

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2023, TOWN OF BEARCREEK COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Surwill called the Bearcreek council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7, 2023, in the Town Hall. Council members Boos, Cristan, Hogan, and Jenkins were present. Julianne Lore, Town Attorney; Rob Surwill, Animal Control Officer; Loni Hanson, Zoning Director; and Dean Webb, Public Works Director were in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council member Jenkins moved to accept the minutes, financial reports, and budget vs actual reports as presented. Council member Boos seconded the motion which carried 4-0.

Council member Cristan moved to approve the claims as presented. Council member Jenkins seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The clerk hit the highlights of the letter received from American Legal Publishing along with the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the revised Ordinances. There was no other correspondence.

There were no public comments.

Dean started Dept. head reports by advising that the spring repairs had been done on November 16<sup>th</sup> by himself, Ed Webb, operator of the track hoe, volunteers Lowell Cutshaw, Interstate Engineering; Lowell's sons, Christian and Anders; Drake Schake, Interstate Engineering; and Tyler Lindbloom, Interstate Engineering. Lowell and Dean brainstormed how to do the repairs and hopefully they will not be temporary, but permanent if Mother Nature cooperates. Loni reported that nothing was happening with zoning. Rob stated that all was quiet for animal control and the reminder letters will be going out for the animal tags.

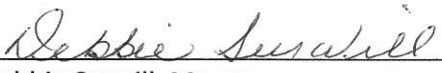
There were no council concerns.

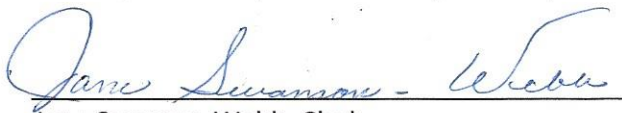
Under unfinished business (1) the Resolution 23-11 accepting the Water System Preliminary Engineering Report of 2023 prepared by Interstate Engineering was presented. The motion to accept the PER made by Council member Hogan and seconded by Council member Jenkins, passed with a 4-0 vote. (2) The attorney explained the amendment to Resolution 22-05 changing verbiage of 69-7-010 to 7-13-4304 from district to municipality. Council member Hogan moved to accept the amendment. The motion seconded by Council member Jenkins passed unanimously.

Under new business the priority list for HB355 grant funding was presented and discussed by Dept heads, the Mayor and council. The purpose of the grant is to fund the maintenance and repair of existing local government facilities on a partnership basis with the local government supplying a cash match of local revenues. The match is 25% of the total cost of the project. The town is eligible to receive \$12,430.00, which means if it were applied to the water project of 2 million dollars, the 25% match would be more than the \$12,430.00 received, therefore it would defeat the purpose of applying it to the water system. The priority list consisted of repairs and maintenance to the town hall. A public hearing will be held to hear comments from the public for the priority order. Council member Hogan moved to go forward with the application submission and award process. The motion was seconded by Council member Jenkins. Motion passed 4-0.

Under clerk's items (1) the clerk noted that the Mayor, Dean, the engineers, and herself were to have a meeting with Rural Development concerning grant funding, but it was cancelled three times, therefore they will meet after the first of the year. (2) The last report on the FEMA grant was that our flooding didn't fit in the schedule of their flooding calendar, therefore there won't be a reimbursement. We are still eligible so far for the Mitigation Grant that Cynria submitted for the Town. (3) To secure our town data the Town will join Black Mountain Software cloud program for \$700 a year if our internet speed is qualified. (4) The clerk advised that she will be on vacation Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> through Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business, council member Jenkins moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion seconded by council member Boos passed 4-0.

  
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Debbie Surwill, Mayor

  
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Jane Swanson-Webb, Clerk