

**CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 8, 2024



The City Council meeting was held at the City Hall,
108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT

Council Members Present:

Raoul Ribeiro, City Council President
Hayley Allen-Blakney, City Council Vice President
Katherine Maudrone
Earlene Powell
Larry Lack

Not present: Shawni Vaught

City Officials Present:

Rusti Leivestad, Mayor
Chelsea Peterson, City Clerk/Treasurer
Tim Goen, City Attorney
Police Chief, Chris Nichols
Police Officer, Jason Thorton

Others signed in: Sign in sheet attached.

Rusti Leivestad opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Chelsea Peterson made note of who was present.

The Council passed a motion 5-0 to approve setting the agenda. (Maudrone, Allen-Blakney)

The Council passed a motion 5-0 to approve the Consent agenda. (Powell, Lack)

Standing Committee Reports- The Streets and Alleys Committee met on February 1, 2024, to look into placing a stop sign at the corner of Woodland Street and Preston Avenue. The committee decided to leave it a Yield sign.

Community Decay Update – None

Information: None

ACTION TAKEN

1. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve allowing the Farmers Market to pay \$100.00 for the summer at Ainsworth Park. (Allen-Blakney, Powell) Public Comment: Gayle Hinkle asked if anyone had committed to selling produce. Howard Inks wants to pay for the Farmers Market rental fee at Ainsworth Park. Greg Hinkle

applauded Veronica for what she was doing and suggested that they change the day to Saturday instead of Thursday.

2. The Council made a motion 5-0 to allow Thompson Falls to be an American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE) National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark beginning July 2024 for David Thompson's (who resided in Thompson Falls) surveying and mapping of the Northwest of North America Possibly placing the plaque in the Kiosk at Ainsworth Park. (Maudrone, Ribeiro)
3. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve moving the speed signs 25/35 on Hwy. 200 and Encroachment Permit for the Speed Readers. (Ribeiro, Lack) Public comment: Nancy Fields asked if the signs would be flashing lights. Kristin Wing asked when the last traffic study was done. Gordon Wood suggested not moving the sign by Wild Goose Landing. Gussi O'Conner hopes people will adhere to speed.
4. The Council made a motion 5-0 to renew the Community Center Lease for preschool for the 24-25 school year. (Allen-Blakney, Maudrone) Public comment: Mary Dunn asked if the city has been a good landlord.
5. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve the Pickleball Club to install a 4' fence at the pickleball courts by the High School. (Ribeiro, Powell) Public comment: Steve Oswald asked who is paying for the fence.
6. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve to approve applying for a Pilot Community Tourism Grant. (Allen-Blakney, Maudrone) Public comment: Linda Weygint asked if there had been a needs study done and is concerned about creating activities for senior citizens. Tamara Shear asked if this would be used to finish up the park by her house and acknowledged the need for creating a soccer field and another ball field, and that should be at the top of the list. Stephanie Webb asked about the time frame, who comes up with ideas, and whether there is a committee in place. Kristin Wing asked what is the vision for this town, a tourist trap? Brian Cole asked who pays for the grant and said there is no free in anything. Are there going to be additional things attached to this grant? Greg Hinkle said the money comes from Bed Tax like Airbnb's. Cindy Bronner asked why salaries were paid for from the pool account when it wasn't even open and if the pool was going to open.
7. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve Resolution #843, establishing the reimbursement rates for travel, mileage, and lodging for Public Employees while conducting official business per the U.S. General Service Administration standard rate to reflect changes automatically when the rates change. (Powell, Lack) Public Comment: Kristin Wing asked what the city uses now.
8. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve the Wastewater Project Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement No. 9 (Ribeiro, Maudrone). Public comment: Kristen Wing asked how much money was left.
9. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve the Wastewater Project Request for Reimbursements Phases 1 & 2. (Allen-Blakney, Lack)
10. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve the Wastewater Project Request for Phases 3 and 4 (Lack, Maudrone). Public comment: Kristin Wing asked when the construction will start and what Paul Karcher's title with Great West Engineering is. She also asked who does the on-site management. Tamara Shear asked who the city's supervisor was for the project.

11. The Council made a motion 5-0 to approve the Project Request for Reimbursement. (Lack, Allen-Blakney) Public comment: Kristin Wing asked where the potential well site is going to be located and if that is the only one. Cindy Bronner asked what size of pipes the city is using. Gordon Wood mentioned he had issues with water before he moved here and asked if there was a chance of a landslide. Tamra Shear asked about hydrants and water pressure.

Unscheduled Public Comment:

Kristin Wing- Asked what the two big concrete tanks are by Town Pump.

Linda Weygint- Mentioned the school and the school-to-work program that would be good for students to have job experience.

Tamara Shear- She stated she was confused about why other Council members were present at the last Board of Adjustments and Zoning Committee meetings.

Steve Oswald- Stated that he knows of one student who uses the school-to-work program.

Gordon Wood- Brought up the Highway project and thinks the city should send the state a letter regarding how bad the road is.

Lea Herndon- Asked about the one Public Comment only rule, asked why you can't interact and stated the council is representing the public.

Greg Hinkle- Said he would argue against limiting the one 3-minute Public Comment rule.

Phillip Williams- Asked why the Council does not hold meetings at the Rex Theater or the Community Center to accommodate larger groups.

Mary Dunn—She stated she has been reading a lot of documents on the city website (Growth Policy, Zoning, Wayfinding) and wants to know what the vision is for the town. What do the documents mean, and what are the consequences for the people?


Kristin Wing Stated that she moved here because she loved it, that she is passionate, and that she is not trying to be rude.

Stephanie Webb- Asked what the council's vision is for the town and that their vision reflects on the community. She moved here to be free with lower taxes. Stated to be wise in the change and that the expensive fancy things aren't worth it.

Cindy Bronner—She stated she lives in the county and is invested in city affairs; she sees change and thanks the council for that. She mentioned the heard-around-town article and that she attended Dan Clark's training. She went over her 3-minute time and would not stop talking, so the Mayor slammed the gavel down and closed the meeting.


MAYORS REPORT – None because the Mayor had to close the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.



Rusti Leivestad, Mayor

ATTEST:



Chelsea Peterson, City Clerk/Treasurer

City of Thompson Falls City Council Meetings



City of Thompson Falls
Public Hearing

CANCELLED Monday, April 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall, 108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT
Agenda: **CANCELLED** Zoning Variance Request for Mosher Transportation building electrical vehicle charging stations for electric buses at 3 locations: 425 Washington Street, 418 Washington Street, and 323 Greenwood Street If you have any questions, please contact the City Hall at 406-827-3557.
Published in the Sanders County Ledger: March 28, 2024 & April 4, 2024 **CANCELLED**

**Regular City Council Meeting in the
City Hall, 108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT
Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.**

AGENDA

OPEN MEETING

ROLL CALL OF THE COUNCIL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SET THE AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA: Claims, Minutes, Financial Reports, Court Report, Water Shut-off List/Arrangements

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

INFORMATIONAL:

1. Sanders County Public Health, Tobacco Education Specialist, Karren McKinzie

ACTION ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Farmers Market - Public Comment
2. David Thompson Plaque - Public Comment **Katherine Maudrone**
3. Move speed signs 25/35 on Hwy. 200 and Encroachment Permit for Speed Readers - Public Comment

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Rusti Leivestad will present the Agenda Item unless otherwise listed.

4. Renew the Community Center Lease for preschool for the 24-25 school year. - Public Comment
Krystal Park
5. The Pickleball Club is seeking approval to install a 4' fence at the pickleball courts by the High School and City to repair the existing perimeter chain-link fence. - Public Comment **Nancy Fields**
6. Pilot Community Tourism Grant Program Application – SB540 - High School Area Sports Complex – 5-year plan – 2.75M - no city match – possibly go in together County-wide. Public Comment
7. Resolution establishing the reimbursement rates for travel, mileage, and lodging for Public Employees while conducting official business per the U.S. General Service Administration standard rate to reflect changes automatically when the rates change. - Public Comment
8. Wastewater Project Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement Amendment No. 9
9. Wastewater Project Request for Reimbursements Phases 1 & 2 - Public Comment
10. Wastewater Project Request for Reimbursements Phases 3 & 4 - Public Comment
11. Water Project Request for Reimbursement - Public Comment

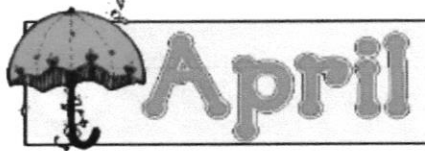
UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT – 3 minutes

MAYOR'S REPORT

ADJOURN

****There may be issues discussed during the meeting which may not be listed on the agenda. If a decision is required on items of significant interest, it will be scheduled for another date/time and posted within the required 48-hour notice. This schedule is subject to change without notice but will be posted within the required 48-hour notice. If you have any questions, please contact 406-827-3557.**

City of Thompson Falls City Council Meetings

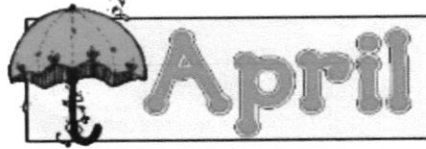


Regular City Council Meeting in the
 City Hall, 108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT
 Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.

Sign in Sheet

NAME (Please Print)	WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL DURING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND IF YES WHAT AGENDA ITEM NUMBER? √ = yes	Street Address
Please Print		Please Print ~ thank you
Clara BARNES		1844 Blue Slide Rd.
LEA HERNDON	✓	12 GITER DONE LN.
JASON TEZKOW		1111 Main St-Courthouse
Karren McKinzie		
Roi Churchill		
Tracy Scott		Valley Piest
Steve Oswald		203 S. Gallatin TP
CARRIE GARDNER		Great West Engineering (2501 Bcht View Helena, MT)
Annie wooden		Ledger
KINDA WEYGINT	✓	504 Cherry Creek
HOWARD INKS		2503 Mossy Rock Ct
TAMEA Shear	✓	701 4712 MAIDEN Lane
Cindy Bronner		93 Chevy Cupel
Kristal Park		111 Spring meadows vw
Nancy Fields		2715 Cornerstone Ra
Dail Hinkle	✓ # 1	T. Falls mt
Greg Hinkle	✓ # 1	
Kristen Wray	Yes All	T. Falls

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Please Print		Please Print ~ thank you
<i>Philip Williams</i>		<i>1219 Main Street</i>
<i>Helen Jensen</i>		<i>24 Park Place</i>
<i>Gussie O'Connor</i>		<i>501 Main</i>
<i>MARY DUNN</i>	✓	<i>25 Silcox Lane</i>
<i>Mike Wells</i>		<i>25 Silcox Lane</i>
<i>Stephanie Cole</i>		<i>1210 Noley Ave W.</i>
<i>Stephanie Webb</i>		<i>4600 Noley Ave W. TF</i>
<i>Stephanie Webb</i>		<i>39 Silcox Park Ln, TF</i>
<i>Veronica Ingh</i>		<i>2419 Capstone Ct, TF</i>