

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

Mayor Oler called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the roll call was announced.

Governing Body Present: Mayor Sherry Oler, Councilmembers, Helen Gordon, Zeke Bonella, and Kevin Kummer were present. Councilman Brady Hamilton was excused. A quorum was declared.

City Staff Present: Town Attorney, Rick Sollars and Clerk-Treasurer, Kathy Shoopman were present.

Audience: Susan Bronson, Louise Barker, Jerrica Flom, Janeene Bestul, Kelly Shepard, Brenda Smith, Heather Huberty, Rebecca Stossel

Mayor Oler made an announcement asking those present to silence all cell phones and if they are hard of hearing to please sit in the front row. She stated that only agenda items will be addressed and residents presenting agenda items will have five (5) minutes to address the council.

Public Comments: The person listed for public comments did not attend the meeting. However, Councilwoman Helen Gordon made motion to amend the Agenda to allow Susan Bronson to address the council. Susan was inadvertently left off the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed.

Susan Bronson – Ms. Bronson reported about the Yablonski Memorial Library which has been opened now since October. She presented the open times and upcoming events at the library. She would like to offer books for shut-ins and other people that do not want to leave their house to go out in the cold to the library. She would deliver books to them and pick them up when they were due. She further stated that she had contacted the State in hopes of getting the summer lunches provided for young people on break from school. She plans to go door to door soon and get the word out about the library and she is open to suggestions on ways to get more community involvement. She also invited everyone present to check out the Yablonski Memorial Library Facebook page.

CONSENT AGENDA items I, II, and III

I.MINUTES:

Correction/approval of the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of November 12, 2024

II. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Correction/approval of the Financial Report for November 30, 2024

III. PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Correction/approval of the payment of bills for December 2024

Motion to approve consent agenda was made by Councilman Zeke Bonella and seconded by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

REPORTS:

Mayor
Clerk/Treasurer
Water Treatment Plant
Maintenance

Mayor Report - December 2024

Water Meter Replacement Project: All water meters are installed. We are waiting on Dane Kempner (the supplier) to supply the MXU radios for the meter pits and for VIPER to install and program them. The Sensus meter people were here on Tuesday Dec. 3, to install the billing software and train Kathy to use it and also to program and train staff on the handheld reader.

Wastewater System Pre-Engineering Report. Midwest Assistance, EPA, and the project engineering firm will be touring Hudson's wastewater distribution system, lift station and sewer lagoon on Monday, December 16 with Harry Miller and Kyle Lehto. Unfortunately, I will be in Casper and will miss the tour. However, it's truly exciting to see progress on this project!

Flood Mitigation: the FEMA request for reconsideration of our flood grant application was submitted on November 21. Homeland Security is keeping us informed with progress on the application and FEMA confirmed receipt of the application, now it is a waiting game.

Flood Awareness Signs: Our free Flood Education signs are being made. I corrected a couple of typos, and corrected for the photo credit and they will go to production from there. A copy of the first proof will be in your packets.

Level 1 Water Master Plan: I continue meeting monthly on this project and receive updates from the engineering firm and Wyoming Water Development Commission. Recently, HDR received approval from WWDC to assess our wells for quality and production and research alternative water resources, if necessary. This was added to the originally approved plan.

Cemetery: Hudson Community Heroes will be conducting the Wreaths Across America program at the Cemetery on Dec. 14th. I have FCAG board responsibilities to attend to on that day in Dubois, so I cannot attend. However, everyone is invited and I am sure it will be a great presentation.

Water Treatment Plant: It has been a challenging transfer of the low pressure membranes which, in turn, discovered other issues. Typical for any project, once you get into it, you find out the rest of the story. Please see Don's report.

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

WY DOT/Radar Feedback Signs: I think I found an avenue for grant funding of these signs. I will be meeting about it next week. As soon as I have purchase, size, description details for the signs, I will file an encroachment permit with WYDOT.

Merry Christmas to you all, I think this year flew by with many interesting twists and turns!

Sherry

CLERK – TREASURER REPORT

November 2024

While we need snow for Christmas, I have been enjoying the mild weather lately.

We have still been getting all of our accounts switched to the new bank. We are almost there and will be able to completely close out the old bank soon.

We were in a crunch to get the utility billing out on time this month and both Taylor and I spent several hours folding and stuffing envelopes to make the deadline.

We had the normal influx of customers and payments coming in and out. There were several residents complaining about their payment agreements, but I reminded them that they had the option to pay in full or get shut off if they did not want to enter into the payment agreement.

There were several rentals of Town Hall this month. There was a funeral, a couple of meetings, and a party.

The State Audit Department needed one more set of forms filled out and these were gathered and provided with explanations. We are now in complete compliance with them apart from two council members still needing to take public funds training. This must be completed, or they could withhold our yearly distribution funds.

We all watched the elections to see who retained their seats, lost their seats, or were newly elected. We are happy to hear there has been no change in our council members.

The waterline extension project is in full swing. There have been a few hiccups, but things are progressing. The annexation has been published and now is official. I will work on the transfer of their liquor license soon so it will be in line with our other two yearly renewals.

Since we still have no way of reading meters, all meters were estimated again this month. I received an email and several phone calls from Sensus to prepare the computer for the new software requirements. I contacted Caselle a couple of times to get a path set up and get copies of file layouts. Once we have everything in place the new meter reading process will be much easier and faster.

Mayor Oler suggested Taylor and I switch offices. We discussed it and were all in agreement. Taylor and I spent several days moving things in and out. I recruited my husband to come and help us take out the partitions, move out the old desks, and pick up the new desk set that was given to us by the City of Lander. A fresh coat of paint later and I am settling into the new office. Char did a wonderful job cleaning the floor from years of build up under cabinets. Even Mayor Oler was on her hands and knees scraping up gunk off the floor! I now have less interruptions, a lot more room and more storage space than ever before. Taylor is now front and center of the

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

activity going on in Town Hall and does an awesome job of screening phone calls and visitors and taking all the payments and answering questions.

Our security cameras are almost completely installed thanks to Don Rood. This has been an immense help to us in keeping an eye on comings and goings.

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and am looking forward to Christmas. Remember the reason for the season and be grateful for all our blessings! Merry Christmas!

Maintenance Report

November 2024

Week of November 1st: Replaced the license plates and registrations on all of Hudson's work vehicles and trailers with new ones. We shut off Eric & Clarissa Redwine's water per request, as they are moving for the winter. Don Rood got me signed up with Sacramento State Water Programs to begin reading and studying for future Wastewater and Water Exams. I did a water locate for Bub Parker at 248 Ohio. We also located several more locations for VIPER for the meter pit project. Including (333 S Ohio, 309 S Oklahoma, 248 W 4th St, 232 W 3rd St, 480 S Main, 445 Rossi Lane, and one in the alley behind the Veterans Park. Was able to take the mowing and collection system attachments off the John Deere 1445 and put the Broom/Snow Removal attachment on.

Week of November 7th: Cleaned out 4 main storm grates along main street which were all covered with leaves and dirt. Blew most of the dirt out of the blower house at the lagoon. Seth Wood & I took a valve out of Pump #1 in the Lift Station and removed what seemed to be clumps of hair out of it. We also collected our monthly lagoon samples and took them to Riverton FedEx to be shipped to Casper for testing. Then began working on taking all old brushes off the 1445 to be replaced. Also, grates in the bottom of the Lift station had lots of debris buildup on them so I used a few scoops of Lift Station degreaser to hopefully remove some of it. Later, I participated in a Zoom meeting with DEQ for some core credit hours for future licenses.

Week of November 14th: Collected an E-coli sample and took it to Riverton WWTP for testing. I went to Lander City Hall to pick up some chairs for Hudson Town Hall. Work continued replacing brushes on the 1445 and was able to get the entire brush-core pulled out of its housing; one of the two bearings needed to be replaced that were taken off, so I ordered a new one from Stotz in Riverton. Was able to take all old brushes off and put new ones on. Started a new Membrane replacement project at WTP and helped assist Don/Harry when they needed it.

Week of November 21st: Collected another E-Coli sample to be taken in for testing. I assisted at the WTP with more membrane equipment to be installed, then took all the old cassettes/membranes, loaded them on a trailer and took them to the landfill in Lander. The new bearing for the broom on the 1445 came in, so I was able to put the brush core back in its housing and reconnect the chain and tensioner. It seems to be running well, and brushes are working as they should.

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

Water Treatment Plant Report to Council

December 10, 2024

The Treatment Plant Produced 1,231,006 Gallons of water for the Month of November 2024, averaging 41,034 gallons per day. Production is down, new distribution water meters have been installed.

November's Bacteriological sample was collected and delivered to the laboratory at Sage West Hospital in Lander and tested negative. Results were emailed to the EPA.

We received new filter cassettes and manifold components from Veolia and a Technician, no crew, showed up at the treatment plant on November 19 for the installation.

Day one report: November 19, 2024

LPM Manifold and Membrane Project – Day One Memo

LPM #1

On site Don Rood, Harry Miller, and Jess Crause. Kyle Lehto was in and out of the plant observing the operation.

1. Met at the plant at 7:00 a.m. with Nayyar Mrrza from Veolia.
2. There was a problem with a chlorine feed line connection that had to be addressed before we could start the project. Harry repaired the leaking connection, and the plant was put back online.
3. Communication with the Veolia rep was an issue for all concerned due to his Pakistani accent. Another issue was lack of tools and assistance from and for, the rep by Veolia. We were expected to do the majority of all the physical labor.
4. Removing the filter cassettes tank covers, we had issues with cross threaded and overtightened bolts.
5. Removal of the back pulse tanks became an issue due to the rep not fully understanding how and what to remove or loosen to accommodate removing the tanks to accommodate removing the cassette headers. Harry was instrumental in assisting and convincing the rep he had worked on removing one back pulse tank in the past.
6. We lost time here due to having to reinstall the structures removed at the direction of the rep and the weight on the support structure that had to be reassembled.

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

7. Old filter cassettes were removed without any serious issues. The filter tanks were washed, and old membranes were placed on the trailer for removal to the landfill.
8. There were struggles removing the back pulse tanks due to the amount of hardware involved and bulky nature of the tanks.
9. All headers were removed and upon inspection found several failed glue joints a crack in one of the headers.
10. A trip to Lander was necessary to buy the proper glue for the assembly of the new headers. I talked to the project manager from Veolia, Adam Gallagher, about the glue not being furnished and would we be reimbursed. He stated that the onsite rep had a card and was to purchase the glue at their expense.
11. The proper clearances were determined for positioning the header piping and the headers for LPM #1 were glued and set aside for curing overnight.
12. Plan of attack for tomorrow, reassemble the headers, reinstall the back pulse tanks and install the new cassettes and tank covers. We will prep/clean membrane cassettes in place and test unit and pass all testing before attempting to take LPM #2 out of service.
13. Harry and Jess out at regular time. Rep out at 14:45. Don out at 15:30 Back at 7:00 a.m. tomorrow.

As you can see, it began with a bang, continuing throughout the week.

On the second day of the filter cassette and manifold project, a fiber optics line was cut on the Franks Waterline project the day before. There was no cell service in Lander, so Harry wasn't receiving the call outs from the plant. The pipe race and chlorination pit were filled with water due to a small issue turning into a major flood. Once the pits were emptied and dried to the best of our ability, we found the flow meter from the LPM's was damaged due to the water getting into the electrical connections in the meter. The electrician found the connection board was damaged, so I had him salvage a board from the Reverse Osmosis unit that is not being utilized due to negligence. Once back online parts were ordered to finish reassembling the meter on the RO unit and we found that the meters are obsolete, and parts are no longer available. Another engineer mistake is there is no way to isolate the water meter from the LPM's due to no valve installed into the clear well. The clear well must be drained completely to service the meter.

Work continued with the Filter and Manifold Project.....

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

After the project for the replacement of membrane cassettes and manifold system on Friday, November 22, we developed leaks on every cassette tank on LPM #2. I found it interesting that a tube of UV cement was received from Veolia the next week for cassette repair. My feeling is that Veolia should be responsible for the leaking cassettes, both parts and labor. ***How do you want to approach this?***

We are now experiencing failures on the air purge system, now allowing proper evacuation of air from the membranes after a membrane integrity test that must be completed every day the filters are operated. We're having to manually purge the system which takes about an hour. The failing Burkert valves that operate to air purge system are obsolete and I'm working with the engineer at Burkert for an alternative ASAP.

A swing check valve and an adjustable spool has been ordered for the installation of the new High Service Pump. The swing check will replace the troublesome discharge control valve. As soon as the parts are here, we'll be installing the new pump. The scheduled shipping date is December 17 for the remaining components.

The experienced intermittent low membrane tank levels after shut-down on LPM #2 was determined to be a leaking butterfly drain valve. The valve was changed and no longer was leaking, however the valve failed in the closed position after a few days and didn't allow the tanks to drain dirty backwash water that caused constant plant shutdowns for Harry. Another new valve is to be installed.

We're still waiting to pull a special bacterial sample from the new water line to Franks Butcher Shop as soon as the line is installed and sanitized. (start-up sample)

Jess is doing a great job of being able to handle day-to-day operations at the WTP. He is taking his lagoon wastewater exam in Casper on December 18. And immediately preparing for his level I Water License Exam.

This could be my last report as retirement is coming up at the end of the year. I've got mixed feelings about that because there is too much to complete with the time I have left.

Don

Motion to approve Department Reports was made by Councilman Kevin Kummer. Councilwoman Helen Gordon seconded motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

METER PROJECT: Mayor Oler reported on the progress of the water meter project, informing those present that the project is almost completed. She further reported on the training that has been planned and problems with getting MXUs for meter pits. She has had several phone calls with Viper as the deadline is approaching fast.

TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

WATERLINE EXTENSION PROJECT: Mayor Oler reported on the progress of the Waterline Extension Project for the Business Ready Grant for Frank's. Mayor Oler stated the project should have been completed by now, but they have had numerous problems including hitting a gas line twice, cutting a water line, cutting the fiber optic line, and hitting a sewer line. She reiterated that those issues were no fault of the town, and the costs of repairs are solely on the contractor. Councilwoman Helen Gordon asked if there will be room to get fire trucks in to the new hydrant. The answer was yes, there is plenty of room for fire trucks.

NEW BUSINESS:

ONE-HALF PERCENT (1/2%) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND: The request from WRTA was tabled last month. We are still waiting for information from the HERO Committee so this item will remain tabled for the time being. Mayor Oler reported that she has reached out to the HERO Committee but has not heard back from them yet. Brenda Smith asked about projects and was advised to contact a member of the HERO Committee to discuss project ideas.

NEW FLOOD AWARENESS SIGNS: Mayor Oler shared photos of the new signs and where they will be located near Hudson Draw and by the River near the old pump house. These signs are free, and the Town will receive two of them for posting.

Brenda Smith stated that she wanted to voice some concerns about the Code Enforcement Officer. She was informed that all personnel matters need to be addressed in an executive session and cannot be addressed in a public forum. She was asked to put her concerns in writing addressed to Council and they can discuss it and contact her for more information if needed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made to adjourn into Executive Session by Councilwoman Helen Gordon to discuss personnel issues. Councilman Kevin Kummer seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 6:36 p.m.

Motion to come out of Executive Session and resume regular meeting was made by Councilwoman Helen Gordon and seconded by Councilman Zeke Bonella. Motion passed and the regular meeting resumed at 7:22 p.m.

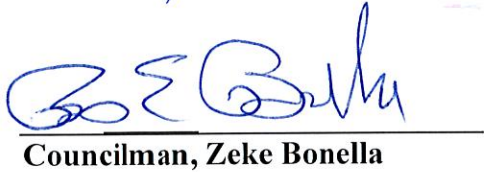
TOWN OF HUDSON
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
333 S Main Street
HUDSON, WY 82515
December 10, 2024

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the council. Councilwoman Helen Gordon moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Zeke Bonella seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

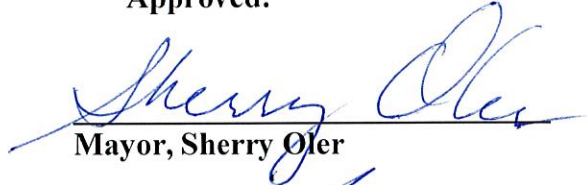
Attest:



Clerk/Treasurer, Kathy Shoopman


Councilwoman, Helen Gordon


Councilman, Zeke Bonella

Approved:


Mayor, Sherry Oler


Councilman, Kevin Kummer

Excused
Councilman, Brady Hamilton