

Town of Haxtun  
September 3, 2024  
REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes

The Haxtun Town Council met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was opened by Mayor Mike Ensminger at the Haxtun Town Hall. Roll call was taken with the following council members present; Bob Cionek, Dave Green, Tana Pope, Ryan Horton, Lori Lundgren, and Jon Brammer. Mayor Ensminger led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff members present were Ron Carpenter, Town Superintendent, Tom Bullard, Chief of Police, and Kelsey Harms, Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Candie Fix, HF Herald was also present.

**Approval of Agenda:**

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

**Consent Agenda:**

A motion was made by D. Green and seconded by J. Brammer to approve the consent agenda, which included the regular meeting minutes of August 5, 2024, the following monthly invoices, and transfers of cash. All present voted yes, and the motion carried.

**September 3, 2024**

<b>Memo</b>	<b>Bill Memo</b>	<b>Cost</b>
August Payroll	Salaries	\$ 59,265.61
August Payroll	Taxes	\$ 12,287.53
Altec	digger repairs	\$ 787.50
Arnold Pool	pool supplies	\$ 109.95
Black Hills Energy	Utilities	\$ 2,243.86
CHS	Fuel	\$ 1,281.17
CNA Surety	2024 Bond	\$ 100.00
Coffin, Laura	Fuel reimbursement	\$ 31.17
Davis, Carolyn	August Cell phone stipend	\$ 15.00
Fetzer Electric	repairs	\$ 2,494.78
FPPA	Pension	\$ 1,478.60
Great Copier Service	Meter billing	\$ 178.16
GreenTek Energy Systems	Lights/photocells	\$ 593.28
GWRS	Benefits	\$ 2,466.28
Haxtun Car Wash	PD fleet wash	\$ 27.00
H-F Herald	Publications/Supplies	\$ 293.38
MetLife Small Business	Supplemental Ins	\$ 90.00

MRZ Tires	Tires	\$ 28.00
NMPP	July Power	\$ 49,488.48
Phillips County Landfill	July dumping	\$ 2,617.60
Phillips County Treasurer	July Sales Tax	\$ 2,053.31
Precision Plumbing	set finish line cleanouts	\$ 366.96
Viaero	Phones/supplies	\$ 701.55
Arnold Pool Co.	Supplies	\$ 339.50
Border States	Supplies	\$ 671.46
CashWa	Supplies	\$ 509.38
CDPHE	24/25 Permits/Water Fee	\$ 1,225.00
CIRSA	Add'l insurance coverage	\$ 75.87
CIRSA	Special Event	\$ 148.18
CK Computers	Support	\$ 135.00
CO Dept. Revenue	August Sales Tax	\$ 3,903.42
CO Dept. Revenue	August Withholding	\$ 1,789.00
Coffin, Laura	Fuel reimbursement	\$ 88.67
Colorado Analytical	Water testing/supplies	\$ 1,295.00
Data Shield	shredding	\$ 60.00
Ensminger Construction, LLC	Repairs	\$ 375.00
FirstNet	PD phones	\$ 263.98
Gonzalez, Nancy	Library Cleaning	\$ 75.00
Haxtun Building Center	Supplies	\$ 1,015.60
Haxtun Telephone	Phones/Internet	\$ 751.00
Highline	Utilities	\$ 138.80
In Compliance Products	Compliance products	\$ 75.00
Kelly PC	Legal Services	\$ 214.50
Korbe, Jeremy	MD Refund	\$ 96.81
Kuehn, Chris	August cleaning	\$ 510.00
Law Enforcement Seminars	training	\$ 425.00
Martinez, Roxanne	MD Refund	\$ 51.23
MASA	Benefits	\$ 182.00
MetLife	Benefits	\$ 45.00
MRZ	PD tire replacement	\$ 1,535.31
PC Telcom	Phones/Internet	\$ 41.73
Phillips County Clerk	Voter Registration List	\$ 36.16
Phillips County Treasurer	August Sales Tax	\$ 665.53
PSHCG	Benefits	\$ 13,957.79
Simon	grading	\$ 764.51
UNCC	Transmissions	\$ 11.61
USPS	Postage	\$ 370.00
VSP	Benefits	\$ 114.15
Wilson's Repair	Repairs	\$ 792.57

### Transfers of Cash

08/6/2024 Transfer #1: \$137,500.00 for accounts payable

08/14/2024 Transfer #2: \$24,000.00 for payroll

08/14/2024 Transfer #3: \$8,000.00 for accounts payable

08/30/2024 Transfer #4: \$49,500.00 for accounts payable

08/30/2024 Transfer #5 \$27,500.00 for payroll

### **Public Comment:**

None

### **Regular Business:**

Mayor Ensminger opened the public hearing for the Haxtun Chamber of Commerce Special Event Liquor Permit for Annual Haxtun Corn Festival Event. Clerk Harms presented the map of the event. Chief Bullard says there are no concerns from the PD and the Colorado Rangers have been scheduled to assist. There were no other comments, and the hearing was closed.

A motion was made by L. Lundgren and seconded by T. Pope to approve the Haxtun Chamber of Commerce Special Event Liquor Permit to serve Malt, Vinous, and Spiritous Liquor. A roll call vote was taken, and all present voted yes. Motion passed.

PSHCG sent the renewal documents for the employee health insurance. The renewal rate was 3.9% increase overall for the year beginning January 1, 2025-December 31, 2025. A motion was made by T. Pope and seconded by B. Cionek to approve the renewal. All voted in favor and motion passed.

CEBT sent the renewal documents for 2025 Workers' Comp and Property/Casualty insurance. The property/casualty was a 13% increase while the workers' comp was about a 3% increase. Property/Casualty has been effected by the vast hail and windstorms across Colorado. After some discussion, a motion was made by J. Brammer and seconded by T. Pope all voted in favor and motion passed.

The Town of Haxtun was awarded a FEMA grant to install a generator at the Community Center. The federal grant will cover 75% and the Town is responsible for 25%. Part of the grant required the Town of Haxtun to solicit bids for the generator. One bid was received from Fetzer Electric for \$65,000 which included the cost of the generator and installation. A motion was made by L. Lundgren and seconded by R. Horton to accept the bid from Fetzer Electric. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

A motion was made by D. Green and seconded by J. Brammer to approve the general contract with Fetzer Electric to complete the work for the Generator project per the grant requirements. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

A motion was made by J. Brammer and seconded by T. Pope to approve the added language to the current Economic Incentive Policy that would only allow applicants 2 years to apply from the completion of their project. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

R. Carpenter presented 3 different tractor lease options. He has been budgeting for a new tractor option for the last several years. The current tractor is 44 years old and is having more mechanical issues than not. Carpenter's favorite of the 3 is a 48-month lease, one payment of \$19,811.45 annually, and a buy out at the end of the lease for \$101.00 for a total purchase cost of \$79,245.80 from Wickham Tractor for a Kubota tractor. After much discussion, a motion was made by J. Brammer and seconded by L. Lundgren to approve the lease with Wickham Tractor. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

**Discussion Items:**

None

**Staff Reports:**

Ron Carpenter, Town Superintendent

- Building Permits per Agenda Packet
- The pool officially closed September 1 for the 2024 season. The weekends in August were popular with swimmers and averaged 50-60 visitors.
- Advanced Pools will be in Haxtun 9/9 to teach the Town crew how to winterize the new pool. It should take roughly 2 days.
- FEMA contacted Carpenter about a flood plain study they are conducting looking at 100- and 500-year flood plains. Currently there are no established flood plains in Haxtun. If a flood plain is established, homes in that plain with a federally backed loan would be required to purchase home flood insurance. Carpenter is still collecting information and attending meetings with FEMA and will continue to update the Council.
- IHOP code audit update was presented to the Council. Redline suggestions will be presented to Carpenter and the Council soon.
- Truck Route and Street signs were delivered 9/3 these items have been on backorder but will be installed soon.
- Simon paving of South Colorado Ave from Hwy 6 south to Third St is scheduled tentatively for the beginning of October but is heavily dependent on Simon's work schedule

Tom Bullard, Police Chief

- Prepping for Corn Festival
- Heavy Police presence on August 30<sup>th</sup>, Holyoke PD was in Town assisting local PD look for a suspect.

Kelsey Harms, Town Clerk/Treasurer

- The ordinance codification is in the final printing process. Once a final copy is received the Council will be able to review and adopt an ordinance that will adopt the newly codified ordinances.
- Library report per agenda packet

**Council Concerns:**

R. Horton asked Chief Bullard why there seems to be a rise in the calls for service. Chief believes with current economic hardship there is a trend in calls but says the PD is addressing these issues. Horton also asked about a prospect for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer position, there are not currently any leads. Horton asked Chief Bullard if they were able to stay on top of local ordinances such as the junk, weeds, etc. Chief Bullard said letters and some citations have been issued and they are continually being addressed.

L. Lundgren asked Chief Bullard about details on the noise ordinance. Chief went over the ordinance and encouraged the Council if there are issues to report them so they could be addressed. Bullard also stated that he is working to decrease the jake brake noise in Town, as it falls under the Model Traffic Code.

T. Pope asked Chief Bullard about the chicken ordinance and how it was being enforced. There are reports of people hearing roosters in Town limits which violates ordinance. Bullard will get with Clerk Harms to get an updated list of valid licenses.

J. Brammer has received some questions about the new emergency sirens. The new sirens run 2 minutes fast and is that able to be corrected. Carpenter informed the Council that is an easy fix and the sirens are on their own timing system. Brammer has also received some feedback saying citizens are concerned that the sirens are not loud enough and are not going to garner enough attention in the event of a tornado. Carpenter explained the new sirens are on 55-foot poles putting them much higher in the air to help distribute the noise and it might take some getting used to for citizens. Brammer also asked when and who closed the railroad crossing by the grass dump. Carpenter informed Brammer and the Council that crossing was closed by the Railroad many years ago for reasons he was unsure of.

M. Ensminger was curious if another letter or some sort of contact could be made with the Railroad concerning the crossing on Colorado Avenue. Carpenter and Harms said they would work on finding an updated contact to send a letter.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm subject to the call of the Mayor.

Kelsey Harms  
Town Clerk/Treasurer