**Town of Winifred, Incorporated**

**Minutes**

**February 11, 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, February 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Newly appointed council member for Ward 2, Cody Isom, was sworn in by Mayor Shirley Dyer.

Roll call was called., Mayor Shirley Dyer, Council Person Rick Baker, Council Person Barry Ehlert, Council Person Kristin Carlstrom, Council Person Cody Isom, Town Clerk Cheri Kjersem. Guests present were Krista Ness, Brandon Ewen, Amber Econom.

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

Minutes from the council meeting on January 14, 2025 were presented. Council person Rick Baker made a motion to approve the minutes, Barry Ehlert seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

 Bills approved were claim number 2698/Aqua Tech, 2699/First Bank, 2701/Fergus Electric, 2702/Republic Services, 2703/Energy Labs, 2704/Town of Winifred, 2705/Triangle,2707/Northwest Energy, 2713/Oaas Law, 2710/Brenda Baker, 2709/CHS, 2708/Ehlert Bros, 2712/Safeguard Business Systems,2711/VISA, 2714/Local Government Services.

The Bank Reconciliation for December and January are not complete.

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

Investments: will be presented when bank reconciliations are complete

 Correspondence was read.

Citizen Comment Opportunity: Kristin Carlstrom read an email from Dan Tungesvick concerning new technology updates Norm Asbjornson would like to have done in the main office, library and museum. Norm has lots of ideas for the updates. Dan is looking things over to see what will work best and what upgrades need to also be done with the internet.

The council also discussed the need to update the sound system downstairs.

Brandon Ewen was present to update the council on the discussion for the new fire hall on Richard Vestal’s land.

Adam Hershberger is the contractor on the job.

Brandon said they will need water to the building for sewer and a kitchen. Brandon is working with DEQ for options for the septic to the shop. Nothing to report on that situation right now.

Brandon also discussed the work Norm is doing at the stock yards. There will be a large new grandstand to seat 600-700 people with a kitchen, bathrooms, and a crow’s nest. Still a work in process with lots of decisions to be made.

Unfinished Business:

Sewer: Kurt Thomson was unable to be here due to the weather.

The Easements for along the county road and spray irrigation have been completed with Alan and Tom Ehlert and Terry and Teri Selph.

The land for the lift station is almost complete with CHS Bigsky.

Streets: No new information.

Bank Signatures, treasurer: Tabled until new treasurer is hired and first chair decided.

New Business:

Treasurer position: Krista Ness interviewed for the position tonight at 6:30. Krista stayed for the meeting and notarized Cody Isom’s swearing in.

The council discussed hours and wages for the position.

With the years of experience Krista brings to the job and hours being flexible, depending on the time of year requiring more hours than other times.

Barry Ehlert made a motion to hire Krista Ness for up to 20 hours a week for the treasurer position, at a wage of $22.00 an hour with a review in six months. Also to put Kristin Carlstrom at the same wage while she trains Krista. Cody Isom seconded the motion. Motion passed. Kristin Carlstrom abstained from the vote.

Employee evaluations: The council will do Rick Bakers evaluation next meeting.

The Library Board had met and discussed giving the Librarians Brenda Baker and Amy Arthur a $1.00 an hour raises to include any minimum wage increase. Kristin Carlstrom made a motion to accept the wage increase by the Library Board, Barry Ehlert seconded the motion. Motion passed. Rick Baker abstained from the vote

Miscellaneous:

Mayor Shirley Dyer discussed the council nominate a first chair.

Rick Baker nominated Kristin Carlstrom as the first chair, Barry Ehlert seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kristin Carlstrom discussed with the council; it would be good to get a new laptop for the treasurer to be able to work remote. The council agreed that would be a good idea to include with the upgrades Norm wants to do with the technology.

The mayor and council discussed getting new office chairs for the conference table and the desk in the office. The council looked at different chairs in the k-log catalog and agreed on 8 new conference chairs and two desk chairs.

Rick Baker made a motion to purchase the new chairs, Cody Isom seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

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

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