

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024 - 6:00 P.M.  
DICKERMAN BUILDING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Carolyn Meadows called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members present were Chairperson Carolyn Meadows, Vice-Chairperson Joni Conner, Beverly Bakker, Carolyn Bennett and David Yonts. Mayor Larsen and Attorney George Young were present also.

**COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – CAROLYN MEADOWS**

Chairperson Meadows welcomed everyone and announced the following meetings and workshops: Policies at 10am on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tentative Budget Public Hearing at 5:05pm on September 5<sup>th</sup>, Final Budget Public Hearing at 5:05pm on September 16<sup>th</sup>, and a Special Council Meeting at 10am on September 9<sup>th</sup> to review RFP's for banking services. Starting September 16<sup>th</sup> workshops for Land Development Regulations will be held the third Monday of each month at 6:30pm.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

***Discussion and Consideration of a Codes Fine Reduction for 222 Sherman Drive Circle.***

The Clerk explained that fines began in 2023 and total \$9,625.00. She inspected the property in July 2024 and found the property to be in compliance. She recommended reducing the fine to \$550.00 to cover the Town's expenses.

Council Member Bennett moved to reduce the fine to \$550.00 per staff's recommendation. Council Member Yonts seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

***Discussion and Consideration of the 201 Commonwealth Avenue Abatement Case.***

Mr. Walters distributed his plan for restoration and asked the Council to defer the abatement proceedings. He estimated that repairs to the foundation to take 2-3 months. He showed pictures of the interior and stated that he believes it can be restored.

Attorney Young gave the Council two options. Option (1) dismiss case, but if things don't work out the Council would have to start all over. Option (2) Agree to a timeline. As long as the thresholds are met, the Town won't intervene. If restoration is accomplished, then there may be an agreement to reduce fines. Attorney Young recommended entering into an agreement with Mr. Walters that offers some flexibility, but the case won't be dismissed.

Mr. Walters assured the Council that the yard will be cut this week and progress will be seen in the next thirty days. He will apprise the Council of progress and will provide proof that permits have been pulled at the appropriate time.

Council Member Conner moved to table the abatement case for 201 Commonwealth until next month. Council Member Conner made an addendum to her motion to authorize Attorney Young to negotiate a settlement agreement with Mr. Walters. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion and addendum. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

***Discussion and Consideration of IT Contract or the Police Department.***

Chief Wilburn stated that the Police Department's computers are antiquated. The Clerk explained that the IT contract will be paid with the JAG grant.

Council Member Bennett moved to approve the IT contract with Emerald Data. Council Member Conner seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Combining the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment.**

This item was tabled.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Appointment of Jessica Cole to the Citizens Advisory Task Force.**

Council Member Bakker moved to approve the appointment of Jessica Cole to the Citizens Advisory Task Force. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Budget Transfer #1.**

Council Member Conner moved to Approve Budget Transfer #1. Council Member Yonts seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Ordinance 2024-2; Adoption of the Official Town Seal. – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

By unanimous general consent Ordinance 2024-2 was read by title only. Council Member Bakker moved to approve Ordinance 2024-2. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

**Ordinance 2024-4; Codes Enforcement. – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

By unanimous general consent Ordinance 2024-4 was read by title only. Council Member Conner moved to approve Ordinance 2024-4. Council Member Bakker seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

**Ordinance 2024-5; Care of Premises. – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

By unanimous general consent Ordinance 2024-5 was read by title only. Council Member Bakker moved to approve Ordinance 2024-5. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous general consent.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Member Bakker acknowledged the public's attendance.

Council Member Yonts stated that he had been to the new Taco Bell and was glad to see businesses hiring locals.

Council Member Conner stated that the caboose stage looks fantastic thanks to Buck Griffis and Mike Cemer.

Council Member Bennett stated that the fitness equipment in Jenkins Park looks good.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Larsen also acknowledged the work on the stag. He is excited that the Brush Store will be restored.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:**

Maintenance Supervisor Richard Glover stated that the street signs have arrived and will be installed soon.

Chief Wilburn thanked the Maintenance Department for their help during the storm.

Town Clerk, Joni Payne stated that the Police Department and the Maintenance Department keep the Town in good shape.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.