

## Bicknell Town Council Meeting Minutes

1 June 2023 7:00 PM

### I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ ROLL CALL

Mayor Noreen Johnson called the Bicknell Town Council meeting to order. Council members present were: Bryan Brinkerhoff, Steve Albrecht, Kerry Stevens, and Weston Johnson. Others in attendance were Kelsey Brinkerhoff, Carrie Brinkerhoff, Laura Lasco, Gregg & Ellen Anderson, Jim Dudelston, Scott Woolsey, Kade & Jamie Blackburn, John Taylor, Cherie Blackburn, Deann Frazier, and Carly Lansch.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the town council on May 4 2023 were reviewed. Mayor Johnson asked if there were any corrections. Council did not have any corrections. Kerry made a motion to approve them. Weston seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Albrecht, Stevens, and Johnson. Bryan abstained from voting because he was not at this meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.

The minutes for the work meeting on May 25 2023 were reviewed. Mayor Johnson asked if there were any corrections. Council did not have any corrections. Steve made a motion to approve them. Kerry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Albrecht, Stevens, and Johnson. Bryan abstained from voting because he was not at this meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.

### III. BUSINESS

**Sarah Tal-Color Country Animal Welfare-** Sarah Tal was not present.

**Trails-** Carly Lansch, with the division of outdoor recreation, explained that Bicknell town was elected to receive a grant for planning assistance. It is a new grant through their office. It is no actual money, just time and technical help. She's very excited to help assist Bicknell with a plan for trails. She has designed a survey for residents to take so they can get an idea of what kind of trails people are wanting, where they're wanting them right now and the plan is to put something together with the forest service and BLM whichever is needed. The next stage will be applying for grants for actual money to make the trails. Her office says if they have done the grant for the planning, they are more likely to get the grants to actually fund the project. Steve Albrecht explained who was all on the committee, and that they hiked the hills and got some ideas today. Eventually, the trails planning committee will have an open house with Maps where residents will be able to give feedback and ask questions. Carly thanked Bicknell Town for having her and asked if there were any questions. Deann Frazier wondered if the county was going to be involved and what part of the cost would be Bicknell town's responsibility. There was some discussion about her questions then the council thanked her and she told everybody to take the survey and share it. This will get the ball rolling.

**Planning & Zoning Report-** The planning commission met on May 30. Everyone was present, but Rhett Jackson. They worked on making a building permit application procedure and a variance application procedure. Ellen showed the town Council what they had come up with. They all thought it was a great idea but had some suggestions to improve it. She explained this would speed up the process. It will tell them what they need before coming to planning and zoning. It is made from the ordinance so all of this is already in place just simplifying one list, instead of reading the whole ordinance. Making it easier for office staff to inform people who request a permit. The mayor did say that the timeframe is one of the complaints she's heard is that it takes too long to get through the process. Ellen believes this will speed it up. The council gave her some feedback on the procedural lists that she will take back to the planning & zoning commission. Ellen also would like to add a planning commission signature on the building permit. They are having a work meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> to go over the ordinance with Brock and hopefully be ready to have their public hearing before next month's meeting. Cherie Blackburn was also present in

their meeting. She would like to build a garage, but there were some disagreements on property lines, and the house currently is too close to the property line. There was some discussion but ultimately planning and zoning voted unanimously to allow Cherie to build her garage. Kade Blackburn was also present at their meeting he would like to move his metal building from one lot where the building permit was originally for to another one the planning commission questions, his ability to make the setbacks. Kade did not have a plot map or setbacks, and the planning commission has many concerns. Where is on a highway Kade will meet with the building inspector and then if he does meet setbacks planning and zoning would allow Him to move his building.

**Kade Blackburn-** Kade explained she was there to see if he could move his building from one lot to another. Eric was coming Monday to measure if needed he will cut the building down right now it's 120 x 30 and 25 feet tall, they will not be working out of it it's just storage. There was some discussion and ultimately the town Council decided yes, if they meet setbacks then they will approve it if Eric doesn't approve it then it would have to go to the original place. Kade thanked the council and left.

**Cherie Blackburn-** Cherie explained she wanted to build an attached garage to the side of our house. She explained it was sent back from the house 14 feet. There was some discussion and since the planning commission approved it, the town Council said they would. Steve made a motion to approve Cherie Blackburn 's building permit, and Kerry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Brinkerhoff, Albrecht, Stevens, and Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries. The mayor also explained to Cherie that the road right away from the town was going to be enforced. The mayor asked Cherie if she could move the metal pipe that is on the town property by her home, and she said yes, no problem, the mayor thanked John and Cherie and they left.

**Community Garden-** The community garden is ready to rent spaces. It needs a fence but we are waiting on a fencer for that. The mayor told the council they needed to come up with a price to rent. There was some discussion and questions then they decided on \$20 each in the greenhouse or outside in the planter box. It will be advertised in the newsletter and around town with flyers.

**Cemetery Grass-** The cemetery grass is really looking bad. People are commenting on how bad it looks. The mayor was going to talk to Jayden Brian but hasn't had a chance about hydroseeding it or maybe we could just see that we'll just have to see on price. There were some comments that said it looked good considering. Steve made a comment about getting sod before Memorial Day because the sod place said everyone gets it before then. The mayor explains it's hard to get side before Memorial Day because usually we have no water before Memorial Day and saw it needs to be watered a few times a day once it is laid.

**Business License Fee Increase-** The council discussed raising the business license fee to \$75 at the last town board work meeting. The mayor asked if anybody had any questions Dion Fraser asked why there was a business license fee. Weston explained that some businesses that's all they contribute to the town because they don't pay sales tax, after the discussion, Steve made a motion to raise the business license fee to \$75 and Weston seconded. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Brinkerhoff, Albrecht, Stevens, and Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.

**Irrigation Fee Increase-** The council discussed raising irrigation fees at the town Council work meeting last week and also at the public hearing earlier tonight the mayor asked if anyone had any questions there were known so Carrie made a motion to raise the irrigation rate fees by eight dollars a year and Weston seconded. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Brinkerhoff, Albrecht, Stevens, and Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.

**Budget-** The budget for 2023 to 2024 was looked at and approved in a public hearing earlier this evening. And where Steve made a motion to approve it and Weston second with a Roll Call vote. Unanimously, yes motion carries.

**Town Road-Right-of-way Policy-** Kelsey sent everyone a copy of the town right-of-way policy earlier. There was some discussion about adding vehicles to it. Ultimately, the council decided to table this subject until after they met with the attorney.

#### MEMBER REPORTS

**Mayor Johnson-** The mayor would like to remind everybody of the mayor commissioner meeting on June 12 at the Civic Center also June 10 at 9 AM at the town shed we will be filling sandbags.

**Steve-** Steve reported there was a thousand dollars contributed to the memorial, Steve said the lawn at the memorial was very dry. Leanne his wife would volunteer to order flags and hang the council thought that would be a good idea. Steve also asked what everyone thought about the trails if it is a good idea or not the council really liked it. Flag day is June 14. Steve can put up the flags on the 13th and take them down on the 16th if everybody's OK with that, Steve would also like for the council to look at raising property taxes and annexing people into town.

**Scott-** Scott reported he has lost his keys. Hopefully, he finds them soon. The mountain springs are producing 90 gallons a minute he hasn't made it to look at Brinkerhoff Springs. The new tank is leaking but he said that is not uncommon. The new tank is full, but it needs to pass some tests before use. The irrigation. Water came in. There were lots of water breaks. The town stuff was put in pretty good shape and started rotations today. He's been working on getting water on the grass at the town hall, he changed Michael Brinkerhoff's meter and Waylon started and has been helping him mow and get the water going.

**Carrie-** Carrie had gotten a phone call after deciding not to put in for the cemetery grant. The state said everybody needs to send the records to the state and Bicknell town hasn't and since 1999. The lady also asked how we kept a record. Carrie told her on a piece of paper, she is thinking maybe next year apply for that grant to help us get digitalized.

**FINANCIAL.** Kelsey had a few questions on some accounts account 186 hasn't paid anything for months. It is a closed account. She would like to know if the council would like to write it off. Ryan made a motion to write off account 186, and Kerry seconded it with a unanimous, Roll Call vote motion passes. A list of the bills was presented to the council for payment approval. There were a few questions then Steve made a motion to pay the bills and Kerry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Albrecht, Brinkerhoff, Stevens, and Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.

#### IV. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was needed tonight.

**Adjournment.** Kerry made a motion at 9:07 to adjourn, and Weston seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called Councilmembers voting yes: Albrecht, Brinkerhoff, Stevens, and Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.

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