

**Town of Winifred, Incorporated**  
**Minutes**  
**January 14, 2025**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**7:00 p.m. at Community Center**

The meeting of the Winifred Town Council was called to order by Mayor Shirley Dyer, January 14, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Travis Willson was elected to the Fergus County Commissioners office. Mayor Willson swore Shirley Dyer in as the new mayor on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Roll call was called., Mayor Shirley Dyer, Council Person Rick Baker, Council Person Barry Ehlert, Council Person Kristin Carlstrom, Town Clerk Cheri Kjersem. Guest present was Kurt Thomson with Stahly, and Travis Willson.

Agenda was motioned for approval by Barry Ehlert, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Minutes from the council meeting on December 10, 2024 were presented. Council person Rick Baker made a motion to approve the minutes, Kristin Carlstrom seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The monthly bills were presented. Barry Ehlert made a motion to accept the bills, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bills approved were claim number 2650/Stahly Engineering, 2655/Fergus Electric, 2656/Republic Services, 2657/Energy Labs, 2658/Town of Winifred, 2659/Triangle, 2660/Northwestern Energy, 2662/Pete Boettcher, 2663/Ehlert Bros, 2664/Safeguard Business Systems, 2665/Quill, 2667/Stahly Engineering, 2668/Winifred Grocery, 2669/Travis Willson, 2670/Julie Ewen, 2671/Lewistown Insurance, 2672/VISA, 2673/Midstate Signs.

The Bank Reconciliation for November was presented for approval. Rick Baker made a motion to accept the bank reconciliations, Barry Ehlert seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Financial reports for the Pool, Library, Museum, Airport, and Asbjornson Trust were reviewed. Kristin Carlstrom motioned to approve the reports, Barry Ehlert seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Investments: STIP made \$8.39 interest in November. Ameriprise made \$1936.06 interest in November.

Correspondence was read.

Citizen Comment Opportunity: Travis Willson joined us to let us know what boards he is serving on as County Commissioner. He is on the Council on Aging, Central Montana Foundation, Weed board, and School bus board. We wish him all the best.

#### Unfinished Business:

Sewer: Kurt Thomson was present to update the council on the new sewer. Easements should be ready to go soon. Stahly is still working with DEQ on the list of things they want done before moving forward. They are waiting on some land sample information still. Kurt is hoping to go out to bid by March.

Stahly is coming to take some more sewer samples at the old lagoon for DEQ.

Streets: Kurt Thomson said the design for paving the streets of Winifred have been completed. Century Construction plans on starting this summer. Kurt is hoping to have a public meeting the end of February on the street project.

HB 355: Winifred has been awarded the money in HB 355 for work on the pool and the air valves. This program is a bit of a slow process. We have billed them for the first completed work on the pool and the curb by Lonny Arthur, but they have not reimbursed us as of yet. They only have one person working for the whole state, so we will not move forward with some of the work until they start getting caught up.

#### New Business:

Renew post office lease: We received a new five-year lease agreement with the United States Post Office @ \$425.00 a month rent.

Council Seat Ward 2: Mayor Shirley Dyer received a call from Cody Isom last night concerning the vacancy for council member for Ward 2. Cody said he would be interested in filling the position.

Rick Baker made a motion to appoint Cody Isom as council member for Ward 2 to finish out the term vacated by Shirley Dyer. Kristin Carlstrom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Bank and CMF signature changes: Kristin Carlstrom made a motion to remove Travis Willson from a signer on the bank accounts and Central Montana Foundation and the safety deposit box, and add Mayor Shirley Dyer to all the accounts. Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kristin Carlstrom made a motion to remove Travis Willson from the town credit card, and add Mayor Shirley Dyer, and to keep Cheri Kjersem on the credit card, and add Rick Baker on a third town credit card. Barry Ehlert seconded the motion. Motion passed; Rick Baker abstained from the vote.

#### Miscellaneous:

Kristin Carlstrom discussed with the council; she had filed an extension with the state for the annual financials. She is still working with Magda to complete them.

Kristin also gave her notice of resignation from the treasurer position. She has stayed on as long as possible, but it has become to much with her other job.

Kristin said she would stay on to finish the financials and train someone new.

Kristin Carlstrom made a motion to post the treasurer position, wage DOE, until filled.

Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The council and clerk thank Kristin for all the years of service in this position.

The Mayor and council presented Travis Willson with a plaque, thanking him for his many years of service as a council member and Mayor for the Town of Winifred.

There being no further business. Barry Ehlert moved to adjourn the meeting; Rick Baker seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Shirley Dyer\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk Cheri Kjersem\_\_\_\_\_