

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

Monday, January 13, 2025



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, and Shawni Vaught

Not present: n/a

The City Council meeting was recorded via audio and on the city website for review.

City Officials Present:

Rusti Leivestad, Mayor

Chelsea Peterson, City Clerk/Treasurer

Others signed in: The sign-in sheet is attached.

Rusti Leivestad opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Chelsea Peterson made a note of who was present.

The Council passed a motion 6-0 to approve setting the Agenda. (Maudrone, Vaught)

The Council passed a motion 6-0 to approve the Consent Agenda. (Powell, Allen-Blakney)

Standing Committee Reports—The Board of Adjustments Committee met regarding 608 Haley Avenue's request for a 3 ½ foot Variance to build a shed. The Committee did not feel there was a problem granting it, and the adjoining property owners wrote a note stating they did not have a problem with it. It is referred to the Council for approval.

ACTION TAKEN

1. The Council motioned 6-0 to table the Zoning Committee Vacancy. (Allen-Blakney, Ribeiro)
2. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the water adjustment of \$160.65 due to a water leak at 701 Southwood Court. (Ribeiro, Powell)
3. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the water adjustment of \$300.30 due to a water leak at 1210 Haley Avenue West. (Maudrone, Ribeiro)

4. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve a 3 ½ foot Variance at 608 Haley Avenue to build a shed. (Vaught, Allen-Blakney)
5. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the INTERCAP Loan for Police Cars and Police Equipment. (Ribeiro, Maudrone)
6. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the Arbor Day Grant. (Maudrone, Vaught)
7. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the Sewer Project Phases 1 & 2 pay application for reimbursement for \$62,565.69 USDA Rural Development. (Ribeiro, Lack)
8. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the Change Order #19 for the Sewer Project Phases 1 & 2. (Maudrone, Allen-Blakney)
9. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the Sewer Project Phases 3 & 4 pay application for reimbursement for \$45,000 ARPA Grant and RRG Grant \$2,164.50. (Ribeiro, Lack)
10. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the Water Project pay application for reimbursement for the \$158,336.06 ARPA Grant. (Allen-Blakney, Ribeiro)
11. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve the Water Project Change Order #1. (Ribeiro, Lack)
12. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve participating in the Reimagining Rural Application and Council and Public Participation in a 3-night virtual webinar series designed for small towns. (Powell, Vaught)
13. The Council motion 6-0 to approve the School District #2 property trade referral to the Committee of the Whole. (Powell, Vaught) Allen-Blakney first made a motion and then withdrew.
14. The Council motioned 6-0 to approve referring the Recreational Public Properties Committee regarding the Ainsworth Use Agreement and the Events Agreement to combine them and investigate requiring insurance for events such as the Farmers Market in Rose Garden Park. (Ribeiro, Allen-Blakney)

Unscheduled Public Comment: There were no unscheduled public comments.

MAYORS REPORT –

Teleconference W/W 1&2 and 3&4 and Water projects with Funding agencies
Chamber meeting

Assigned Council Members to committees

Reviewed Reimagining Rural program

Audit interview for FY Y/E 6/30/23

Went to a Board of Adjustment site visit regarding a setback

There was a Main Gravity Sewer Line backup that was caused by a variety of garbage (such as flushable wipes, shop towels, etc.) being put into the sewer system. A letter was sent reminding customers about prohibited materials.

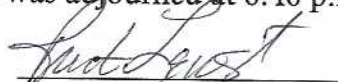
The solar powered Speed Feed Back signs are not getting enough cumulative sun this time of year to fully charge the batteries. They are working intermittently when there is enough sun to power the Feed Back sign and/or charge batteries. Public Works has checked with

the supplier, and this is the answer. Options such as providing electrical connections to the signs would be expensive and difficult.

The MTSEP (Montana Coal Endowment Program) Grant had letters of conditions and contracts that were to be signed by this last September 30, 2024. Due to COVID and then the auditing company we were contracting with stopped doing Federal audits and we did not have our audit for FY23 completed. This created a complication for the MTSEP deadline. We were able to engage a new auditor who needed some time to prepare our audit for FY 23 -the completed one is in your packet. This same auditor is currently auditing for our FY24. This coming Friday, Chelsea and I will be in Helena to present information to the Legislature about retaining the MTSEP grant for our Water Project. This grant was awarded at \$750,000.


I was advised there was a rumor on local social media about fluoride in the Thompson Falls public water system. The answer is NO.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. (Ribeiro, Maudrone)



Rusti Leivestad, Mayor

ATTEST:



Chelsea Peterson, City Clerk/Treasurer

City of Thompson Falls



Regular City Council Meeting

In the City Hall, 108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT
Monday, January 13, 2025 @ 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

COMMUNITY DECAY AND VIOLATIONS LIST REPORT: Attached

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Attached

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

INFORMATION: None

ACTION ITEMS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Zoning Committee Vacancy.

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

2. Water Adjustment due to water leak.
3. Water Bill Adjustment due to water leak.
4. A 6 ½ foot Variance Request from the South Property Line at 608 Haley Avenue.
5. INTERCAP Loan for Police Cars and Police Equipment
6. Arbor Day Grant
7. Sewer Project Phases 1 & 2 Pay Application for Reimbursement for \$62,565.69 USDA Rural Development.
8. Sewer Project Phases 1 & 2 Change Orders #19
9. Sewer Project Phases 3 & 4 Pay Application for Reimbursement for \$45,000 ARPA Grant, RRG \$2,164.50 Grant.
10. Water Project Pay Application for Reimbursement for \$158,336.06 ARPA Grant.
11. Water Project Change Order #1
12. Reimagining Rural Application and Council and Public Participation in a 3-night virtual webinar series designed for small towns.
13. Refer School District #2 trade properties to the Public Properties Committee.
14. Refer to the Recreation Public Properties Committee the Ainsworth Use Agreement and the Events Agreement to combine them both and investigate requiring insurance or not on events such as the Farmers Market in Rose Garden Park

Lisa Traver
Brian Cole
Jessica Jones

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT – The public may speak for up to 3 minutes once about anything not on the agenda.

MAYOR'S REPORT

ADJOURN

The City of Thompson Falls is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: City Council Meeting January 13

Time: Jan 13, 2025, 6:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2658109916?pwd=UEurirKyE6zMxhbzvlqXv7Tazbithb.1&omn=88089905291>

Meeting ID: 265 810 9916 Passcode: 392280

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Meeting ID: 265 810 9916 Passcode: 392280

**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.

A snowman wearing a top hat and scarf, standing next to the word "January" in a colorful, bubbly font.

**In the City Hall, 108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT
Monday, January 13, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.**

[illegible]