STATE OF WYOMING

COUNTY OF SWEETWATER

TOWN OF SUPERIOR December 15th, 2022

Mayor D. Wolf called the Council Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present were Councilor J. Pasborg, Councilor J. Ruby, Councilor N. Root, and Councilor R. Niemiec, and Mayor D. Wolf.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilor R. Niemiec to approve the agenda for December 15th, 2022; seconded by Councilor J. Ruby. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg to pass the minutes for November 2022 Council meeting; seconded by Councilor J. Ruby the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg to approve the bills against the town for December 15th, 2022, and payroll for November 21st and December 5th 2022; seconded by Councilor N. Root the motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS

No visitors.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

1. Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg to approve the second reading to revise and update the ordinance 2019-1078 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SUPERIOR SWEETWATER COUNTY WYOMING AMENDING THE ORDINANCE GOVERNING THE DATE OF MEETINGS WITH ORDINANCE NUMBER 2022-1084; seconded by Councilor J. Ruby the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Horse Thief Saloon’s liquor license renewal. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that she didn’t get time to add the all-nighters on there so that would be ready for the next meeting. Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg to approve the business license for Wyo Ruby’s LLC/Horse Thief Saloon and the approval for the all-nighters; seconded by Councilor N. Root the motion carried unanimously. Mayor D. Wolf stated that for the minutes the all-nighters would be March 18th, July 1st, October 28th, and December 31st. Councilor J. Ruby asked how many readings it would be for the business license. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that the liquor license is three and the business is only one.
2. Discussion on solar panels whether or not a building permit is required. Mayor D. Wolf stated that planning and zoning had received a call from a lady wanting to put solar panels on. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that she received a call from a lady that had bought the house from Alan and Charmaine Carter wanting to know if she needed a building permit to put up solar panels. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that she had no idea but that she would find out and when she asked Tonya about it, she told her it was something that had never come up. Councilor N. Root asked if the solar panels would be affixed permanently to the roof. Clerk A. Vaughn answered that they weren’t they would be on the garage. Councilor J. Ruby stated that he would think you wouldn’t need one. Councilor N. Root stated that if it isn’t permanent and can be removed, she would say no in her opinion. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he thought it had been previously discussed that they would get their site plan and bring it into planning and zoning, and they approve it or don’t. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that his concern with it would be that if they didn’t require building permit and someone buys 10 acres and they want to put a 5 acre solar panel would they want to require them to have a building permit. Councilor N. Root asked if it would be permanent or not. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he understands if it’s something just affixed to the top of the house like a satellite dish but where do they draw the line in the sand. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that if they let one person do it and they get someone that wants to build a mini solar farm. Councilor J. Ruby stated that he thinks if you are putting it on an existing structure you wouldn’t need one but if you were going to mount them on their own structure on the ground then you should have the permit. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that there again if someone put them on skids but had 5 acres of them then they wouldn’t be able to do anything about it. Councilor J. Pasborg also stated that his answer would be no they don’t need a permit if they are affixing it to the house but then his mind went farther with it. Mayor D. Wolf stated that the town should have a record of whether it’s a permit or not where they just fill out the application. Mayor D. Wolf stated that solar panels are a new day and age and he thinks they should get the permit money for it. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that with the government subsidies they are almost paying for themselves. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that it was her understanding that from here on out anyone wanting to build would need to put in a building permit application which is 25 dollars, and then it would go to the next step which is for planning and zoning to decide whether or not they would charge them more depending on the project. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that she thinks that they at least need to fill out the application and pay the 25 dollars and then have it go through planning and zoning and if they choose not to charge them because it’s on a permanent structure then that would be fine but they could review it on a case by case basis. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he likes to have the documentation. There was some more discussion about everyone wanting to build filling out an application and paying a 25 dollar fee whether the application ends up getting accepted or not. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that the way she thinks that they need to do it is have everyone fill out an application and then she will pass it on to planning and zoning and from there they can decide whether or not they want to charge them more based on what the project is.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion on the property out North subdivision project recommendations. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he had a meeting with the county and sat down with them to explain what they were wanting to do with the subdivisions. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they told him it would be really expensive and would take a long time, but it could be done. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he was told it would be between 30,000 to 50,000 per lot. Councilor N. Root asked if there was a way to sell just the land without having to do anything with it. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they could if the extend their municipal boundary they could do anything they want without permits or anything if they did that. Councilor N. Root asked how that would work for someone who was wanting horses on that property. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they would probably have to go into the ordinances. Mayor D. Wolf stated that it wouldn’t take more than three readings through the county to extend that municipal boundary. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that it would include the horse corrals and the campgrounds they have talked about building. Mayor D. Wolf stated that right now to do the horse corrals and the campground they would have to go get a conditional use permit from the county and go through their steps. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that Mayor D. Wolf had explained to him that the extra 30,000 to 50,000 dollars for the subdivision is basically all just paperwork and has nothing to do with actual touching of the property and it’s just to get it through the county. Mayor D. Wolf then stated that the town would have to come up with 125% of the bonding it’s all going to cost to do the engineering and everything. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he had explained to the county that they want to make it easy and painless on themselves and they told him the easiest way to do that would be to extend their municipal boundary. Councilor N. Root asked what extending the boundary would entail. Mayor D. Wolf stated that it would be 3 readings through the county and people could go in and say yes or no and ask what the town is trying to extend it for. Councilor J. Ruby asked if that would change anything as far as maintenance and sewer that kind of thing. Mayor D. Wolf stated that it wouldn’t. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they basically just go by state statutes that way they don’t have to worry about anything. Mayor D. Wolf stated that the county gave him a list of surveyors so that when they get their cost estimates they will come out and it’s by county and state statute that they have to do them for free. Mayor D. Wolf stated that this meeting he learned a lot. Councilor N. Root asked if that used to be part of Superior’s municipal boundaries. Mayor D. Wolf stated that North Superior and South Superior were two different towns. Mayor D. Wolf stated that North Superior was going bankrupt when UP hauled them all out and North Superior gave South Superior all their money, and finances, fire trucks all of that. Mayor D. Wolf stated that South Superior was about to leave and with the help of North Superior they were able to still be here. Councilor R. Niemiec asked how that would affect people that already have property out there. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he already knows that Ozzy doesn’t want it. Clerk A. Vaughn asked why. Mayor D. Wolf stated that people out in the county don’t want to be part of the town because there is different rules. Councilor R. Niemiec stated that they could have covenants for that section. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that they would have to be part of planning and zoning and all of that to build on or anything. There was some more discussion on this. Councilor R. Niemiec stated that the covenants would be like if they wanted chickens for example then there would be nothing the town could do about it. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they actually could do something about it now because the board gave up their board so now they are the board. Councilor N. Root stated that if they come up with those covenants then the would have to keep those families in that group that way they can keep their independence. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he doesn’t think there is ever a guarantee with that stuff but they can try to make it as clean as they can so that they won’t get screwed down the road. Mayor D. Wolf also stated that if they wanted to they could start their own board and keep that board. Councilor N. Root stated that the people who are going to want property out there are going to want their freedoms. Councilor J. Pasborg asked if they should talk to the attorney. There was some discussion on things they should ask her about. Councilor R. Niemiec stated that there were some houses in town that are county and there was some discussion on where these were located. Councilor R. Niemiec asked if there was a way to do the same thing for them. There was more discussion on this. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he would look into what the next steps are.
2. New meters discussion. Mayor D. Wolf stated that at the last meeting they had discussed going around and checking all of the meters. Mayor D. Wolf stated that there was a bunch that were in backwards, didn’t work, or something in them was messed up. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that the information was in Leroy’s department reports. Mayor D. Wolf stated that after discussions with Anita and the water guys from Ferguson through the past months. Ferguson is where these water meters came from. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he had a meeting with a guy who does Green River and Rock Springs he basically said that Leroy and Anita and everybody is right, that Miquelle from Ferguson they have heard nothing but horror stories. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he was told they would keep going through what they are if they don’t change things now. They’re not going to get the service. Mayor D. Wolf stated that there was an example they had asked about extenders so that it would be easier to read meters that are buried in a snow drift or by someone’s fence so they can go by and read it and she sent boxes with no parts, no bolts, no instructions, or anything so they got a box that they don’t know anything about. Mayor D. Wolf stated that the guy came up with a quote for him if they were to change out the meters and also stated that all the small towns like Elk Mountain, Hannah they are all going to this system. Mayor D. Wolf stated that if they want to go for it he has all the meters for them and all the guys need to do is go through and change all the meters and put the box in. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they would have to do a study to make sure that they can read all the meters wherever they have the box. Mayor D. Wolf stated that this thing updates every 15 seconds so if someone’s water is supposed to be off and they turn it on Leroy and Anita would get an alert, and if a water break happens it’s alerted right away. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they can see when usage spikes up. Councilor N. Root asked what the annual subscription is on it. Councilor J. Ruby asked about what the 18,000 dollars quote was for if that included all the meters and everything. Mayor D. Wolf stated that there was 140 meters, the match 10 which reads everything it’s like a little satellite which would go to a notepad and Anita’s computer. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that the hard part was going to be finding I spot in Superior that’s going to hit everyone that’s going to need to be metered. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he mentioned to the guy that if they were going to need two of those satellite things that it would be to expensive and the guy told him that he could almost guarantee they would only need one for a town that size. Councilor N. Root stated that it looked like it was only about 3,000 a year for the actual subscription. Councilor J. Ruby stated that he thought this sounded like a way better plan than having an employee have to drive around and read each of the meters. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he almost fell down in there when he saw the final price and also stated that with the special tax money it’s paid for. Mayor D. Wolf stated that money would pay for this, the filters and the media all done, and they are set as far as getting good quality water. Councilor N. Root asked how long the media lasts in those filters. Councilor J. Ruby stated that he believed it was 5 years. Councilor J. Pasborg asked when the last time it was done was. Mayor D. Wolf stated that it hadn’t been done since they were put in 15 years ago. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they had put media in it and tried to recharge it but it didn’t do anything. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he should be getting a call on the bonding soon for the specific purpose money. Mayor D. Wolf also stated that Leroy and Travis were going to be going out to the lagoons with Candy to talk about what they need to do with it to keep it from being neglected and they might need to do couple projects out there. There was some more discussion on the sewer lagoons. Mayor D. Wolf stated that when they decide where their money is going to go they just have to make sure that they mention some of it going to that because the county will need the minutes that mention where all of the money is going to go. Councilor J. Pasborg asked how much it was that they got. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they got 1.8 million. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he was all for using whatever the cost was for the new meters and all that. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he felt they should also send a letter to the CEO of Ferguson and let them know why they aren’t using them anymore as well as ask for a refund because they can’t use all the stuff. Mayor D. Wolf stated that it was just a big waste of money and time. Councilor J. Ruby stated that it was a shame that the town’s previous administration wasted all that time and money on it. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that these new meters would work with the current system that we planned to use Caselle. Councilor N. Root asked if that’s the computer program that’s best with it. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that she didn’t know if it was the program that was best, but it would work. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they guy told them that Black Mountain was the other system and it has limited stuff where as in 10 years Caselle will still be ahead of the game. Councilor R. Niemiec asked about the price difference with the meters in Green River and stated that he knew that they read their meters and they don’t have a satellite. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he was told that they do them in 6,000 increments at a time one of those water things and he actually pulled it up and showed Mayor D. Wolf that he had pulled up 6,000 meters and what they were reading at. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they may use a different billing program or something, but that Anita would be able to pull it up right there on the computer. Councilor J. Ruby stated that maybe they could get that guy to come out and do a demonstration or something. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they would see if they could get him to come out. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that so far, he is all for it. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he asked if the guy would be there during start up and he stated that he would and also stated that he comes up to Rock Springs from Denver. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they are replacing a bunch of Rock Springs stuff right now. Councilor R. Niemiec stated that he wanted more proof because 80,000 is a lot of money to spend on that. Councilor R. Niemiec asked about the cost of the subscription for the year and Councilor N. Root told him that it was 3,000 a year. There was some more discussion about this. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that they could also pay for 5 years of subscription with that special purpose money. Councilor J. Ruby said that they would have to remember also that is another 3,000 a year coming out of the water budget. Councilor N. Root asked if they get the new filters and media would they be 3,000 ahead at the end of the year. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he didn’t know that they would be 3,000 a year. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that they needed to look at the cash report. Councilor N. Root stated that it may offset that cost. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that their revenue was 34,923 and expenditures were 20,000 and stated that it was on the first page of the cash report. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that they were upside down in the water fund and sewer they were pretty close, but on the second page with both water and sewer the revenues were 49,569.00 and the expenditures were only 35,200 and stated that she thinks a big percentage of why it was upside down was because of the rates Councilor J. Pasborg stated that everyone in the room knows they can’t keep going how they’re going. Mayor D. Wolf stated that raising the senior rate was a big move in the right direction. Councilor J. Ruby asked what the time frame was for getting the new meters. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they would be able to get them immediately. Councilor J. Ruby asked about if they would have to dig up all the old meters and Mayor D. Wolf stated that they would have to because everything is just interchangeable. Councilor R. Niemiec stated that he’s worried if they agree on this and end up in the same boat a year from now and the meters are junk, they can’t change anything. Councilor J. Ruby suggested maybe getting with Rock Springs and ask. Mayor D. Wolf stated that the guy would be here at the next meeting to answer questions. Clerk A. Vaughn stated that Leroy had been talking to the Green River water district and that’s how they got this information in the first place. There was some more discussion about this. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he and Councilor N. Root found on the quote where the meters are 300 something a piece and even if in a couple years, they had to replace one here or there it wouldn’t be a huge expense. Mayor D. Wolf stated that they were ordering extra also. Clerk A. Vaughn stated there is 113 right now. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he felt like it was going to help the consumer, the water department and Anita. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he felt if the transition between administrations had gone better they wouldn’t be going through what they’re going through because they weren’t told what they were going through or any of that so this administration is just winging it. Councilor N. Root asked about what they wanted to do about the water rates until they’re metering. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that he felt like they should still raise the base rate. Mayor D. Wolf agreed. Councilor J. Ruby agreed and stated that when we get our water meters usage rates will apply. Mayor D. Wolf asked when they wanted to change to that. Councilor J. Pasborg stated that it would have to be February 1st. Councilor R. Niemiec agreed. Councilor J. Ruby asked about when they would be switching to two meetings. Clerk A. Vaughn stated they would have the reading at the first meeting in January.

 DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg; seconded by Councilor N. Root motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg at 8:05 p.m. The outcome of the executive session was that full time employees would get 500.00 Christmas bonus and part time employees would get 250.00 Christmas bonus.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilor J. Pasborg at 8:12 p.m.; seconded by Councilor J. Ruby motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID:**

**CLAIMANT Amount Approved Goods/Services Provided & Purpose**

HILARY BREWSTER $800.00 MONTHLY RETAINER

AMBER GEORGE $800.00 C & P SERVICES

RICK NIEMIEC $150.00 COUNCIL PAY

JIM PASBORG $100.00 COUNCIL PAY

ANGELIQUE ROOT $100.00 COUNCIL PAY

DOMINIC WOLF $450.00 MAYOR PAY

CANDACE SMITH $400.00 C & P SERVICES

VERIZON $130.37 UTILITY; CELL PHONE FOR CRO

TOS / EMPDED $466.82 MONTHLY DEDUCTIONS

TOS / RESERVE $1,354.29 MONTHLY DEPOSIT

TOS / W / S $1,990.50 MONTHLY W/S UTILITY

WYOMING WORKERS’ COMP. $517.30 MONTHLY PAYMENT

IRS $2,624.14 SEMI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

IRS $2,636.70 SEMI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

IRS $9,084.84 TAXES OWED Q3 2022

AMAZON $313.42 P & S

ACE HARDWARE $165.92 P & S

BRIDGER VALLEY PROPANE $1,457.67 UTILITY

CASELLE $160.00 C & P SERVICES

CENTURY EQUIPMENT $318.60 P & S

COPIER & SUPPLY $4.56 C & P SERVICES

ENERGY LABS $347.00 WATER TESTS

F.B. MCFADDEN $79.50 P & S

FREEDOM OILFIELD SERVICES $1,190.77 UTILITY

HOMAX $1,683.04 UTILITY

KUSTOM SIGNALS, INC. $1,910.00 P & S

MOUNTAINLAND SUPPLY $98.10 P & S

MURDOCH’S $162.44 P & S

NRWA $49.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES

NORCO $81.27 P & S

ROCKY MTN. CLIMATE CONTROL $352.50 C & P SERVICES

ROCKY MTN. AIR SOLUTIONS $136.00 P & S

ROCK SPRINGS WINNELSON $293.46 P & S

SHADOW MTN. WATER $107.00 P & S

SUMMIT WEST CPA GROUP $5,560.00 C & P SERVICES

SWEETWATER CO. HEALTH DEPT. $75.00 WATER TESTS

SWTS $1,532.17 C & P SERVICES

UNITED SITE SERVICES $313.65 C & P SERVICES

U.S. BANK $117.54 P & S

WAM $235.00 WINTER WORKSHOP FOR MAYOR D. WOLF

WYO RURAL WATER $475.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES

WYOMING WASTE SERVICES $210.69 C & P SERVICES

WYOMING DEPT OF AGRICULTURE $100.00 LICENSE FEE NEW KITCHEN

CENTURYLINK $383.72 UTILITY

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER $3,784.21 UTILITY

UMB CARD SERVICES $2,035.42 P & S

PAYROLL: DECEMBER 5 & 19, 2022

Sheri Niemiec $2,600.62 Donna O’Banion-Taebel $1,009.68

Ross Sheely $2,954.98 Amanda Souther $1,240.58

Teresa Stolt $2,564.33 Anita Vaughn $3,133.12

Travis Wagner $4,085.44 LeRoy Winters $3,351.84

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk Mayor