

Work Session

Staff & Councilmember Reports

HAYDEN CENTER

Sarah Stinson, Director Arts and Events: Dance started last Monday and we have added more advanced class for older kids; with a wait list. All classes full and more coming for the younger classes; recital in May. Create Charcuterie Boards class coming with wine bars in Craig and Hayden. March 14<sup>th</sup> is blow out extravaganza; doors open 9 am to 8 pm. Lots of instructor interest for providing workshops and classes.

Rhonda Sweetser, Director Parks and Recreation: Construction coming along and releasing rooms this next week for use. Equipment orders are coming in. Implementing a new operating system for easier use and accurate numbers; use of mobile vs card. Pickle ball full and come for class or open play. Jiu Jitsu has an average class size of eight. Rental of gyms increasing. Membership update: 201 in 2023 and 401 in 2024. Pee Wee Wrestling through the town and enrollment in February. HPR board working on February Summer Somewhere Cornhole Tournament. Looking at starting cornhole nights and a league. Working on updating sponsorship form and preparing for Hayden Daze.

POLICE

Chief of Police Scurlock:

December 2023 stats – 29 “events,” 3 arrests, 117 officer log entries. 25 tickets for speeding, 3 tickets for speeding in a school zone, 24 warnings for speeding, 3 other tickets, 1 other warning, 50 airport parking tickets, and 24 Town parking tickets.

Staffing will likely become a larger issue in the next month – one officer has a job offer and is likely leaving in the 2nd week of February. Another is in the hiring process with another agency.

The lateral officer position, which has been open since the beginning of August (with no applications), was advertised as of Tuesday with a hiring bonus. We’ve already received one application. For comparison, the town will have invested approximately \$58,000 and 8 months of time in our newest officer when he completes field training (hopefully mid-April) and will be able to work shifts on his own.

We have reapproached RCSO to update the previous agreement for contracted police service.

Participated in the “Shop with a Cop” event in Steamboat

We assisted Steamboat PD on New Year’s Eve with a barricaded subject call

We assisted ACET and RCSO with another interdiction day

We proposed a “Bring Your Infant to Work” program to Mathew Mendisco. Parents of a newborn child will be able to bring the infant to the workplace for a period of time (either 6 months or until the baby is considered “mobile.” We will be working with other town staff to put together a draft policy for approval.

PUBLIC WORKS

Bryan Richards, Public Works Director: Water service leak last meeting, CRC came to assist and started digging, 11 feet deep and worked all weekend. Up to ten plows this weekend. Information for lead and copper will come out soon; no lead service lines per Colorado statues. Big push this summer. Walker Ditch Project; water quality and structural issues need to be addressed with CU Boulder.

PLANNING

Tegan Ebbert, Community Development Director:

ADMINISTRATION

Mathew Mendisco, Town Manager:  
Sharon Johnson, Town Clerk:  
Andrea Salazar, Finance Manager:

Staff reports will continue at the end of the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Reese called the regular meeting of the Hayden Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. Councilmembers Gann, Hicks, Bell and Carlson present. Also present were Town Manager, Mathew Mendisco, Town Clerk, Sharon Johnson, Police Chief, Scott Scurlock, Public Works Director, Bryan Richards, Community Development Director, Tegan Ebbert, Finance Manager, Andrea Salazar, Hayden Center Recreation Director, Rhonda Sweetser, and Hayden Center Arts and Events Director, Sarah Stinson.

COUNCILMEMBER  
REPORT AND UPDATE

OPENING PRAYER                    Mayor Pro Tem Reese offered prayer.  
MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE        Mayor Pro Tem Reese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS                Roger Muhme, resident since 1996 sat on boards and served the community, addressed the council on snow removal and parking tickets. 522 E Jefferson Avenue Chief issued a ticket. Moving snow as required and received a ticket for parking in the alley when I can't park on Highway 40. He said he honked twice, which I couldn't hear due to the snowblower. Could have approached us to see who the vehicle belongs to. Feels very dishearten about it.

PROCLAMATIONS/  
PRESENTATIONS                 State of Town-Mathew Mendisco, Town Manager, required in Home Charter to provide report to council. Executive Summary and full report 25 pages emailed later. Town ended the year in a good financial balance that will help in future economic challenges. Doubled the property value as a whole in the town and should be proud of and is worth more due to dedication by a lot of people. Assessed value has grown each year since 2017 which was the highest value. We the staff, implement the policies directed by the council and the economic outlook looks good today and it could change. Steve Job quote and Abraham Lincoln quote. Bill Hayden, former owner, of Hayden Merc and on council when hired. First day on job he said the best investment the town could do is invest in itself. When you invest in a community it brings back multiple fold; fully staffed at end of 2023. 2020 parking tickets decreased. Per council direction, wanted the tickets increased due to speeding in school zone and on highway 40 and increase in animal nuisance. The citations have increased with the chief as directed by council. Public works has dialed in inconsistencies. Arts and recreation expanded and membership has doubled and click rate increased 100%. Increasing community health and place to gather. Employee retention is 80%. Sales up 13.5% 2023 from 2022. Enplanements increased and this year estimated 500,000 and planning expansion. Assessed values highest in history. Hayden Center is in last phase of completion with event center to

host a 300 person convention. Affordable Gorman housing (Prairie Run) is action for the last year. Connected east and west side of town on highway 40. Have the south side designed and searching for funding. NWCO GID construction happening 2024. Large dent in housing need assessment with Main Street Apartments and Prairie Run; combined putting a significant dent in the 0% rental and the 3% sale rates in Hayden. Safety is number one priority by council. Strategic goals: Safe and healthy community, fiscal responsibility, sound infrastructure, support our workforce, parks and open space and recreation areas, economic diversification and will be focused on this next year and 1/2. State demographics office report shared: 2022 population 1,954, medium household income \$74,028 and in 2020 was \$52,000. Hayden population distribution by age 1<sup>st</sup> 30-39, 2<sup>nd</sup> 40-49, 3<sup>rd</sup> 10-19, 4<sup>th</sup> 60-69 which is causing a demographic shift. Demographics are changing in income, education, age etc. Housing is the number one priority and the council takes action on the strategies set to address resiliency and sustainability and doing great things for the town. Hayden Station closing 2027 and 2028 and immense pressure to close sooner. 20 Mile contract to supply Hayden Station (Xcel) ends in 2027. Immense impact on our Special Districts who depend on these funds to meet needs and we are seeking other opportunities; now is the time to think differently and time to take real action and not time to talk about it and just do. Fail and pivot quicker. Inspire to do better and be a place to thrive. Find authentic life. Reviewed vision. Staff will continue to follow your lead.

#### CONSENT ITEMS

Consideration of minutes for the Regular Meeting – January 4, 2024

Consideration of bill payment voucher – January 10, 2024 in the amount of \$134,927.07

Consideration of bill payment voucher – January 11, 2024 in the amount of \$105,573.06

Consideration of bill payment voucher – January 18, 2024 in the amount of \$75,000

Consideration to accept November 30, 2023 Financial Statement

Councilmember Gann moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Hicks seconded. Roll call vote. Councilmember Carlson – aye. Councilmember Hicks – aye. Councilmember Gann - aye. Councilmember Bell – aye. Mayor Pro Tem Reese – aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS                      None

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Consider  
Assignment of  
Councilmembers to  
Boards and Commissions

Review and Consideration  
to Approve  
Recommendation of  
Award: Bid Schedule 1,  
Hayden Business Park  
Phase 1 On-Site  
Improvements to CRC  
subject to final legal  
review Nature  
Conservatory and  
authorize town manager  
execute the contract

Councilmember Carlson moved to Approve Recommendation of Award: Bid Schedule 1, Hayden Business Park Phase 1 On-Site Improvements to CRC subject to final legal review Nature Conservatory and authorize town manager execute the contract. Councilmember Gann seconded. Roll call vote. Councilmember Bell – aye. Councilmember Gann – aye. Councilmember Hicks - aye. Councilmember Carlson – aye. Mayor Pro Tem Reese – aye. Motion carried.

Review and Consideration  
to Approve  
Recommendation of  
Award: Bid Schedule 2,  
Hayden Business Park  
Phase 1 Off-Site  
Improvements to Duckles  
Construction subject to  
final legal review Nature  
Conservatory and  
authorize town manager  
execute the contract

Councilmember Carlson moved to Approve Recommendation of Award: Bid Schedule 2, Hayden Business Park Phase 1 Off-Site Improvements to Duckles Construction subject to final legal review Nature Conservatory and authorize town manager execute the contract. Councilmember Gann seconded. Roll call vote. Councilmember Carlson – aye. Councilmember Hicks – aye. Councilmember Gann - aye. Councilmember Bell – aye. Mayor Pro Tem Reese – aye. Motion carried.

PULLED CONSENT ITEMS        None

STAFF AND  
COUNCILMEMBER  
REPORTS AND UPDATES  
CONTINUED

Mathew Mendisco, Town Manager: Updated the council on the rail station and a coalition was formed to include Steamboat Mountain, Steamboat City, Routt County, Hayden, Craig and Moffat County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION              None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Banks adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Recorded by:

  
Sharon Johnson, Town Clerk

APPROVED THIS 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF February 2024.

  
Bob Reese, Mayor Pro Tem



