

**CITY OF FORSYTH**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF June 13, 2022**  
**STATE OF MONTANA**

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; officials in attendance were; Council Members Doug Roberts, Ethan Bell, Carole Raymond and Chris Purkett, City Clerk/ Treasurer Sandra Donley, Water/ Wastewater Director Andrew Sullivan, Public Works Director Richard Thompson, Pool Manager Jason Forberg. Excused from attending were Attorney Jeff Weldon and Undersheriff Scott McDermott

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mayor Kopitzke asked if there was anyone present from the public that wish to comment on items not on the agenda. There will be no discussion of personnel. The Council will take no formal action at this point in the agenda.

**Rick Morrison:** Rick stated he had been to Torrington, Wyoming and in town they had speakers to alert people of a train coming through town instead of using train horns.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S):** None

**REVIEW – REVISE AGENDA:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Kopitzke presented the consent agenda for approval:

Council Member Raymond made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included claim numbers 22331- 22360 & 22362-22388 in the amount of \$225,731.12 and check numbers 21112–21174 in the amount of \$491,109.25 for prior approved claims. The motion to approve the consent agenda was seconded by Council Member Purkett. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

City Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Donley, Public Works Director Richard Thompson, Water/Wastewater Director Andy Sullivan and Pool Manager Jason Forberg.

Public Works Director Richard Thompson requested to buy a new mower and gave options and his recommendation on which one to purchase. The funds were budgeted for and council agreed to the recommended mower purchase.

Code Enforcement Officer Position Update: Mayor Kopitzke reported he met with Ryan Oddy and Ryan resigned as the City of Forsyth Code Enforcement Officer.

**CITIZENS:**

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Mayor Kopitzke presented four permits:

Jesse Jo Johnson’s Open Container Permit for Riverside Park on July 10, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.;

Benner Family (Ken Benner)’s Special Event Permit for Riverside Park on July 23, 2022 at 12 p.m. (noon);

Chelsea Cooper’s Open Container Permit for Marceyes Park on July 15, 2022 from 12 p.m. (noon) to 10 p.m.; and

Tom Queen (Lariat Bar)’s Open Container Permit on July 4, 2022 from 12 p.m. (noon) to 10 p.m.

Council Member Purkett made a motion to approve all four (4) permits as a whole. The motion was seconded by Council Member Raymond. City Clerk Donley called roll; motion carried 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Storage/Shipping Containers (Conex Bins): Discussion was had on whether to allow storage/shipping containers. It was decided that one (1) bin would be allowed on properties that are zoned Highway Commercial. More than one (1) container in Highway Commercial zoning will require a variance. All Containers in any zoning other than Highway Commercial will require a variance. An ordinance will be brought before council at the next meeting.

Marijuana Code: Ordinance No. 2022-02.

Mayor Kopitzke opened up the floor for comments as there were residence in attendance that wanted to speak. Bill Sikes and Clay Robinson both spoke asking that the council to put to it to a vote on the November ballot whether or not the citizens of Forsyth want to allow a marijuana dispensary in city limits. Rick Morrison, Daniel Sand, Charlie Johnson, Larry Propp, Holter Sand and Chuck Evans all spoke in opposition of allowing a marijuana dispensary in city limits.

Mayor Kopitzke presented the read second reading of Ordinance No. 2022-02.

Council Member Purkett made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-02 to change the City of Forsyth's Marijuana Code on second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; motion carried 3-1.

Mayor Kopitzke asked if there was interest from the council in putting the issue of a Marijuana Dispensary in city limits on the ballot in the November 2022 election.

Council Member Raymond made a motion to put the Marijuana Dispensary issue on the November 8, 2022 ballot. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts. City Clerk Donley called roll; motion carried 4-0.

Levee (Dike) Update: Public works director Richard Thompson stated he had no updates for the levee project.

Building Inspector Update: Mayor Kopitzke reported he met with Ryan Oddy and he is no longer interested in filling this position.

Windfarm-Impact Funds: There was discussion on possible upgrades to City properties with these funds. This agenda item will be revisited at the June 27, 2022 council meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Fiscal Year 22-23 Budget: Mayor Kopitzke reported a budget meeting was held prior to this meeting to begin discussions and review of the proposed Fiscal Year 22-23 budget. There will be further review on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Forsyth Country Club-Golf Course Lease: A copy of the updated lease was presented to the council. After discussion, the council agreed they would like the lease charges to be changed from \$1.00/year for 25 years to \$10.00/year for 25 years.

**REPORTS:**

City Council: Council Member Raymond reported there had been a fire within city limits. At this time the sheriff's office may give permission to burn within city limits. Discussion was had on the City of Forsyth's code (6-3-2) regarding this situation and the code will be revisited at a later date.

Mayor: Mayor Kopitzke presented his report and asked if there was any questions.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS:** None

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** June 27, 2022 6 p.m. Budget meeting; 7 p.m. Council Meeting

**Public Comment:** Mayor Kopitzke asked for public comment after each topic, if comments are made; those comments are recorded as part of the official minutes.

**Agenda Items for the Next Meeting: Budget, Fire Code, Windfarm-Impact Funds, Building Inspector Position, Code Enforcement Position, Shipping Containers and Marijuana.**

With no other business to discuss, Mayor Kopitzke adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

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Mayor Dennis Kopitzke

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City Clerk Sandra Donley