**Town of Ellenburg**

**Office of the Town Clerk**

**Minutes of the Town Board**

**Regular Board Meeting**

**February 20, 2024 at 6:00 PM**

Supervisor, Jason Dezan, opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was held for friends that have passed on, Service men and women and first responders.

Roll Call: Jason Dezan Yes

Debra Grogan Yes

Neil Trombley Yes

Deryl Gregory Yes

Kevin Trombley Yes

The first item on the agenda was information

Supervisor Dezan then opened the floor to questions and comments:

* Jennifer Jewett stood and introduced herself and said that she wanted to express issues with animal control laws, specifically with tethering. This is specifically for the dogs that are tied up, ignored, and live outside on a chain 24/7. Jennifer is working with all of the towns about adopting these new tethering laws in Clinton County.
* Paul Gilmore asked how much has been recovered by EMS. Jason said in 2023 $138,000 but there is still some coming in. $38,000 went to taxes. $100,000 is sitting in the bank and is going towards a new ambulance. There was further discussion in regards to where the money recovered was originally supposed to go.
* Paul Gilmore also asked why the Ellenburg ambulance is sitting at school for wrestling matches. Jason stated that they discussed that it would be best for the ambulance to be at the school for all sporting events. The plans moving forward would be for all sporting events to be covered. Paul believes this is putting Merrill at a disadvantage because the ambulance is further out. Jason stated he will contact the school and have them give us a schedule for home games for Varsity sports so that we can do it for all sports, not just wrestling.
* Jason stated that the tax collector has reported that 71% have been collected. Highway and special districts have been paid and we are close with general, so then we will be working on the county.

Supervisor Dezan then read the monthly financial report for January 2024.

Motion: Debra Grogan Second: Neil Trombley

Vote: Dezan-Abstain, K.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, Grogan-Yes

Supervisor Dezan asked for a motion to pass the minutes from the January regular meeting.

Motion: Neil Trombley Second: Kevin Trombley

Vote: Grogan-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes, Dezan-Yes

Supervisor Dezan called for the town clerk’s report. Bethany Fortin stated that business was functioning as usual.

Supervisor Dezan asked if the Highway Superintendent had anything to report, Bradley was absent this meeting.

Supervisor Dezan then asked for the code officer’s report. Adam Trombley stated business is functioning as usual.

Supervisor Dezan then called for the Historian’s report, Joan Hobbs reported when she became historian that there were books of the cemetery with all of the names and drawings of each stone. Joan volunteers at the genealogical society and they made her a copy and she wants to thank them. Joan and Debbie worked on the hometown hero banners and those are all set for next year. Joan stated that she has had some college students call her about some history on a few different things and she has been working with all three of them about their family history. Joan also asked Jason about the insurance company that is supposed to be getting us the money to fix the cemetery from the accident that happened in November.

Supervisor Dezan stated that the Youth report was that basketball is starting soon. Debbie has been working with Marie Agan at Invenergy about sponsoring the swim program this summer. We will be getting a larger amount from the county this year and we have a few grants we will be putting in for.

The next item on the agenda were council member reports:

Deryl Gregory – Deryl Gregory reported the following:

* Deryl reported at the wind meeting, Invenergy and AES are trying to give money for the swim program. Deryl stated there are some plans and paperwork being worked on. Deryl stated that Invenergy has a tier 4 bid for production, which is a very large bid and to fulfill it they need to be operational by 2027.
* Deryl stated that there are landowners exploring solar farms. Instead of re-tooling, they were looking at replacing, so now they are talking about solar as an option.
* The blood drive was happening tonight and was going well.
* Deryl stated that he has heard good things about the EMS service and how grateful those people are who have had to use it.

Debra Grogan – Debra Grogan reported the following

* Debra reported the same as Deryl regarding windmills.

Neil Trombley – Neil Trombley reported the following:

* Neil reported that Bradley has put in a lot of hours with FEMA and we have received $5,600 and we have $560,000 coming to us. He said Bradley deserves a thank you and has done a great job!

Kevin Trombley – Kevin Trombley reported the following:

* Kevin reported he went to the fire department meeting in the Center last night. They talked about fundraisers they would like to do this year.
* Kevin stated he went to the commissioners meeting with Jason as well.

Supervisor Dezan then opened the floor to old business

* Supervisor Dezan spoke about insurance agencies giving us quotes so we can have a large presentation this year and talk about which company would best serve the town.
* Jason and Debbie went down and met with the Ellenburg Depot fire department about their budget. Jason stated that they would like to keep the line on their budget from us. They do not want to give it up because the EMS service is new in Ellenburg and they want to have it as a backup. Jason stated as the supervisor he is going to let them keep it for the year.
  + When we purchase a new ambulance, the Town of Ellenburg is going to own it and not the fire department.
* EMS did 22 calls in January and has done 35 in February thus far.
* Mausoleum-month of January they did 55 cremations. They are re-modeling a little bit right now. They are planning to get rid of the trees and stumps when the weather breaks.

Supervisor Dezan then opened the floor to new business

The resolutions are the next topic of discussion:

**Resolution 24-35**

To pay vouchers 33 to 74 in the General Fund in the amount of $38,424.95.

Motion: Debra Grogan Second: Deryl Gregory

Vote: N.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Grogan-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes

**Resolution 24-36**

To pay vouchers 26 to 39 in the General Fund in the amount of $48,322.20..

Motion: Neil Trombley Second: Kevin Trombley

Vote: K.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Grogan-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes

**Resolution 24-37**

To accept dog control officer’s resignation as of March 1, 2024.

Motion: Debra Grogan Second: Deryl Gregory

Vote: Dezan-Yes, Grogan-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes

**Resolution 24-38**

To place an ad in the paper and place poster around town to hire a new dog control officer. All letters of interest be sent to the Town Clerk’s office by March 15, 2024.

Motion: Neil Trombley Second: Kevin Trombley

Vote: K.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes, Grogan-Yes

**Resolution 24-39**

To create a new checking account (labeled credit card account) at NBT bank and transfer $10,000 from Savings and have a debit card issued for this account to use as a town credit card.

Motion: Debra Grogan Second: Neil Trombley

Vote: Grogan-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Gregory-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes

**Resolution 24-40**

To increase line item A1120 Sales Tax revenue from $50,000 to $94,139.43 (an increase of $44,139.43) and increase line item A1620.4 Bldg and Grds cont. from $120,000 to $164,139.43 (an increase of $44,139.43) to help with finalizing repairs to Town buildings and side municipal center.

Motion: Neil Trombley Second: Kevin Trombley

Vote: Gregory-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Grogan-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes

**Resolution 24-41**

To get quotes to side the municipal center with vinyl siding.

Motion: Debra Grogan Second: Neil Trombley

Vote: Grogan-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Gregory-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes

**Resolution 24-42**

To schedule a public hearing on March 19th at 5:00 PM to discuss a proposed law to place a moratorium on alternative energy endorsements in the Town of Ellenburg until we bring our zoning law up to date to address new technologies.

Motion: Debra Grogan Second: Deryl Gregory

Vote: Gregory-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Grogan-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes

**Resolution 24-43**

To utilize the remaining CARES act money to purchase the chassis for a new ambulance in the amount of $58,247.00.

Note:

* To buy the chassis first, it takes about a year and a half off of the build, so instead of three years, we are looking at a year and a half.

Motion: Neil Trombley Second: Kevin Trombley

Vote: N.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, K.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes, Grogan-Yes

**Resolution 24-44**

To accept the quote from Riley Ford to trade the truck for building and grounds for a new F-250 with plow.

Motion: Neil Trombley Second: Kevin Trombley

Vote: K.Trombley-Yes, Dezan-Yes, Grogan-Yes, N.Trombley-Yes, Gregory-Yes

Supervisor Dezan then closed the floor as there were no more public comments.

Supervisor Dezan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM

Motion: Jason Dezan Second: Neil Trombley

The next regular meeting will be held on March 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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Bethany Drown Fortin, Ellenburg Town Clerk