

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Procedural Rules, the Commission hereby gives notice of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP or the Company) for a non-situs Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to construct its Boardman-to-Hemingway transmission line as more fully described below:

1. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming. RMP is a public utility, as defined by Wyoming Statute § 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C), subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to Wyoming Statute § 37-2-112.

2. On February 6, 2023, the Company filed an Application, together with supporting testimony and exhibits, requesting the Commission grant a non-situs CPCN to construct the Boardman-to-Hemingway transmission line (segment H of the Energy Gateway Project) (B2H). The Company included a Petition for Confidential Treatment and Protective Order with its Application.

3. The Company's proposed Boardman-to-Hemingway is an approximately 300-mile-long, 500-kV transmission line that will extend from a proposed switching station near Boardman, Oregon to the existing Hemingway Substation located in Owyhee County, Idaho. Approximately 274 miles of the transmission line is located in five Oregon counties: Malheur, Baker, Union, Umatilla, and Morrow Counties. A 24-mile segment of the Project will be in Owyhee County in Idaho. The project also consists of a newly constructed switching station near Boardman, Oregon, ten communication stations within the right-of-way of the transmission line, and construction of the Midline Series Capacitor substation.

4. The Company has partnered with Idaho Power Company (IPC) and the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to develop the Project. IPC is the overall project manager, responsible for permitting, design, procurement, and construction. IPC will fund and own 45.45 percent and the Company will fund and own 54.55 percent.

5. The Company states the proposed project is necessary for the following reasons: 1) it increases the ability to move resources across and between both of the Company's balancing authority areas and will allow the Company to export 818 megawatts (MW) of additional generation capacity from Wyoming, Utah, and Idaho generators to Oregon, Washington, and California customers; 2) it enables the Company to avoid higher cost transmission and generation investments to serve the system, including Wyoming, that would be required absent B2H; and 3) it reduces the cost of third-party transmission service included in the net power costs allocated to Wyoming retail customers. The Company states that construction of B2H is expected to produce total-system cost savings of \$1.7 billion. The Company states that IPC must begin construction in July 2023 to have the project come into service by 2026.

6. The Company expects its share of the estimated total cost of the project to be between \$800 and \$900 million, which is estimated to increase Wyoming customer rates by an estimated 1.95 percent once the Company proposes to include the costs of the project in a future general rate case. The Company intends to finance the project through its normal internal and external sources of capital.

7. This is not a complete description of RMP's Application. You may review the Application at RMP's Wyoming offices and at the Commission's office in Cheyenne, Wyoming, during business hours or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17236).

8. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must do so, in writing, on or before March 15, 2023. Petitions shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please mention Docket No. 20000-631-EN-23 in all correspondence with the Commission.

9. If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711.

Pub. March 2 & 9 2023 No. 1289

## REQUEST FOR BIDS TO MAINTAIN TOWN PARK LAWNS AND OTHER PLANTINGS

The Town of Thermopolis is requesting bids for maintenance of lawns and plantings in Candy Jack Park, Glade Edwards Park, Bicentennial Park, Family Park, Southside Parkway, flower garden and median circles on Broadway, side islands on Sixth Street and flower barrels and grassy area in front of Town Hall. The scope of work also includes snow and trash removal for various Town properties and sidewalks.

Bid specifications detailing the entire scope of work may be obtained at Town Hall or calling 307 864-9285. Submit sealed bids to Mayor's Office, 420 Broadway, Thermop-

olis, Wyoming 82443. Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. Thursday, March 16, 2023 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late bids will not be accepted. Please mark envelope "Park Maintenance Bid." The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to determine the qualifying proposal that will best benefit the Town.

Pub. March 2 & 9, 2023 No. 1291

## Warrants List

The following list of warrants approved January 18, 2023, by HOTSPRINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT is hereby published as required by the Wyoming Education Code of 2005, as amended, Chapter 3, Section 21-3-110 (a)(ii).

COPENHAVER/KATH/KITCHEN	\$555.00
BURNS HIGH SCHOOL	\$600.00
CATELYN DEROMEDI	\$630.00
AIRGAS USA, LLC	\$692.08
INDEPENDENT RECORD	\$719.00
CEV MULTIMEDIA	\$750.00
KIMBERLY JONES	\$750.00
LONG BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES INC	\$780.00
WEX BANK	\$798.32
KORRINE RYAN	\$800.00
JACKIE DOROTHY	\$806.00
FREMONT BEVERAGES, INC.	\$878.80
JAYSSIE OWSLEY	\$881.20
WYOMING FIRST AID & SAFETY SUPPLY	\$915.39
WILSON LANGUAGE TRAINING	\$1,033.56
EAGLE PEST CONTROL	\$1,100.00
GARY BRINK, INC.	\$1,107.38
RYTE REHABILITATION	\$1,174.80
BASIN MECHANICAL, INC	\$1,230.73
TWEED'S WHOLESALE CO	\$1,315.41
KINGS CARPET ONE	\$1,327.80
CLIMATEC REFRIGERATION INC	\$1,362.02
WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	\$1,420.00
SHERWOOD FOREST FARMS/ CALLISONS,	\$1,626.15
TEGELER & ASSOCIATES	\$1,630.00
WYOMING SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION	\$1,920.00
ELDER EQUIPMENT LEASING OF WY, INC.	\$2,062.54
BRAINPOP, LLC	\$2,155.00
CASPER STAR TRIBUNE	\$2,260.00
JOSTENS	\$2,320.00
QUILL	\$2,518.80
ILLUMINATE EDUCATION	\$2,830.00
TRILOGY THERAPY, LLC	\$3,018.75
NORCO INC.	\$3,181.82
CORTNEY O'CONNOR	\$3,400.00
ANNE BENBOE	\$3,474.00
AUBREY ROYBAL	\$3,474.00
TOWN OF THERMOPOLIS	\$3,620.70
JADECO, INC.	\$4,634.89
OFFICE SHOP LEASING	\$5,360.37
PINE COVE CONSULTING	\$7,750.00
SWENSON CONSULTING	\$10,000.00
TEAM FITZ GRAPHICS	\$12,180.00
ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER	\$18,028.38
FUNDRAISERCART, LLC	\$18,468.00
THE OFFICE SHOP	\$18,665.52
SYSCO MONTANA - ACTIVITIES	\$18,986.82
HOMAX OIL SALES, INC	\$31,104.36
NORTHWEST WYOMING BOCES	\$38,358.75
WYOMING GAS COMPANY	\$61,830.32
BANK OF MONTREAL	<u>\$79,030.47</u>
	\$385,517.13

Pub. March 9, 2023 No. 1292

## PUBLIC NOTICE

1. Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Procedural Rules and Special Regulations, notice is hereby given of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP or the Company) for approval of a 3-year demand side management (DSM) plan and for authority to adjust rates in tariff Schedule 191.

2. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming. RMP is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112.

3. On February 23, 2023, RMP filed an Application requesting the Commission approve its 3-year DSM plan and for authority to adjust rates in tariff Schedule 191. The Company stated in the Application that the 3-year DSM plan is to create transparency, rate stability and certainty, and to enable the Company to manage DSM targets and budgets. According to the Application, the Company will continually monitor the program targets and will add, remove, and/or modify offerings and incentives to administer cost-effective programs and manage within the approved targets. The 3-year DSM Plan and associated targets are for 2024-2026.

4. In its Application, RMP proposes to implement two new programs in the DSM portfolio for demand response. The Company proposes a program for batteries installation incentives for residential customers (Category 1) and small general service customers (Category 2), and a custom program for curtailing the load of participating large commercial and industrial customers.

5. The Company proposed revisions to Schedule 191, adjusting Category 1 and 2 rates to 2.57 percent and 2.22 percent, respectively, effective January 1, 2024. RMP also proposed to revise rates for Category 3 customers to 1.19 percent, 1.32 percent, and 1.46 percent. The revised rates for Category 3 customers will be effective January 1st of each year of the 3-year DSM plan.

6. This is not a complete description of RMP's Application. You may review the Application at RMP's Wyoming offices and at the Commission's office in Cheyenne, Wyoming, during business hours or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17244).

7. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must do so in writing filed with the Commission on or before March 31, 2023. Any intervention request filed with the Commission shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please be sure to mention Docket No. 20000-632-ET-23 in all correspondence with the Commission.

8. If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, call the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications-impaired persons may contact the Commission through Wyoming Relay at 711.

Pub. March 9 & 16, 2023 No. 1293

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a Public Meeting regarding the Hot Springs County Rural Water Joint Powers Board will be held on **March 16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Meeting Room at the Government Annex building located at 117 N. 4th Street, Thermopolis, Wyoming. Any questions regarding this meeting should be directed to Connie Guntly, County Commissioners Administrative Assistant, 307-864-8040.

Connie Guntly  
Administrative Assistant  
to the Commissioners

Pub. March 9, 2023 No. 1294

## Notice of Hearing on County Budget

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on a proposed budget amendment budgeting \$910,991.29 from grant funding for LATCF funds for Hot Springs County for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, now being considered by the Hot Springs County Board of Commissioners, will be held in the meeting room of the Governmental Annex Building, 117 North 4th, Thermopolis, Wyoming on the 21st day of March 2023 at 3:40 p.m. at which time any and all persons interested may appear and be heard respecting such budget amendment.

Becky Kersten  
Hot Springs County Clerk

Pub. March 9, 2023 No. 1295

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Procedural Rules and Special Regulations, notice is hereby given of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP or the Company) requesting authority to increase its retail electric service rates by approximately \$140.2 million per year or an average overall increase of 21.6 percent with rates effective on and after January 1, 2024, and to revise the energy cost adjustment mechanism (ECAM) to eliminate the sharing band, as more fully described below:

1. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming under certificates of public convenience and necessity issued by the Commission. RMP is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112.

2. On March 1, 2023, RMP submitted an Application, together with supporting testimony, exhibits and revised tariff sheets, requesting the Commission approve the Company's proposal to implement an increase in its retail electric utility service rates in Wyoming of \$140.2 million per annum or an average overall increase of 21.6 percent and to eliminate the existing 80/20 sharing band and recover 100 percent of prudently-incurred, Wyoming-allocated net power costs using the existing ECAM in tariff Schedule 95, effective on and after January 1, 2024.

3. RMP is requesting a return on equity of 10.3 percent, and overall cost of capital and return on rate base of 7.60 percent and the equity component of the capital structure is 51.27 percent, which the Company states reflects market circumstances for twelve months beginning July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, adjusted to a forecast test period beginning January 1, 2024,

through December 31, 2024, interest rates, operational risks and reasonable investor expectations as well as the returns generated by similarly situated or comparable utility companies.

4. The Company states its requested rate increase is primarily driven by: (1) an increase in Net Power Costs (NPC) from \$1.431 billion on a total-Company basis, or approximately \$221.0 million on a Wyoming-allocated basis, authorized by the Commission in the RMP's 2020 general rate case, to the proposed NPC of approximately \$2.553 billion on a total-Company basis, or approximately \$360.3 million on a Wyoming-allocated basis, which the Company states is largely driven by increased market prices for power and natural gas, increased contract prices for coal and coal supply limitations, and thermal generation operational changes due to federal and state environmental compliance requirements; and (2) continued capital investments, part of approximately \$6.7 billion of new capital projects on a total-Company basis RMP expects to place into service between July 1, 2022 and December 31, 2024, including the Gateway South and Gateway West Segment D.1 transmission lines, the Rock Creek I wind project, the Foote Creek II-IV and Rock River I wind repowering projects, all of which include an associated rate of return of 7.60 percent and which the Company states are required for it to meet its obligation to serve its customers.

5. RMP's proposed percentage increase in price changes, by rate schedule, are:

Customer Class	Proposed Percentage Change
Residential	
Schedule 2	20.3
General Service	
Schedule 25	23.1
Schedule 28	19.6
Large General Service	
Schedule 33	25.0
Schedule 46	20.9
Schedule 48T	23.5
Irrigation	
Schedule 40	14.5
Schedule 210	8.6
Lighting Schedules	13.3
<b>Overall</b>	<b>21.6</b>

The Company states that due to rate design and individual customer load factors and usage characteristics, the percentage rate change to individual customers within each rate schedule may be higher or lower than the average for the customer class or rate schedule.

6. This is not a complete description of RMP's Application. You may review the Application and its supporting testimony and exhibits at RMP's Wyoming offices or online at: <https://www.rockymountainpower.net/about/rates-regulation/wyoming-regulatory-filings.html> at the Commission's office in Cheyenne, Wyoming, during business hours or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17252).

7. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest or request for a public hearing in this matter must do so, in writing, on or before April 5, 2023. Petitions shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. The Commission encourages the public's participation and comments will be received throughout the entirety of this proceeding. The opportunity to present verbal comments will be available to anyone appearing, either in person or remotely, during future public proceedings related to this matter. Submitting written comments to the Commission by the deadline set forth above may allow for resolution of issues and/or concerns identified therein. Please mention Docket No. 20000-633-ER-23 in all correspondence with the Commission.

8. If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711.

Dated: March 3, 2023.

Pub. March 9 & 16, 2023 No. 1297

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session February 7, 2023, at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Mike Chimenti, Mayor Adam Estenson, Council members Bill Malloy, John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes and Dusty Lewis. Also present were Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Town Engineers Heath Overfield and Anthony Barnett, Police Chief Pat Cornwell and Town Attorney Marshall Keller.

**AGENDA:** Following the pledge of allegiance, Dorman made a motion, seconded by Malloy and carried to approve the agenda as written.

**MINUTES:** Malloy made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the

# Merlin's

from page 1

once-in-a-lifetime product for them. This is something we take very seriously and to heart. Whatever that product may be, we always create it with them in mind. From choosing the fur to the finished product."

When it comes to their ten-year anniversary at their location and this milestone, Barb said, "we remember like it was yesterday, meeting with Reese and Kerry Jackman to design this building. They were able to take



Merlin Heinze and Louise Odde reflect on their years as friends. Odde inspired and encouraged Heinze in his craft.

our vision and make it a reality. When we first opened this location, it was crazy and hectic. And I remember saying, 'you know, in a month or two it'll get back to normal.'

Normal has never happened since. A couple of milestones over the past 10 years are: handling over 4,200 bison hides, handcrafted over 150 buffalo fur coats, supplied product for 6 movie/TV productions and have had over 15,000 visitors to our showroom."

Regarding Merlin and Barb's vision for the next ten years, Barb said, "Merlin's Hide Out has been committed to handcrafted tradition since 1999 and the very first pair of fur gaiters Merlin made. We love what we do, and how many people can honestly say that? We're going to keep doing it as long as we can."



courtesy photo by Mandy Wilson

## 4-H community service

Hannah Postma and Cowpokes 4-H members Kinley Postma, Blakeley Postma, Emma Dean, Brycen Jones, Cason Eckley, Corbin Dean, Hoyt Peil, Sawyer Wilson and Brayden Jones presented goodie bags to WYDOT maintenance crew employees Shane Wilson, Clint Huckfelt, Bill Knighton, Jared Little and Donny Jackman. As part of the community service project they also presented bags to the Town of Thermopolis maintenance crew.

# Voting

from page 1

Opponents of House Bill 103 have argued that the legislation will disenfranchise voters and push people to change their party affiliation to Republican regardless of whether or not they actually hold Republican values.

Mary Lankford, a former Sublette County clerk and current lobbyist for the County Clerks Association of Wyoming, said at committee meetings that implementing the bill will require "pretty heavy voter education for the public so that they aren't caught short."

Gordon acknowledged in his Thursday letter that the adjustments that will have to take place.

"No matter what, the changes resulting from this adjustment to Wyoming law will cause some confusion in the coming primary," he wrote. "However, nearly 93 percent

of Wyoming voters are now registered Republicans, making the presumed changes perhaps more academic than real. I urge voters to learn about these changes so that they may vote their desired major party ballot in 2024."

Wyoming lawmakers have pushed for legislation to bar crossover voting for several years.

The practice came to the fore in particular following the primary battle between Rep. Harriet Hageman and former Rep. Liz Cheney, during which Cheney encouraged Democrats to cross over and vote for her.

Before this session, no bills to restrict crossover voting had survived the Legislature's scrutiny.

It appeared earlier in the session that this year's legislation would meet the same fate. Identical leg-

islation to House Bill 103 that was sponsored by Ranchester Republican Sen. Bo Biteman died on its first hearing in the Senate Corporations Committee early last month. The Senate committee gave House Bill 103 the same treatment, killing the legislation in a 3-1 vote.

But then Senate Majority Floor Leader Larry Hicks, R-Baggs, made a successful motion to resurrect the bill and refer it to the Senate Revenue Committee. With Biteman as chair of that committee, the panel was from the outset more favorable for the bill's survival. It ended up clearing the committee in a 4-1 vote.

During the bill's journey through the Legislature, lawmakers attempted 12 times to tweak the language.

Proposed changes included shortening the blackout period be-

fore primary elections and allowing parties to opt out of the crossover restrictions. Only two of those attempts were successful, but one deleted the other, so they didn't change the legislation.

The legislation's fate was uncertain even after clearing the Senate. On Tuesday, Haroldson, the bill's sponsor, posted a call-to-action video on Facebook calling for people to contact the governor's office and push Gordon to allow the bill to become law.

"We're standing at the point where I believe we have the ability to make this bill pass or not," Haroldson said in the video.

Though Gordon allowed the bill to become law without his signature, it wasn't without some trepidation about its potential consequences.

"What was delivered to my desk has ambiguity with the potential to deny participation in a major party primary election in a few limited circumstances," Gordon wrote in his Thursday letter. "That said, the bill's sponsor assured me that was not his intent."

Furthermore, he and those who will be responsible for implementing the statute have agreed to work on clarifying the legal ambiguity before the next primary election.

Michael Pearlman, the governor's spokesperson, said Gordon has asked Haroldson to bring clarifying language for the bill next session so that it can be in place before the next primary election. Haroldson said he plans to work on that clarifying language with the secretary of state and county clerks in the interim.

# Public notices

Continued from Page 8

Council meeting minutes from January 3 and 17, 2023 and the executive session minutes from January 3, 2023.

**BILLS:** Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the General, Enterprise and Special Fund bills for January 2023.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE: MERI ANN DORMAN:** Dorman invited the mayor and council to the upcoming chamber meetings on the second Thursday at 6pm at Big Horn Federal. Malloy noted he would attend the February meeting.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: DARREN BUTCHER: URBAN AGRICULTURE:** Butcher presented a request for urban agriculture to allow chickens, rabbits, dwarf goats and ducks in town. He encouraged public meetings and changing town code to allow some or all of the above species in town. He presented a handout with his ideas. Mayor Estenson noted no action would be taken at this time.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: KIM BARTLETT: HSC DEMOCRATS:** Bartlett invited the mayor and council to the annual non-partisan community dinner on February 19, 2023.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** Police Chief Cornwell presented the January police report. Chief Cornwell reported on the rapid SOS, emergency medical dispatcher training and getting permission from homeowners to use their ring video for help with solving cases. The Streets and Alleys, Water, Wastewater, Sanitation and Landfill reports were available for review.

**TOWN ENGINEER: HSCWDJPB: HEATH OVERFIELD:** Overfield reviewed prior studies and noted a suggestion for the Town to look at the water plant life expectancy by 2025. A 2018 study suggested a cost of 12 million to update the water plant. A 2022 study recommended a southern source of water. He also reviewed a March 1 deadline for a Level 2 grant which would ask for a well to be drilled at Lysite Mountain. Level 2 grants are 100 percent funded by the legislature. His recommendation would be for the Town to support the investigation of the well to find out if it is a potential source of water without committing to permanent debt. Concerns expressed included costs, potential representation (2 votes out of 7) on a regional board, water rights and raw water. Overfield encouraged the continuation of the working group, the regional discussion and the state exploration of the water well before incurring EDU-type costs. No action was taken. The next joint powers board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2023.

**TOWN ATTORNEY: RESOLUTION 570: PTO ACCRUAL: MARSHALL KELLER:** Keller noted the resolution allows increased vacation time based on prior government experience. Discussion ensued on the current rates, using the proposed increase as a recruiting tool and prior experience in the

same type of position. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the resolution.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL:** Mayor Estenson noted he is looking at streaming meetings and noted Hot Springs spotlight was currently recording the meeting. Malloy made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to adjourn the meeting 7:47 pm. The next Council meeting is March 7, 2023, at 7pm.

**BILLS:** Adam Estenson, Chair reimbursement, \$104.98; AFLAC, Insurance, \$113.12; American Welding & Gas, Rental, \$59.32; Applied Concepts, Supplies, \$151.00; Becky Kinkade, Utility reimbursement, \$54.80; Big Horn Water, Rental, \$66.50; Canyon Concrete, Sand, \$4,578.00; Carquest, Supplies, \$1,736.78; Carr Coatings, Silo Final Payment, \$5,137.50; Caselle, Software Support, \$748.00; Dana Kepner, Parts, \$162.00; Dell, Computer, \$1,370.93; Dept of Family Services, Return incorrect ACH payment, \$200.00; Desert Mtn, Ice Slicer, \$5,172.90; Discover Thermopolis, Postage, \$131.61; Energy Labs, Service, \$3,666.20; Engineering Associates, Service, \$11,209.45; Fastenal, Parts, \$253.15; Ferguson Waterworks, Meters, \$2,139.38; Floyds Truck, Parts, \$683.21; Great West Trust, Retirement, \$2,440.00; Hawkins, Rental, \$20.00; High Plains Power, Service, \$363.44; Hopper, Tires, \$696.80; HSC Fire District, Snow removal, \$1,980.00; HS Vet Clinic, Contract, \$955.00; HSCSD#1, Fuel, \$15,320.52; HSC Public Health, Service, \$20.00; HSC Treasurer, Tax Collection, \$178.22; HUB, Consultant Fee, \$7,000.00; Independent Record, Service, \$992.00; Insurance Trust, Premiums, \$33,170.00; Jadeco, Service, \$746.94; Ron Jurovich, Service, \$900.00; Keller Law Firm, Service, \$4,400.00; Laird Sanitation, Service, \$85.00; Mike Mortimore, Service, \$300.00; Motor Power Equip., Parts, \$1,267.76; Murdoch, Diesel, \$3,030.23; Napa-Riverton, Parts, \$3,220.58; Napa, Parts, \$62.08; NCPERS, Life Ins., \$224.00; Norco, CO2, \$19,321.49; One Call, Fees, \$2.25; O'Reilly Auto, Parts, \$67.05; Postmaster, Postage, \$590.39; R&A Safety, Service, \$158.53; Range, Service, \$545.30; Riverton Tire, Tire, \$342.90; Road Runner, Part, \$55.68; Rocky Mt. Power, Service, \$15,540.85; SW Equip, Parts, \$209.85; Specialty Towing, Fees, \$420.00; TAK Electric, Service, \$142.22; Tegeler & Assoc., Bond, \$170.00; The Office Shop, Fees, \$122.50; Thermopolis Hardware, Supplies, \$165.84; Titan Machinery, Part, \$1,358.64; TOT General, Acct'g & Collection, \$13,000.00; TOT, Depreciation & Intergov Water, \$69,857.95; Tractor & Equip, Parts, \$195.82; Traveling Computers, Monitor, \$477.99; Unum, Life Ins., \$101.22; Verizon, Phone, \$393.87; Visa, Supplies, \$970.63; VSP, Insurance, \$316.32; WWQ&PCA, Dues, \$270.00; Workforce Services, Unemployment, \$2,446.01; Wyoming Child Support, Child Support, \$225.00; Workforce Services, Workers Comp., \$2,597.01; WY Gas, Service, \$7,708.24; WY Retirement, Retirement, \$22,966.73; WY.Com, Service,

\$25.00; Payroll, \$92,060.69; Payroll Taxes, \$30,349.38.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Clerk/Treasurer Adam R. Estenson, Mayor

Pub. March 9 & 16, 2023 No. 1297

### COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session February 21, 2023, at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Adam Estenson, Council members Bill Malloy, John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes, and Dusty Lewis. Also, present were Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Police Sargent Mike Masorro, Town Engineers Heath Overfield and Anthony Barnett and Town Attorney Marshall Keller.

**AGENDA:** Following the pledge of allegiance, Malloy made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the agenda as written.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Malloy made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the financial statement for January 2023.

**OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor Adam Estenson administered the oath of office to Lain Thorpe, a new police officer.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: DOUGLAS NELSON: FARMERS MARKET:** Douglas Nelson, representing the group, asked for 5th street from Broadway south to the alley to be closed on Saturdays from June 3 to October 7 from 7:30 am to 12:30 pm, for the farmer's market. Lewis made a motion seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the request.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: WADE LIPPINCOTT: HOT CITY OUTDOOR LIABILITY:** Lippincott noted the group would like to expand the 8th street boat ramp, add a pit toilet, add picnic tables and expand the parking area. No request was made at this time. In later discussion, Overfield noted work had been completed on the project a few years ago when there was a possibility of funding from the Game & Fish. He will provide that information for discussion.

**PUBLIC HEARING: LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL:** At 7:12 pm a public hearing was opened for comment on the liquor license renewal applications for the period of April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024. Hearing no public comment, Estenson closed the hearing. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Malloy and carried to approve the liquor license renewals with the condition that Lopez Inc. (Los Cabos) must have a lease that extends through March 2024. The retail licenses include: OEB LLC, 7 Lazy S Café LLC, Mack's Market LLC, OEB Saloon LLC, Grand Cru Enterprises, Maverick Inc (Maverik #577), Big Spring Spa LLC (Safari Club), and Compass Realty Group (Thermopolis Liquor); restaurant liquor license

for GMRG ACQ 1 Inc (Pizza Hut); bar and grill licenses for OEB LLC (One Eyed Buffalo Brewing) and Lopez Inc (Los Cabos); Microbrewery License for OEB LLC (One Eyed Buffalo Brewing) and a limited retail liquor license for the VFW.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** Nothing to report from the police or public works department.

**TOWN ENGINEER: HEATH OVERFIELD:** Overfield reviewed the 2022 WWDC study from Dowl. The study estimates a cost of 2.1 million to drill the well. If the well is successful and the applying entity moves forward, the entity would be responsible for one-third of the cost. Additional costs include 35 million for a pipeline from the Lysite Mountain well to Lucerne, 7.2 million from the Lucerne tank to a Round Top pump station, 2.6 million from the pump station to Round Top tank for a total of 48 million. He also noted if Lucerne is part of the entity, the cost of the line from Kirby to Lucerne may need to be allocated to the group and another storage tank at Red Lane may not be needed. The study noted four funding options: (1) self-funded, (2) WWDC funding of 67% grant and 33% loan, (3) 67% WWDC grant, a portion of the 33% as USDA principal forgiveness or grant and another loan, or (4) possible additional grants from SRF or Business Ready. Joe Casciato expressed his concern about the potential hardness of well water and wells going dry, versus readily available surface water. Overfield noted the proposed well will be tested for quality and quantity of the water. Overfield said the first step is to get the application turned in, then if approved, the well drilled and tested to find out if the water source is feasible or not, before spending additional funds.

**TOWN ATTORNEY: MARSHALL KELLER: RESOLUTION 571:** Keller read the resolution in which the Town of Thermopolis would support the Hot Springs County Water Supply Joint Powers Board's funding application and efforts for a ground water program test well. In discussion, Overfield noted if the application is accepted, there would be no cost to the applicant. After the well is drilled and tested and the applicant accepts the well, the applicant would pay for one-third of the cost of the well under current program rules. Estenson encouraged the approval of the resolution in order to determine the water quantity and quality. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to adopt the resolution.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL: OTHER:** Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. The next Council meeting is March 7, 2023, at 7pm.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Clerk/Treasurer Adam R. Estenson, Mayor

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