked when the contractor could get started on the project.

Engineer Porter stated that he would anticipate springs, but it is also weather permitting.

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Mayor Edwards stated that Rocky Mountain Power has a couple of power poles that will need to be re-located before the sidewalk project can start.

Motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Phil Gierke to issue the Notice to Award to Crown Construction for the 2023 Sidewalk Project in the amount of four hundred ninety-three thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$493,250.00). Motion carried.

Town Engineer Porter stated that they have reduced the scope of work for the Lathrop Road Pathway Project from Curtis Street to Texas Roadhouse and thinks that the Town should rebid the project to get as much completed as possible under the TAP Grant that the Town received. He also recommended that if the low bidder is significantly lower, he would like to stretch the funds as much as possible by including an add/alternate to install the pathway from Texas Roadhouse to Jump Craze if the bids come in low enough. He stated by doing this, it utilizes as much of the funds that the Town has received. Engineer Porter stated that the Town could apply for another grant to finish out the pathway.

Motion was made by Greg Flesvig and seconded by Dacia Edwards authorizing the rebid of the Lathrop Road Pathway Project. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Greg Flesvig to approve the Engineer's report. Motion carried.

COUNCIL UPDATES: Council Member Phil Gierke stated that Burlington Northern Railroad is planning to do a temporary fix at the Curtis Street crossing on the northbound lane with a major overhaul in May.

Mr. Gierke stated that he is going to try and make some training tools out of lumber for the dog park. He stated that if anybody has any ideas, please reach out to him.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion was made by Dacia Edwards and seconded by Phil Gierke to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____

Chad Edwards, Mayor

ATTESTED: _____

Janelle Underwood, Town Clerk