

**ENNIS TOWN COMMISSION MEETING  
AUGUST 11, 2016  
7:00 P.M.  
ENNIS TOWN HALL**

**Open Meeting:** Mayor Pine opened the Ennis Town Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Commission Present:** Vincent, Palmerton, Roberts, Leavitt and Bancroft.

**Pledge to the Flag**

**Minutes:** Minutes of the July 2016 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. Palmerton made a motion to accept the minutes. Bancroft seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Dean and Lorie Onasch reported that their new neighbor has quite a menagerie of animals. She currently has a pig that is kept in her front yard. This is a large pig.

Dean has health issues and stated that pigs and chickens carry viruses that can make his health diminish.

The Onaschs' came to the Commission to see if the Town wants and can do something about this. The closed by asking the Commission if a pig is allowed what may be next.

**Planning Board Discussion:** Dan McCauley and Jerry Grebenc, from Great West Engineering, were present to speak with the Commission about the Town of Ennis Planning Board.

Grebenc spoke about the lack of the number of people currently on the Planning Board, which at this time is two. Seven people are needed to have a full board. He told the Commission that with Subdivision regulations and a Growth Policy in place the Town needs some form of a Planning Board because the Planning Board has to do tasks dealing with Subdivisions and updates to the Growth Policy. (This is according to MCA codes.)

An option, if the Town cannot sustain a Planning Board, is to join the County Planning Board and have a member on it.

Roberts asked if the Town joins the County Planning Board, can the Town supplement that with a citizen's advisory committee. Grebenc stated it can.

Bancroft asked if the Town joins the County Planning Board can the County then dictate what goes on in the Town. Grebenc said no.

There was discussion on having a Town Planning Board, joining the County Planning Board and Advisory Committees.

The Mayor stated he would like to keep the Planning Board if possible.

Roberts stated it may be easier to get three people for an Advisory Committee as opposed to seven for a Planning Board.

Grebenc spoke more on the project, updating Subdivision regulations and zoning, Great West is working on for the Town and gave a handout that shows MCA codes in regards to Planning Boards.

He told the Commission the project has come quite a ways but is halted until the Town gives them direction.

There was more discussion on advertising for members and joining the County Planning Board.

Roberts stated it may be easier to get people for single tasks.

Vincent stated there is flexibility and we can go either way and change our minds if it doesn't work out. He does not have a strong opinion either way but does see some benefits to joining the County Planning Board. The Town does need to move along with this in case something does come up that the Town has to deal with.

**Flood Plain Rate Structure:** The Commission reviewed a draft of proposed charges for Floodplain development.

**Business License Ordinance:** John Moore said he has been asked numerous times why “events” are allowed to umbrella a bunch of vendors under a single business license.

According to the current Ordinance “all” vendors coming in to conduct business in Town need a business license.

The Commission discussed the ordinance more and decided that, beginning January 1, 2017, the ordinance will be enforced as written.

**Splash Park:** Lisa Roberts told the Commission what she has found out about Splash Parks. She has gotten phone numbers of other Towns with splash parks and will call to get more information from them.

Roberts told the Commission a splash park that is 1000 square feet with 4-5 commercial jets will use 40-120 gallons of water per minute and can be programmed accordingly. Our Liability insurance will cover a splash park. She is checking with some non-profits for interest in the project. A local group has already expressed some interest in providing some funding.

Roberts said she wanted to present this idea to the Commission to see if there was any interest in it. The consensus from the Commission was yes to look into it further.

**Policy & Procedure Manual:** Mayor Pine told the Commission that the Policy & Procedure Manual has been being worked on. He said there are two things that are being worked on then it should be ready for approval. There was discussion on finishing the manual and get it approved.

**Department Reports:** Library: Karen Ketchu gave a review of the written report she submitted to the Commission.

Ambulance: John Moore submitted a written report to the Commission for review. He answered questions regarding the new ambulance.

Police: John Moore submitted a written report to the Commission for review and answered questions about the night vision equipment he leases and Moods of the Madison.

Public Works: Kelly Elser submitted a written report to the Commission for review and answered a question regarding a street light.

Zoning: There was no zoning report.

Clerk: Ginger Guinn submitted a written report to the Commission for review.

Attorney: There was no attorney report.

**Mayor Comments/Report:** Mayor Pine reminded the Commission about the Budget meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>. He stated that when a “user agreement” comes in it will go to all departments. An inventory of items worth \$500 or more needs to be done.

**Commission Comments:** Bancroft said he would like the Mayor to instruct the Police officer to write a citation for the pig. There was discussion that included the gray areas in the animal ordinance and the work being done to get a decay ordinance in place.

Roberts told the Commission that FEMA is coming August 23<sup>rd</sup> and Madison Conservation is taking them on a tour. She will be joining them and invited anyone else that may be interested.

**Claims:** Bancroft made a motion to pay claims as presented. Leavitt seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

**Adjourn:** Bancroft made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Palmerton seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Larry Pine, Mayor

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Ginger Guinn, Clerk/Treasurer