

ENNIS TOWN COMMISSION MEETING
September 8, 2016
7:00 P.M.
ENNIS TOWN HALL

Open Meeting: Mayor, Larry Pine, opened the September 8, 2016 Ennis Town Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Commission Present: Vincent, Leavitt, Roberts and Bancroft.

Attorney: present

Public Members Present: Kaye Suzuki

Pledge to the Flag

Minutes: The Commission reviewed the minutes of the August meeting.

Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes. Leavitt seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

None

Economic Development Presentation:

-Handouts included in minutes

-Northern Rocky Mountain Economic Development District (NRM), represented by Rob Gilmore (ED) gave an informational presentation. Please refer to attachments for additional information.

-NRM provides services to Gallatin, Park and Madison counties. In June, they surveyed the communities for willingness to develop an economic development strategy and found a clear interest in building a strategy that included downtown. After two sessions, Erica Evans Miata was brought onto the council.

-**Miata:** After workshops, 3 committees were formed (see handout for committee staffing). A committee meeting schedule will be emailed. She is now working now with Chambers who are interested in training workshops such as quick books, access to capital, workforce development, and grant writing. A letter will be sent to the Ennis chamber describing such.

-**Gilmore:** If any council member knows of a business member that needs assistance, let him know.

-They are also working with West Yellowstone and Big Sky, and would like to look at regional issues with these communities and include Ennis.

-An objective is to find out what the core business community consists of and to gather all businesses who want to participate, develop plans and funding mechanisms regarding enticing businesses into town limits.

County Planning Board Membership: Discussion and Vote

Roberts: County planning board has an opening; does the Town of Ennis want to join the board? Instead of relying on a defunct planning board, it would be advantageous to joining the planning board and form a citizen’s advisory council. Mark Odegard would be interested, Kay Suzuki has volunteered. A planning board could always be reestablished.

Bancroft: Commented that he likes that we are not subject to county regulations, that the town has our own regulations.

-Roberts Motioned for a representative from the Town of Ennis to join the Madison County Planning Board contingent on county approval. Bancroft Seconded. -Roll call: All approved. Motion passed.

Actions to be taken: Roberts and Pine will go to county meeting to pursue the next step.

Future meetings’ agenda should include disbanding planning board.

-Is an appointment to advisory committee/council required?

-Vincent: Commented that the council should work on a mechanism to get information to the county, hence the need to get rid of our own planning board and interact with the county board. He also cautioned to keep track of costs. With membership being an issue in the next 2-3 years, he feels it in the best interest of the town to go to the county board.

Animal Ordinance Discussion:

-A work session is scheduled for Wed. Sept 14, 6:45pm at Town Hall.

Department Reports:

Library: The Library submitted a written report for review.

Ambulance: John Moore submitted a written report for review and explained the administrative fee the county charges for false alarms, and how to share the funding from Ennis calls.

Law Enforcement: John Moore submitted a written report to the Commission for review.

Public Works: no written report or representation, absent

Zoning: no report submitted, absent

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

Attorney: Has reviewed the town ordinance on pot belly pigs, feels it needs revision based on other model codes. Feels enforcement is an issue based on code ambiguity.

-An email was sent to the Mayor; suggests talking to the resident about complaints
-He is working on Armitage Alley issue. Contact him for details, but the evidence is strong that the alley goes all the way to the river (public access), and that neither landowner has claim to access.

Mayor’s Report:

-Mobile home: A \$300 deposit was made and it may be moved tomorrow

-The Mayor is requesting a monthly financial report; Vincent would like it every quarter, and will have it for the October meeting.

-Regarding claims: do we need a YTD expenditure with it? **Pine will work with Ginger on this request.**

Commission Comments:

Vincent: Sent email about a Sept 23 (9-4) MMA training in Belgrade (at the fire annex), includes 2016 legislative session and parliamentary procedure. If all council members sign up, they may include another topic hour. **The training need to be posted as a public training/work session (Ginger).** Ginger has the information, if council members will contact her, she will assist.

-**Roberts:** Sidewalk construction will begin April 15, 2017

-Tree board will apply for an encroachment permit and grant through the state

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

Adjourn: Bancroft made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vincent seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Larry Pine, Mayor

Ginger Guinn, Clerk/Treasurer