

**Troy City Council Meeting
Council Chambers
March 20, 2013
7:00 pm**

The meeting came to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Mayor Anthony E Brown, Administrative Assistant Brad Jones, and Council: Phil Fisher, Fran McCully, Joe Arts, and Crystal Denton, City Clerk Tracy Rebo and City Attorney Heather McDougall.

GUESTS: Robbie Tackett, Nathaniel Kramer, Brian Tackett, Mike Duperault, Jayne Brown, Donna Rugani, Ryan Murray, Frank Sweedman, Linda Rodriguez-Newstrom, Karee Sweedman, Shawna Kelsey, Blake Haugen, and Kimberly Rowse

Mayor Brown led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MINUTES: Phil Fisher made a **Motion** to approve the Minutes of February 20, 2013 Council meeting and Joe Arts seconded it. **Motion carried.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: *Mayor* – Received a letter from the Montana Archivist’s. They are offering a student who is interested in inventorying the items at the Museum. A grant application has been submitted to the SHRAV project and will hear from them within a month. Brown added that he sent a letter to Montana State University asking for an internist to spend some time here this summer to help with a recreational plan to include the Museum Center and the Callahan trail. He stated that this needs to be in place before presenting it to the Forest Service to have a Callahan Hiking Trail. Brown stated that the streets and alleys are looking good and everything seems to be getting done in a reasonable manner. Brown advised that he and Brad Jones did a walk through near 6th street. He advised that there needs to be some repairs done to power poles and lines, so they are working on what is needed to complete that project. *Administrative Assistant* - Jones elaborated on the 6th street project. Jones also informed Council on the status of the audit of the power distribution, the cost should be around \$10,000. County has GPS equipment and if the City purchases the program the City could use the GPS system on the electrical lines. Mayor Brown added that Troy has not had any surveys or audits done on the power distribution since the 1970’s. Jones updated council on what is meant by an audit of the system. Jones advised that there may be more monies available for incentive rebates through BPA. He let Council know of a one day class offered in Kalispell that will help us understand more of the paper-work side of the rebates. Jones advised that Clint Taylor and Sandi Sullivan will be attending. *Council* – None. All other departments submitted written reports.

NEW BUSINESS

BUSINESS LICENSES:

Formula Fabrication: HVAC, Owners: Frank & Karee Sweedman. Business located at 25 Highwood Dr. in Libby. Frank Sweedman gave a brief description of the business. Fisher asked if he would have an employee stationed in Troy. Sweedman answered; no, we will still be based out of Libby, but servicing Troy. Phil Fisher made a **Motion** to approve the Business License for Formula Fabrication and Joe Arts seconded. **Motion Carried.**

Cricket Song Creations: Homemade crafts, Owner: Janis Fontaine. Business located at 397 Cedars Drive. Janis Fontaine was not present. Approval was tabled until the next regular Council meeting.

Haugen Builders: Construction, General Carpentry, Finish Work; owner: Blake Haugen. Business located at 5547 Lake Creek Road. Haugen gave a brief description of his Business. Crystal Denton made the **Motion** to approve the Business License of Haugen Builders, and Phil Fisher seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Valence Communications: Radio & Phone Communications. Business located in Green Acres Washington. Denton advised that this company will be installing the phones in the new dispatch center for 911 and they will be carrying the maintenance contract for Troy Area Dispatch. Phil Fisher made a **Motion** to approve the Business License for Valence Communications and Joe Arts seconded. **Motion Carried.**

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE:

Troy Mini Mart: Mike Duperault was present for owner Joe Lapham. Mayor Brown advised that Mr. Lapham applied for an Alcohol Beverage License through the State of Montana, and in turn the State contacted the City of Troy for our approval. **Motion** to approve the Alcohol Beverage License for Troy Mini Mart was made by Phil Fisher and seconded by Crystal Denton. **Motion Carried.**

RATES OF NON-USAGE WATER AND SEWER CUSTOMERS: Brian Tackett – Tackett gave a brief background, that he is the new owner of the building that was once called the Boondocks. He brought a letter from the City that advised him of the monthly billing on the services to the property. He stated that he had not contacted the City, nor has any service agreement with the City. He had been in to City Hall for copies of the policies that allow the City to charge the land owners. Tackett stated his plans to tear the building down and put another business or building on the property. He also let it be known that he had contacted the County and had the building taxes lowered because the building has no value. He stated his concerns that the service fees will cost 10% of his investment over a year's time for a service he will not get. As a new investor to the area, he doesn't feel the City should hit him with a service fee. He stated his concerns that there should be a service agreement, and since there is not one the fees are nothing more than a tax. He stated that his problem is that he isn't receiving the service. Tackett requested that the practice be stopped or set up a hearing and do some investigation. He stated that he has concerns about the legality of the practice if we continue. Mayor Brown advised that there is a meeting on the subject scheduled for Friday afternoon and invited him to attend. Discussion followed. Fisher explained that the flat rate charge is not for the usage it is for the maintenance on the systems, and that he is receiving the service just for having the connections available for future development rather than paying for the installations at today's costs. Tackett agreed; but stated that there is a different way to go about it and it is a tax. Heather McDougall disagreed and advised that he attend the meeting on Friday so he can see what needs to be paid out of the funds and still be fair to the land owners. Rebo stated that the City has to follow the requirements of the bonds.

E-BUSINESS SERVICE AGREEMENT: Employee Direct Deposit: Rebo reported her findings that the cost would be \$20.00 per month, maximum would be \$25.00. Fisher asked if it would benefit the office with time. Rebo advised that she is unsure. Discussion followed. Phil Fisher made the **Motion** to accept the agreement and Crystal Denton seconded. **Motion Carried.**

FARMERS MARKET: Shawna Kelsey – Phil Fisher made the **Motion** to allow the Farmers Market to be held at the Troy Museum and Joe Arts seconded. **Motion Carried.**

SURVEY COMPANY: Mayor Brown addressed the issue that 6th Street may not be properly surveyed. He gave a brief description of the location of power poles and how difficult it is to identify the boundaries. He explained that if the electric department is to improve the lines in this area, he would like to have it surveyed first. Phil Fisher made a **Motion** to allow the hiring of a survey company and Crystal Denton seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

POLICE COMMISSION: Letters of interest - Mayor Brown announced that the City still has a vacant position on the Police Commission and has recently requested letters of interest. Two letters were received. Mayor Brown read aloud the letters from Jayne Brown and Linda Rodriguez-Newstrom. Mayor Brown stated that he would like to meet with both of them. This was **tabled** until the next regular Council Meeting.

PARK HOST: Letters of interest - Mayor Brown announced that the City has received one letter of interest for the Park Host position. He read aloud the letter from Brian Sagen. Brown advised that he has met with department heads and came up with duties. He addressed these duties of the Park Host and obligations of the City. Fisher stated that he doesn't want the City to be responsible for any propane. McCully stated that she would like a cap on the City's obligation toward the Park Host power bill. Rebo advised that the meter for the Park Host is the same meter that feeds the playground lights and bathroom and they still need to be separated. McCully agreed. Mayor Brown asked if \$150 was sufficient. Rebo brought up that the Park Host will need a 1099 and asked McDougall for help with dollar values to his duties. Fisher asked for stipulations on what is allowed at the premises. He gave vehicles for an example. There was discussion on a Contract. Crystal Denton made the **Motion** to prepare a contract for Brian Sagen as Park Host. Joe Arts seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

CLAIMS: Phil Fisher made a **Motion** to approve the claims in the amount of \$121,656.10. Discussion: Fisher asked for explanation on why the Electric Department would need binoculars. Rebo explained that they need them to manually read meters when they can't get into a yard. Crystal Denton seconded the Motion. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Donna Rugani asked if the other member of the Police Commissions, Bob Peterson, going to renew his term that ends in June. Rebo will follow up.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. was made by Phil Fisher and seconded by Crystal Denton. **Motion Carried.**

Anthony E. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracy Rebo, City Clerk/Treasurer