

ITEM 1 Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

ITEM 2 Roll Call: Mayor Gibson, Trustee Billings, Trustee Brady, Trustee Cooper, Trustee McVey, Trustee West, Trustee Wittler.

Present: Mayor Gibson, Trustee Billings, Trustee Brady, Trustee Cooper, Trustee McVey, Trustee West, Trustee Wittler.

Phone/Computer: None

Absent: Trustee McVey

Guest Present: Lexi Brooks, Kathy Self, Inez Wells, Marla Humphrey, Sammi Sparks,

**Staff Present: Merna McGinnis, Town Manager
Tammy Newman, Town Clerk
Heath Piper, Electric Superintendent
Katrina Martin, Police Chief
Don Steerman, Town Attorney**

ITEM 3 Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Gibson

ITEM 4 Prayer, led by Trustee West

ITEM 5 Approve Minutes of the May 4, 2022 Board of Trustee's Special Meeting. Approve Minutes of the May 5, 2022 Board of Trustee's Special Meeting, Executive Session. Trustee Wittler made motion to approve May 4, 2022 special meeting and May 5, 2022 special executive session, with correction to May 4, 2022 minutes correcting Officer Jonah West spelling of his name in item 6 last paragraph. Second by Trustee Billings. Motion Carried.

ITEM 6 Approve Bills
Trustee Brady made motion to approve bills as presented. Second by Trustee West. Motion Carried.

ITEM 7 Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items
Anyone who would like to address the Board of Trustees on any matter other than an agenda item will be given an opportunity, 3-minute time limit each person after signing the roster.
None

ITEM 8 Public Hearing Tavern Liquor License Renewal Application
Tavern License (City); Marla Humphrey., dba The Lost Dog Bar and Grill, LLC, 889 Main Street, Springfield, CO, Marla Humphrey.
Trustee Cooper made motion to approve Lost Dog Bar & Grill liquor license renewal. Second by Trustee Billings.
Yes: Trustee Billings, Brady, Cooper, West, Wittler, Mayor Gibson
No: None
Motion Passed.

ITEM 9 Tree Board, Kathy Self
Inez Wills and Mitzi Jett both will be running for reappointment to the tree board.

Presentation on behalf of the Fort William Chapter New trustees received a flag to place at their residence.

Ms. Self has a column with the minutes of tree board and general information for tree care in the Plainsman Herald.

Memorial Park will soon be 30 years old in June, thinking of a few things to do like an ice cream social or an old fashion box supper to raise funds to remove the old water fountain that doesn't work and replace with a Bill Bunting sculptor on a pedestal.

Would like to have new signage and new name for City Park.

Bunting art work that are along Main Street on sidewalk, a few need some work done on them, and replacements.

Welcome to Springfield sign out at the Big R, south of town, you can't see sign for all the things Big R has for sale in front of it. Ms. Self has visited with the manager and will now talk to the Lamar manager to get stuff moved away from front of sign.

Flower planters down Main Street, need to purchase one more for completion, placing it on the north side of town by J's Motel. Watering flowers every few days now, and is going well.

Teaming up for trees grant was started in 2017 between the town and the Forest Service has been completed. Donna will be coming to town trustee meeting in June. Have 3 trees left to plant and would like to plant the trees in memory of Darwin Hanson.

Inez Wills commented on the removal of the trees, during the new construction of the school.

ITEM 10 Farmers Market

Second (2) year for the Farmers Market, Leslie Hutches handled the first year but will stepping back. Jeremy West will take the lead for this year. Dates will be June, July and August every other weekend and change of location to the City Park. Discussion on the event insurance that the town cannot waive the fee. Discussion on charging booth fee to cover the cost. Trustee Cooper and Mayor Gibson offered to contribute \$100.00 each to the insurance fee. Double up food bucks, SNAP spends 10.00 of food assistance then the grant kicks in \$10.00 for \$20.00 worth of fresh food.

Trustees support the farmers market and the change of location to the park.

ITEM 11 Landfill Discussion

Mr. Piper stated the landfill still has around 10 more foot in height it can go. If it is compacted correctly and start weighing everyone's trash at .03 per pound that would generate over one million dollars to open up and build new landfill pit. Would need scales, building, daily cover and applicator to spread cover. Discussion on a minimum fee for just a bag or couple bags of trash.

ITEM 12 General Business

A. Kestrel Subdivision, Southeast Plains Workforce Housing Project Update:

Phone call with Brent Frazee, SECED May 11, 2022, 2 homes sold for Springfield with 10 duplexes and Walsh has one house sold. Ground breaking in Olney Springs next week with Grand Celebration in Las Animas May 25th 1:30 pm. Current schedule start date for Springfield is July 18, 2022, Walsh October 17, 2022. Towns pay for material up front then will get reimbursement from the project funds on the back end. County Commissioners had said they are willing to help on the costs of materials.

Trustee Brady made motion to approve \$70,500.00 for the water/wastewater supplies needed for the housing project water/wastewater extensions. Second by Trustee West. Motion Passed.

Electric department will need to figure how much more wire or if will need heavier wire.

B. Cobblestone Hotel Update: Discussion on the email thread from Steve Schmutzer with BriMark about the town of Springfield shared with multiple people.

ITEM 13 Administrative Reports

Merna McGinnis Town Manager/ Treasurer

Only had one application for the ARPA scholarship, Ayla Meltabarger.

Letter from Mr. Jared Leathers was handed out to the trustees.

Swimming pool opening June 1, 2022, first session of swimming lessons starting June 6th - 17th and the second session starting June 20th - July 1st. Ms. Newman has written a letter to the Cooper Clark Foundation for \$6,000.00 to offer free swimming lessons to all area children.

Administrative Assistant resigned April 18, 2022. Have ran an ad for the last two weeks, looking into maybe only a part-time person to fill that position. Margaret has stepped up to help in office so far.

June 8, 2022 will be 30-year anniversary for Ms. McGinnis, past protocol is a \$2000.00 increase for every five years of service with the town of Springfield.

Trustee Brady made the motion to approve the \$2,000.00 increase to base salary. Trustee Billings second. Motion Passed.

Sales tax is up this month to \$53,962.00.

Mr. Leathers letter was discussed, and brought new trustees up to speed on issue. No discussion was made at this time.

Elsie Coxs' son-in-law Mr. Apel wanted town to waived permit fee for RV parking at Ms. Cox house.

Heath Piper, Electric Superintendent

Employee of Asplundh (tree trimming service) was down and looked over town, his boss will also have to look over the job to get a quote and can't get to that for a couple more months. Trustee Cooper will get number for McCabe trimmers out of Elkhart Kansas. Must have insurance and be able to work in electrical lines. Option to get the one journey man and part-time helpers is out as journeyman has left for California already.

School wants electric and water the first week of June, the rest in July.

Troy Plagge, electrical helper will start Monday May 16, 2022.

Installed new regulars has made a difference already.

Tammy Newman, Town Clerk,

Nothing new to add, that hasn't already been covered.

Don Steerman, Town Attorney

Code Enforcement Officer Margret Dunham sent Mr. Steerman four (4) properties on code violations that letters will be issued from him.

Family leave act, (FAMLI) can opt in or opt out, town offers leave now above the requirement needed.

Buyout of electric for Cobblestone, Don needs to talk to Brandon again next week on the legal description, and an agreement needs to be setup.

Franchise fees with CenturyLink and SECOM. They are not wanting to pay franchise fees. Options the town has is to increase pole rental fees and right of way permits.

Katrina Martin, Police Chief

Monthly police report was provided to the Board.

Moving into new area of investigation. Will be working with a forensics podiatrist and a document examiner.

Trustee Brady, commented that patrol of the school zone this week is appreciated.

Asked if there is a report pulled from the speed trailers on the speeds during the day. Chief Martin responded they are working on getting that information.

Trustee Brady asked if Code Enforcement could help police department with paperwork and animal calls during business hours. Will need to talk to Margaret before making that discussion.

What needs to be done to get a Sargent hired so can take some of the pressure off the department.

Trustee Cooper stated now is the time to look at police budget and hiring process.

Trustee Brady stated lateral steps need to be looked at for transferring from another agency, Trustee West questioned if we couldn't get a policy from another agency to look at. Have Joan get policies from other agencies that we can model from.

Trustee Brady asked about getting monthly Police schedules sent to the trustees for backing when the public questions if officer is on duty, but not to give out to the public just knowledge for the trustees.

Trustee West stated the Sergeants' position is key, next meeting need to spend some quality brain storming. Need to setup a work session to work on Sergeant's position. Also have Margaret present to discuss helping the police department.

ITEM 14 Mayor and Trustee Reports

Correspondence from the Southeast Colorado Hospital, Hospice for \$40.00 in memory of Bill McEndree.

Trustee West on electric buy back incentives. The town does not offer the buyback program.

Officer Martin asked about the speed trailers that was approved and if they can still be purchased, was told to go ahead and look into getting them.

Mayor Gibson discussed the CML annual conference is June 22nd. If anyone would like to go there is room for one more.

Trustee Brady said Larry Duncan asked if the park punch list could get finished.

Mayor Gibson talked about the Memorial Park sign and see if it could get done by June 30th.

Mr. Piper suggested may need a policy that mandates disconnect for solar systems at their homes. Will need for liability reasons.

ITEM 15 Adjournment

Trustee Cooper made motion to adjourn at 8:05pm, seconded by Trustee Billings. All agreed.