

**TOWN OF MANHATTAN
Regular Meeting
July 09, 2020
MINUTES**

Council President Greg Schack called the meeting to order in the Town Meeting Room, at 207 S. 6th St. at 7:00 P.M. Present were Council Members Callie Hamilton, Betsy Mancuso, and Dan Ryan. Mayor Clements was excused. Also present were Building Official Dave Rowell, Chief of Police Dennis Hengel and Clerk/Treasurer Pam Humphrey. Nine members of the public were present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ell Bennett, 306 Pine St: He voiced his concern about the types of fireworks that are going off in town. He feels that they are too loud, dirty, and dangerous. He has to clean his whole property even though he doesn't light any off. He relayed some stories about what happened in his neighborhood and his concerns. He asked the Council to put on the agenda to address the problem. He is interested in what the other people in town are feeling about this.

Written Comment from Ell Bennett, 306 Pine St: He asked the Council to consider limiting the types of fireworks that can be set off in town.

Alissa Farley, 205 S 5th St: She stated that she agreed with the fireworks concern. She read a document that she had prepared. She stated that she was concerned about rodent management in the Town. She stated that she has corresponded with the Mayor about the issue and was told a plan is in place to develop an SOP. She is also interested in the continued downtown beautification. She asked the Town to ask the State to clean the state highway and paint curbs. She presented the document to the Clerk to be placed in the Town records.

Michelle Moore, 512 W Park: She asked the Council to consider letting her have ducks in Town. She is now taking care of her ill stepfather. She is traveling to and from Belgrade to care for her ducks. The farmer is starting to kill the ducks. She asked if the Town would consider letting her bring the ducks back. She has signatures from her neighbors. She has a large area to keep them out of sight. She would like to keep the ducks until he has passed away, after which she will move to Missouri as she had previously planned. There are less than 10 ducks at this time. She assured the Council that she will keep them clean, quiet and safe.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-001 – TOWNHOUSES, SECOND READING:

Public Hearing

None

Discussion/Decision

Motion- Ryan; Second- Hamilton; Vote- Unanimous: Motion passed to approve Ordinance No. 20-001, an Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Manhattan amending the Manhattan Municipal Code to amend Title10, Chapter 6 to add townhomes as a permitted use in the R-3 District and a conditional use in the R-1 District, and to provide standards for the design and construction of townhomes.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-009 – PARK CURFEW:

Motion- Mancuso; Second- Hamilton; Vote- Unanimous: Motion passed to approve Resolution No. 20-009, a resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Manhattan, Montana to close Taylor Park during certain hours.

Chief Hengel: He gave the history of the resolution. He stated that this will allow the police to provide assistance with issues and problems in the park at night.

NREMDD COVID RESPONSE:

Rob Gilmore, Executive Director of NREMDD: He gave the Council an update on the Covid response. There were several teams formed when Covid became a problem. He is part of the economic development team. They were to measure the impacts of Covid on the community. They did surveys and identified businesses that needed assistance. They tracked the companies that were in need. There is a complete summary on their website of the data. He shared some of the findings with the Council. He relayed the results of some of the surveys. They also formed a lighthouse committee to check in periodically. He shared the results of the last one. The next step is to hire a coordinator to bring the teams together. They applied for a grant to hire a coordinator for 2 years. He stated that there is a long way to go. He indicated that they did not have strong participation within the Manhattan community. They asked for a representative from the Council to help them link with the business community in Manhattan.

IMPACT FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Councilwoman Callie Hamilton: She stated that the Town has to have the committee by law to make changes to the impact fees. She had two volunteers. One member of development committee has volunteered. She will ask for a volunteer from the planning board also.

NUISANCE COMPLAINT FOLLOWUP – 230 S 4TH:

Motion- Hamilton; Second- Mancuso; Vote- Hamilton-aye, Mancuso-aye, Ryan-nay: To have the structure moved to 8 ft from the property line if stays a permanent structure, or 5 ft if it is not a permanent structure.

The Council directed Adam Jensen to move the garden boxes by November 1st. The wood around the property will be required to be cleaned up within 30 days.

Peter Bade, 226 S 4th: He relayed that the issue was tabled at the last meeting for measurements of the structure. He is asking the structure to be moved to the regular side yard setback. The neighbor has cut the structure down to ½ the size it was. It is still tall and 3.5 ft from the property line.

Adam Jensen, 230 S 4th: One of the components of the complaint was that it was an eyesore. He has finished it now. He would like to keep it where it is. He will add a staircase with a ladder. He is almost finished moving the wood from the back of his shop.

Dave Rowell, Building Official: He wrote a letter to the Council referencing the International Residential Code. When it was first inspected, Adam Jensen was told that he had to get a permit for his deck on the house, which he has not done. The Council

can make a decision on the structure since the Code does not address structures of this type. The house deck needs to be permitted. A permanent structure needs an 8 ft setback according to Manhattan Code, a non-permanent structure needs a 5 ft setback for fire.

Council discussed that Bade's fence is also too tall and needs to be cut down to 6 feet in height. They discussed the appearance of the structure currently and how those things are subjective. Options for making the structure a non-permanent structure were explored. Decks and permanent structures were discussed.

Councilwoman Hamilton and Councilwoman Mancuso voiced that the code should be enforced.

Councilman Ryan stated that he thought it is fine as it is.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2020-2021:

Budget available for public inspection at Town Office on July 10, 2020.

Motion- Ryan; Second- Hamilton; Vote- Unanimous: Motion passed to approve the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Council President Greg Schack reported that he spoke to the Auditor and the Audit is finished. He reported that the Audit went well and he thanked Clerk/Treasurer Humphrey for doing a good job.

Councilwoman Callie Hamilton gave a Park Board update. She stated that they have talked about the rodent control SOP and are looking at long range planning in the Park and are working with Public Works.

Councilman Dan Ryan suggested closing the park during rodent control times.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion- Hamilton; Second- Ryan; Vote- Unanimous: Motion passed to approve the Consent Agenda.

Town Business Licenses: Sacred Sun Vending

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting minutes from June 11, 2020 and Special Meeting minutes from June 18, 2020.

Claims: Dated 06/12/20 – 07/09/20 totaling \$ 384,836.35.

There will be a Budget Workshop on July 16 at 7:00.

ADJOURN:

Motion- Hamilton; Second- Mancuso; Vote- Unanimous: Motion passed to adjourn the meeting.



Mayor



Clerk/Treasurer