

**ENNIS TOWN COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2019
7:00 P.M.
ENNIS TOWN HALL**

Open Meeting: Mayor Leavitt opened the December 12, 2019 meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to the Flag

Minutes: The Commission reviewed the Minutes. Palmerton made a motion to approve the minutes. Roberts seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion passed.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: There were no public comments.

Open Commission Seat: As Commissioner Vincent resigned the Clerk will put out ads next week for interested persons to fill the vacancy. Applicants will be interviewed the first week of January. Roberts and Hardy volunteered to be the committee to do the interviews and make a recommendation to the Commission.

Department Reports:

- Library: The Library submitted a written report for review.
- Ambulance: The Ambulance submitted a written report for review.
- Police: The Police Department submitted a written report for review.
- Zoning: There was no Zoning report.
- Clerk: The Clerk submitted a written report for review.

Mayor's Report/Comments: Mayor Leavitt told the Commission that Patti Austin passed a Grant Writing course. This may be a benefit for the Town.

The Mayor attended a "Prosperity Through Cooperation" meeting. They are working with several communities and want Ennis to join in. The Mayor feels, at this time, the Town has enough going on (i.e.; Montana Main Street Project and Comley Park Master Plan). Roberts stated historically things have been started but there is no follow through. There was some discussion on housing and possible grants from the State that Ennis could get. Also, affordable housing was talked about.

The Mayor told the Commission that the Town got a response from the MT. DOT. They have granted permission for the "Your Speed Is" signs, the crosswalks will be done with fluorescent paint and the tree to be planted by Town Pump has been okayed. Additionally, the DOT has abandoned the culvert coming off of Comley and the Town will take it out and level the area. The request from Lure Me Inn to have a highway entrance to their business is being worked on.

Commission Comments: Roberts told the Commission that Western Transportation Institute has agreed to do a summer long project on Main Street. They will gather information and report their findings through a demonstration. There is a match for this program and it can be done with

manpower. Roberts stated the Town needs to be applying to the Land and Conservation Fund. (Tester and Daines should be contacted to support this fund.)

Roberts told the Commission she has been asked to serve on a panel in Gardner that works on development issues, etc.

Roberts will also be attending a conference at Fairmont in February.

Roberts also stated we need to get Rural Water here to talk about rates.

Hardy suggested the Town consider taxing VRBO's and put the funds toward affordable housing.

Claims: Bancroft made a motion to pay claims. Palmerton seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion passed.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Blake Leavitt, Mayor

Ginger Guinn, Clerk/Treasurer