

## Bicknell Town Work Meeting

April 27, 2023

7:00 P.M.

### I. OPEN MEETING/ROLL CALL

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order. Council members present were Mayor Noreen Johnson, Steve Albrecht, Weston Johnson, and Kerry Stevens. Bryan Brinkerhoff was absent. Others present were Kelsey Brinkerhoff, Carrie Brinkerhoff, Scott Woolsey, and Brennan Rees.

### II. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED

Memorial Park-Carrie has had some people call with concerns regarding camping at the memorial and she wants to know if it is allowed or if we need to post some signs for no camping. There was some discussion, and the council would like to watch and see if it gets worse or if something happens before putting signs up. It is mostly just RV's parking there for the night not actual tent camping inside the memorial.

Irrigation Fees- Carrie had done some research into how much we needed to raise irrigation fees to better our year-end profits but in doing so she found that we have only lost money 5 years over the last 15 years. There was a suggestion to raise it only a small amount and do it every 3 years or so. There is a question whether a public hearing is needed to raise the fees, Kelsey or Carrie will investigate it. The council decided on raising the fees by \$8.00 per year which would be a \$2.00 increase each quarter when irrigation is billed. The suggestion was also made to raise irrigation fees then next year raise culinary water rates, then the third year raise taxes, the council liked that idea.

Energy Tax- The Mayor asked the council if anyone had any questions about the energy tax that's been proposed. There were some clarifications on what it is and what the funds can be used for. The council thought it would be a good thing to do so it will be put on the May Town Council meeting to approve.

Cemetery Fees- We notified the public in our newsletter and the water bill this month about Bicknell Town raising the rates on cemetery plots/graves. We will pass them in the May meeting then to go into effect June 1, 2023. Current prices were looked at and proposed fees were looked at and some changes were made. There were some discussions on what qualifies you as a resident since we have several secondary homes in the town. Ultimately the council decided to go with what the current cemetery ordinance states, living in the town 365 days and/or in the voting district. The new prices were agreed on and the council will pass a resolution with the new prices effective June 1, 2023.

Variance Fee- The current ordinance says there should be a fee to apply for a variance, but no amount was set. The council discussed the topic for a while and decided to go with \$500 for the variance fee. This will be approved and passed in May town council meeting.

Nuisance Ordinance- The monthly commissioner/town meeting they were discussing nuisance ordinance and how to enforce them. There were a few examples given at the meeting, but Steve feels like the planning commission would take the time to research it and work on it. The council all thought that was a good idea so the mayor will get with the planning commission and let them know to start working on that.

Budget- Kelsey is starting to work on the budget for next year and was wondering if anyone had any wants or needs. The beautification committee would like \$500 for extra banners for the light poles on the main street. Scott knows the cemetery could use some grass. The mayor has requested \$1000 for more Christmas decorations since ours are getting worn and the mayor thinks we need to get a storage container. She looked a few months back and they were around \$8,000. She also let the council know that in June she was going to CIB hoping to get a grant for a skid steer and some attachments. Steve wondered if we could maybe use the money that we have left over from our water project. We would need to investigate that and make sure that is okay. The party fund needs \$5,000 for this year as well. There was also discussion about whether the cutters and culvers on the main were our responsibility or UDOTS. Scott said they are UDOTs, and he tried to help clean the one out on the turn when he has the inmates come over.

High Balance Water Bills- This was discussed in a closed session.

### III. ADJOURNMENT

The council wanted to discuss the high balance water bills in a closed session so at 8:08 the council went into a closed session and adjourned at 8:30 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk