

Hayden Town Council Regular Meeting May 1, 2025

Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Banks called the regular meeting of the Hayden Town Council to order at 6:02 p.m.

Mayor Banks Offered a moment of Silence

Mayor Banks Led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Gann, Councilmembers Haight, Hicks, Carlson, and Hayden were present. Councilmembers Bell *and Haight were* absent. Also present, were Assistant Town Manager/Community Development Director, Tegan Ebbert; Finance Director, Andrea Salazar, Town Clerk, Barbara Binetti; Public Works Director, Bryan Richards; Rhonda Sweetser, Director Parks and Recreation, and Chief Scott Scurlock. Town Manager Mathew Mendisco; Deputy Town Clerk, Christie Haight.

Councilmember Reports and Updates

Councilmember Bell had a discussion about the Peabody Twentymile Man Camp that Routt County is wanting to make have on permanent structures or have to be removed. Councilmember Bell asked if the Town owns any land that the Man Camp can be moved to. Tegan Ebbert responded that the Town does not have a Man Camp allowance in our building code in our Ordinances. Mathew Mendisco said that if it is acceptable to the Council, Staff will respond at the next meeting and try to advocate with the County.

Councilmember Gann attended the PUC meeting before the Town Council meeting and felt that from the comments, the wheels are in motion and the issues are in the hands of the State. Mathew stated he would speak to this in his update.

Study Session - none

Public Comment –

Tonya Gioia, 403 S. 3rd Street, came to cancel to talk about the animal ordinances and the parks. She said that looking at the park's information on the website, the information is incorrect and needs corrected. Also, she asked for a clear statement of the Dog Park free roaming status.

Eric Owen, 169A S. 4th Street, Eric wanted to make Council aware of May events at the schools. He especially wanted to point out that the Senior Capstone Projects would pre presented on May 6th from 6-7:30 p.m. and that Senior Graduation will be held on May 23rd at 6 p.m.

Proclamations and Presentations - none

Consent Agenda Items

- A. Consideration of minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 3, 2025
- B. Consideration to approve payments dated April 11, 2025, in the amount of \$187,771.45
- C. Consideration to appoint Daniel Buri to the Hayden Economic Development Commission

Councilmember Hicks moved and Councilmember Bell seconded. A roll call vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Items Removed from Consent Agenda There were none

Old Business – There was no Old Business

New Business There was no New Business

Pulled Consent Items There were none

Staff and Councilmember Reports and Updates

HAYDEN CENTER

Sarah Stinson, Director Arts and Events: Out on Leave until May 12th

Rhonda Sweetser, Director Parks and Recreation:

Hayden Center / Fitness:

Dodgeball Tournaments in June; Youth K–5: June 20th and Adults: June 21st – More details coming soon. 5 new classes starting the week of May 6th. Current membership is at 522. Numbers fluctuate slightly but remain consistently above 500. There was a special visit by Katie Maloney, Family & Consumer Science Specialist with CSU, who toured the Hayden Center with guests today. All were extremely impressed. There was also positive feedback also received from tonight's community meeting attendees

Hayden Parks & Recreation (HPR) coming up are:

Huck Finn Day Scheduled for June 7th at Third Street Park

Hayden Daze planning and coordination are actively underway

Youth Baseball practices start next week: 9–10 Baseball 11–12 Baseball, and Youth Softball. We are excited to have our first Fast Pitch 11-12 Softball team. There were not enough players for a 9–10 team. It is time for Fall Sports Recruitment. Flyers for Youth Soccer and Football are being sent out before school ends to boost enrollment

Arts & Recreation:

Paint & Sip was held last night. It was well attended and successful

POLICE

Scott Scurlock, Chief of Police:

- We sent OFC Baptist to a 3-day VIN inspection school. He is now one of two in the region who can do certified VIN inspections.
- Officers who are on the Routt County combined SWAT team participated in executing a search warrant in Oak Creek – everything went well.
- Officers participated in the interdiction day. The first half of the day was spent in and around Hayden. We had approximately ten officers/deputies from Hayden, Steamboat, Routt County, Craig, and Moffat County operating in Hayden, including undercover officers and three narcotic detection canines. We arrested one Hayden resident on a felony warrant – this individual was a target of the operation.
- Officers are attending active shooter training, last weekend and this, hosted by SSPD.
- We are working with Routt County Communications on a more "permanent temporary" dispatching center that will occupy a vacant office at HPD. An IGA was authorized by the town council around the first of the year. This will allow two full-time dispatchers to work out of HPD, which greatly helps recruitment and retention of emergency communicators. HPD would need more than ten officers

before we might need that room. It's projected that a new county building will be built near the airport in the next 7-10 years, and this center would move there. This is an excellent cooperation between Routt County and Hayden. Routt County already lets HPD "piggyback" off of their computer-aided dispatch servers, so this is a way we can return the favor.

PUBLIC WORKS

Bryan Richards, Public Works Director:

The Water department has been focused on curb stops. With the new VAC truck, we were able to already fix 16. In the past, it was typical to only get to 5. Great job! Also, a fire hydrant on Hawthorne that has been broke for approximately 10 years. With the river changing daily, we are having to keep the PH at the correct levels by adding chemicals. Back Flow device letters are being sent out. Thanks to Christie Haight for helping with that process.

The Parks department got a gate ordered for the dog park bridge. Andy Bennett has redone all of the baseball fields and replaced the batter boxes.

The Street department is almost finished with the street sweeping and replaced the planks on the bridge by the Community Garden.

Maintenance is being done at the Hayden Center to dig down and build a clean out that continues to have issues.

Public works continues to be very busy with many projects on line.

Mayor Banks asked about the status of all of the newly planted trees at the Dry Creek Park. Bryan said that the majority of the trees survived the winter.

PLANNING

Tegan Ebbert, Community Development Director:

Since there were questions as to how the annexation process works a few weeks ago, Tegan handed out some information as to what the annexation process is and how and why it works. She also explained the existing Hayden annexations and how they happened. She explained the "3-mile plan" which Hayden is mandated to have by State statute. Annexation is an expensive and time-consuming process.

ADMINISTRATION

Mathew Mendisco, Town Manager:

Mathew reported on the PUC meetings and what the Routt County Governments have asked of Excel Public Utilities of Colorado. At the meeting this afternoon there were some very interesting comments from our neighbors from the west advocating for all the funds for themselves. There is very targeted list of specific points that have been requested of Excel 10 years of property tax backfill at today's dollars, debt paid off for school district, fire district, and Town of Hayden (part of the \$89 million request), requested per the Town's master plan we would like to pursue the agreement with CMC. This plan would save the average tax payer approximately \$1300 a year and the average business approximately \$1600 a year on property taxes. We requested a \$10 million deposit for water/waste water expansion. We asked for a \$3million for the RTA and access to the freight rail-spur at the Hayden plan. We asked for the water rights if they have no use for them and for continued access at the water plant for public river access. In terms of process, we are in the public comment, then there will be cross examination of the written testimony by the PUC, then the response process by July 14th and then the expected ruling will be in August of 2025.

Barbara Binetti, Town Clerk. Nothing New to Report

Andrea Salazar, Finance Director: Nothing New to Report

Councilmember Reports and Comments:

Mayor Banks asked that the next Town Council meeting be moved to May 22nd from May 15th. This was agreed upon and will be held at the Hayden Center due to a conflict with another meeting in the Council Chambers at Town Hall.

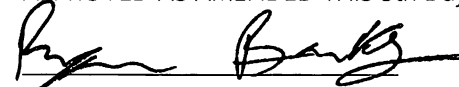
Executive session: There was no Executive Session

Adjournment: Mayor Banks adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Recorded by:


Barbara Binetti, Deputy Town Clerk

APPROVED AS AMENDED THIS 5th Day of June, 2025.


Ryan Banks, Mayor

