

Minutes of November 6, 2025, Public Hearing and Bearcreek Council Meeting

The public hearing on the utility rate increase was called to order by Mayor Surwill at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Paul Hogan, Bobby Petersen, Danell Boos, and Betty Cristan. Dean Webb, public works director; Loni Hanson, zoning administrator and the clerk were in attendance. Public present were Threse Fuchs, Jan Oestreich, Kim Rivers, and Emily Rivers. The Mayor and several council members discussed the ongoing water projects and the need of the increase. There were no oral or written comments. With no further discussion the public hearing adjourned.

The regular meeting was opened. All present at the hearing, except for the Rivers, joined the regular meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Bobby moved to accept the minutes, the financial report, and the budget vs. actual report. Danell seconded said motion which passed 4-0.

Claims were presented for payment and approved with a motion by Bobbie, seconded by Danell, which passed unanimously.

Under correspondence a thank you from Murfitts and one from the Webbs were read.

There were no public comments.

Dept. Head Reports were started by Dean. He advised that both the water and sewer were good. The contractor at the spring boxes was finishing up with clean up. The water was back on and had been for several days, and it was good. There would be a walk through with the engineers, ranch, BLM, Rural Development and himself. Everything looked good so far. It will look better when it gets seeded. Loni reported she had a couple of permits, one for the tiny house on Third Ave and one for Clay Downing's shed on his property. The mayor gave the animal control report for the absent animal control officer. Rob didn't have anything to report but it will be time soon for the letters to go out. The clerk advised she had the tags on order.

There were no council concerns.

Under unfinished business (1) the Contract revision to add the aquifer test at the well site. Dean advised that the test well had been dug by the water tank, and the water seemed to be good flowing at 70 gallons a minute therefore a revision to the contract to add the aquifer test by the hydrologist was being asked for. Paul moved to allow the revision to the contract. Betty seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. (2) Dean showed the mayor and council on the town map where the land lay that we were hoping to purchase from Sunlight Ranch and the reasoning behind the purchase. The clerk advised that they had received the comparative market analysis, which came in at \$3,800.00. Paul moved since Dean has been working on this purchase for 10-15 years that the proposal be drawn up and presented to the Ranch, allowing Dean the discretion to bargain as he seems necessary. When we get the green light from the ranch, we give the clerk permission to draw the check and get it to them. Betty seconded the motion which passed unanimously. (3) Resolution 2025-8 Utility rate increase had been presented to the council members before the meeting for their review. Paul moved to adopt the Resolution. With Bobby seconding the motion it passed 4-0.

New Business heard the mayor requesting permission to leave the country for 11 days. Paul moved to grant Debbie permission. Danell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Paul requested permission to leave the state but wasn't sure of the dates. Bobbie moved to allow Paul to leave. Danell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

With no further business Bobbie moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Paul, passed 4-0.

Debbie Surwill  
Debbie Surwill, Mayor

Jane Swanson-Webb  
Jane Swanson-Webb, Clerk