

**ENNIS TOWN COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 8, 2021
ENNIS TOWN HALL**

Open Meeting: Commissioner Roberts opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Commission Present: Roberts, Hardy (via GoToMeeting), Bancroft, Ranson and Schroeder

Pledge to the Flag

Minutes: The Commission reviewed the Minutes of the March 2021 Commission meeting. Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes. Ranson seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: There was no Public Comment.

Pollinator Gardens: Dave Laufenberg submitted a summary document of the plans for the pollinator gardens for Ennis. There was some discussion on how this project will proceed. Laufenberg stated the if funds are available, they could use \$500 if the Town wants to contribute.

Scully Amended Plat: The Commission reviewed the Boundary Adjustment plat submitted by John Scully for property located at the end of First Street.

Schroeder made a motion to accept the amended plat of Tract G-2 of Armitages Third Deer Meadows Addition to the Town of Ennis, Lot 3 of Minor Subdivision 244, and Lots 1 and 2 of COS#7/2517FC located in the Northeast ¼ and Southeast ¼ of Section 4, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, P.M.M., City of Ennis, Madison County, Montana. Bancroft seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

Business License Discussion: The Commission discussed adding Short Term Rentals and ADU's to the Town's Business License Ordinance.

At present no Short-Term Rentals are licensed. By adding them they would have the same standards as Hotels/Motels.

Right now, the need is to change the structure of the Business License Ordinance not necessarily the fees.

There was discussion on some items that may go into the code and the process to get it done.

Draft Lease for Ambulance Garage: The Commission reviewed the draft lease. It will be sent to Madison Valley Medical Center for comments and then sent to the Town Attorney for review.

Bancroft made a motion to have Madison Valley Medical Center review and make comments on the draft lease then send it to the Town's Attorney for review. If the lease is found to be satisfactory the Mayor shall have the authority to sign it without further review of the Commission. Schroeder seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

Dissolution of Ambulance Manager Position: Roberts explained that on May 1, 2021 the Ambulance Service will be turned over to Madison Valley Medical Center.

Roberts made a motion to dissolve the Ennis Ambulance Managers position effective May 1, 2021. Schroeder seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

Department Reports: Library: A written report was submitted for Commission review.
 Police: A written report was submitted for Commission review.
 Public Works: Clerk, Guinn, gave a verbal report for the Public Works Dept. in Kelly Elser's absence. She told the Commission there were several Water Main taps, there was 2 Sewer Main Line plugs, the Gas Tax report was just completed and the Town is gaining .41 miles of streets. The Census data will be complete in May so the rate structure study can be worked on some more. The Capacity and Street studies should be complete and ready for the May Commission meeting and Kelly has said he plans to retire at the end of this year.
 Clerk: A written report was submitted to the Commission for review.

*Nicki Hankins asked if the Zoning Administrator position has been filled.
Roberts explained what has been discussed as the needs for the position. The Mayor hires employees and he has not told the Commission that the position has been filled.
*Janet Gates asked about a letter she sent asking for information. She was told it has been given to the Mayor.

Mayor Report/Comments: None, as Mayor was absent.

Commission Comments: Schroeder explained to the public what the Commission decided on the Zoning position.

It is being worked on for the County Planning Board to handle Zoning for the Town with the exception of small permits (i.e., fences, signs) that will be done by a part-time Town Zoning Administrator.

Roberts and Schroeder talked about the Steering Committee selected for the Master Plan and that there will be a lot of information being put out to the public for their interaction with this project.

*Kirk Cardosa asked about the law suit the Town is currently in.

He was told the Commission is not allowed to speak about pending litigation. Attorney, James Greenbaum, concurred that the Commission cannot speak about ongoing or pending litigation. He also told the public that the Town was sued and is bound to defend itself.

Claims: The Claims were reviewed by the Commission. Ranson made a motion to accept the Claims. Bancroft seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved.

Adjourn: Bancroft made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Schroeder seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Commissioners voted yes. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Executive Session of the Ennis Town Commission was opened at 8:25 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. Closed @ 9:00 p.m.

Blake Leavitt, Mayor

Ginger Guinn, Clerk/Treasurer