

Town of Haxtun
February 1, 2021
REGULAR MEETING

The Haxtun Town Council met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was opened by Mayor Brandon Bieseemeier at the Haxtun Community Center. Roll call was taken with the following council members present: Bob Cionek, Mike Ensminger, Ryan Horton, Lori Lundgren, and Tana Pope. Craig McCarty was absent. Mayor Bieseemeier led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff members present were Ron Carpenter, Town Superintendent, Tanya Mayhew, Chief of Police, Cameron Kondella, Police Officer, and Karie Wilson, Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Trish Herman, PCED Executive Director, was also in attendance.

A motion was made by L. Lundgren, seconded by R. Horton to approve the agenda. All present voted yes, and the motion carried.

A motion was made T. Pope seconded by B. Cionek to approve the consent agenda, which includes the regular meeting minutes of January 4, 2021, the following monthly invoices to be paid, and transfers of cash. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jan. Payroll	Taxes	\$9,043.85
Jan. Payroll	Salary	\$40,602.74
Amazon	Tools	\$321.13
Apex	Shredding Service	\$60.00
Black Hills	Utilities	\$856.24
Bornhoft, Chris	Clothing Allowance	\$198.66
CAMU	2021 Dues	\$450.98
CIRSA	1st Qtr prop/casualty	\$13,800.55
CIRSA	VAMP, CSWAMP	\$2,331.74
CIRSA	1st Qtr workers comp	\$5,087.50
CMCA	Dues	\$260.00
CO Emerald Society Pipe Band	Davis Funeral Service	\$250.00
CO Library Consortium	AspenCat 2021	\$1,600.00
CO Rural Water	2021 membership	\$275.00
CO State Treasurer	4th Qtr UITR	\$379.94
Fetzer Electric	Repairs to System	\$6,500.00
FPPA	Pension	\$1,243.40
Gall's	PD Uni & Equipment	\$555.75
Grainland	Fuel	\$397.52
GWRS	Retirement	\$1,541.64
Haxtun Car Wash	PD Fleet Wash	\$9.00
Haxtun Super's	Supplies	\$37.23
HF Herald	Publications/Supplies	\$250.73
Ingram	Books	\$15.40

IWS	Welcome Signs	\$29,000.00
Johnson Chiropractic	PD physical	\$115.00
Kelly PC	Attorney Fees	\$665.00
Kuehn, Chris	Janitorial	\$210.00
McBride, Lyle	Restitution	\$83.84
NE, KS, CO Railway	water pipeline easement	\$977.34
NMPP	Power	\$45,149.98
NMPP	Distribution services	\$1,320.00
PCED	1st Qtr Dues	\$1,375.00
Pctelcom	Phone/internet	\$206.79
Petty Cash	Postage, Supplies, Misc	\$95.91
Schaefer, Kathy	Restitution	\$481.52
Spelts, Pete	Restitution	\$2,090.79
UNCC	Transmissions	\$10.43
US Postmaster	Stamps/Postage	\$224.40
Viaero	Phone	\$331.44
Wilson's Repair	Repairs/Maint.	\$532.62
Witmer Public Safety	PD grant equip.	\$319.60
American Heritage	Supplemental Insurance	\$25.55
Border States	Repairs to System	\$980.14
Buck's Painting	Repairs/Maint.	\$202.83
Capital One	Street Bond	\$6,010.25
Carpenter, Ron	Clothing Allowance	\$61.58
CEBT	Insurance	\$14,304.00
City of Sidney	Repairs to System	\$5,250.00
CO Dept of Revenue	Jan Withholding Tax	\$1,380.00
Colorado Analytical	Water/Wastewater Testing	\$68.00
Elwood, Kelly	MD Refund	\$100.00
Haxtun Tel	Phone	\$438.46
Kart-Man	Repairs to System	\$714.00
Office Service	Copier Maint	\$162.38
Phillips County Landfill	Dump Fees	\$2,598.16
Phillips County Treasurer	Jan Sales Tax	\$318.94
Precision Plumbing	Repairs to System	\$232.99
Scholl Oil	Fuel	\$6,943.45
Standard	Supplemental Insurance	\$111.95
Sun Life	Supplemental Insurance	\$253.60
VSP	Supplemental Insurance	\$115.96
Western United Electric	Equip	\$8.55
Witmer Public	PD grant equip	\$650.36

Transfers of Cash

01/08/2021 Transfer from MM Savings to Business Checking for accounts payable \$104,500.00

01/15/2021 Transfer from MM Savings to Business Checking for payroll \$17,700.00

01/20/2021 Transfer from MM Savings to Business Checking for accounts payable \$50,000.00

01/28/2020 Transfer from MM Savings to Business Checking for payroll \$17,850.00

Public Comment:

Trisha gave a brief over-view of her PCED newsletter, which was a recap of 2020 activities.

Regular Business:

A motion was made by L. Lundgren and seconded by R. Horton, to appoint Ron Carpenter and Mike Ensminger as representative and alternate representative to CAMU (Colorado Association of Municipal Utilities). Motion passed.

A motion was made by T. Pope, and seconded by M. Ensminger, to accept the engagement of Lauer, Szabo & Associates, PC to perform the 2020 Audit of the Town of Haxtun's financials for no more than \$13,600.00. Motion passed. Scott Szabo, from the firm, will be at the Town Hall offices during the week of March 3-5, 2021 for the audit.

Discussion:

Trisha Herman, from PCED, spoke to the council about the recent housing committee meetings. A group from Holyoke is interested in building 4 quadplexes, to help alleviate the housing shortfall in our community.

The council encouraged Trisha to invite the group to visit with them at a council meeting.

Tanya Mayhew introduced Cameron Kondella, our newest Police Officer, to the council. The council welcomed Cameron to Haxtun. Cameron grew up in upstate New York, then moved to Trinidad, Colorado, and recently graduated from the Otero College police academy.

Ron will speak with the bond attorney, and also to our attorney about the ballot question (s) to decide what the best wording would be.

Ron went over several scenarios regarding the proposed street project. Ron's scenarios included:

Scenario 1: If the community center sales tax revenue would be approved by the voters to be spent on the street fund for 4 years, until the current bond is paid off, and the citizens also approve debt of 1.5 million dollars, allowing for a 40 block street project.

Scenario 2: The community center sales tax revenue is not approved by the voters, and the 1.5 million dollar project is approved. The street budget would be very tight going forward, until the current main street bond is paid off in December 2025.

Scenario 3: If the voters approve of the community center sales tax revenue spent in the Street fund, but do not approve the 1.5 million dollar debt.

The Town would utilize the extra sales tax funds to help fund paving as many streets as possible each year, until the main street bond is paid off, while also maintaining secondary streets.

2021 Street maintenance plans include replacing curb and gutter and drain pans on the streets that are listed as priority to rebuild. Pot hole repair and chip seal, and ongoing sidewalk replacement program.

Staff Reports:

Ron Carpenter, Town Superintendent

- Building Permits were reviewed as included in board packet.
- The trash truck is scheduled for repairs, Holyoke has loaned us one of their trucks to use.
- JD Stone and IWS have completed work on the welcome signs. When the weather cooperates, the town crew will pour cement, and have the sign bases ready for installation.
- Brandon had recently met with Dewane Pace from Haxtun Health regarding their main street clinic project and their parking needs. Haxtun Health would like to purchase several lots from the Town for parking, including the area behind the Town Hall/Library, the garage (old fire hall), and the Town Shop for \$100,000.00.

Mayor Biesemeier asked Ron to solicit bids from several companies to see what costs would be for a new shop. All bids were in the \$250-300K and over dollar range, plus whatever the land and utility installation would cost. Some discussion was held on whether the old shop could be taken down, moved and reassembled, but that does not seem like a viable option. Discussion was held with varied options for a shop building and locations.

Mayor Biesemeier will meet with Dewane Pace in the next few days, with the council consensus, to offer the towns properties to Haxtun Health at \$300,000.00, with Haxtun Health responsible for the deconstruction/removal of the current buildings. Dewane had previously told the Mayor that his finance committee meets again on February 17.

Tanya Mayhew, Chief of Police

- Cameron's first day was today, February 1. The department will order the new vehicle within a few days. It will take 4-5 months to get the police package vehicle in stock, and then additional time to get lights and electronics installed. TransWest Auto is taking the old charger in on trade. M. Ensminger asked if the vehicle was budgeted for 2021, which it was.
- Tanya was asked by Phillips County to apply for the Emergency Manager's position vacated by Bob Heldenbrand. She is not going to take the job, but is considering helping the county part time until they get a full time manager hired. She has not made the decision yet.

Karie Wilson, Town Clerk/Treasurer

- A card of thanks was read from Theresa Davis, for the plant given for Tom's funeral. Brandon thanked Tanya for the preparations her department had made for the service.
- The total cash in the Swimming Pool fund is \$111,664.87, with an additional \$175,000.00 in pledges and in-kind donations.
- Scott Szabo will be in town the week of March 3-5, 2021 to prepare the 2020 Financial Audit.

Council Concerns:

Tana remarked that the new Library Book Drop looked very nice and inviting in front of the library.

Ryan inquired about the swimming pool, will it be up and ready for this coming season? Ron said it will be ready.

A motion was made by L. Lundgren and seconded by T. Pope to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:02pm subject to the call of the Mayor.

Karie Wilson
Town Clerk/Treasurer