

Town of Upton  
Budget Hearing Meeting  
June 14, 2016

**A BUDGET HEARING** for The Annual Appropriations Budget for FY2016-2017 was held at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at the Upton Community Center located at 917 N HWY 116 in Upton, Wyoming.

Present: Vice Mayor Travis Beck, Councilmen Mark Mitchell, and David Watt. Also present were: Mark Lindstrom, Brittany Trandahl, Todd Bennington, Sonia Strong, Lynn Hofland, Justin Strong, Rick Rothleutner, Judy Keller, Sally Esquivel, Judy Kosola, Betty Strong, Roberta Awmiller, Kelley Millar, and Rona Barker. Mayor Dustin Upton (joined the meeting at 6:48 p.m.), and the following joined the meeting at 7:00 p.m.: Attorney Mark Hughes, Gloria Riehemann, Lacey Gurien, Marlys Mitchell, Julie Abbott, Ladena Buckley, Denise Thompson, and Justin Norman.

Absent: Councilman Nathan Todd.

At 6:45 p.m. Vice Mayor Beck opened the meeting by calling for a comment and objection period in regard to the balanced ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017. There being no comments or objections, Vice Mayor Beck stated that approval will be sought to pass the Ordinance on an emergency basis at the regular meeting immediately following this hearing.

Councilman Watt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Mitchell. All voted “aye” and the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

**THE REGULAR MEETING** of the Town Council of Upton, Wyoming was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 immediately following the budget hearing.

Mayor Upton called the meeting to order by leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Watt made a motion seconded by Councilman Beck to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town of Upton held on May 10, 2016, and the minutes of the Budget Workshop held on May 20, 2016. Motion passed.

Lacy Gurien with the Natural Resource District, updated the Council in regard to the proposed community garden plans.

Judy Keller provided the Council with profit and loss reports from December, 2015 through May, 2016 for the senior center. Judy further stated that the senior building was built with federal grant funds, and had to remain a senior center. The grant agreement will be researched for the particulars. There will be a special meeting held between the Council and the Senior Center Board on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 for discussion of future financial plans for the center.

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Upton held a Budget Amendment Hearing to amend the Town Budget for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 in the following particulars:

1. Increase the General Fund Budget by \$302,432.06 by budgeting \$302,432.06 from General Fund cash reserves. Furthermore, transferring debt in the amount of \$302,432.06 from the Sewer Fund to the General Fund. The monies will be used to pay off State Lands Investment Board loan JPA-555WE Pine Street Improvement in the amount of \$302,432.06, which includes \$291,969.16 in principal and \$10,462.90 in interest.

2. Increase the General Fund Budget by \$126,211.08 from the General Fund cash reserves. Furthermore, transferring debt in the amount of \$126,211.08 from the Water Fund to the General Fund. The monies will be used to pay off State Lands Investment Board loan JPA-528 Water Tank in the amount of \$126,211.08, which includes \$120,972.79 in principal and \$5,238.29 in interest. There being no comments or objections, Councilman Watt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Mitchell to amend the budget in the above particulars. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Betty Strong addressed the Council by reading a letter stating that she was not in favor of having chickens within the town limits. Betty then read a letter by Lucy McKenzie stating that she was not in favor of chickens. Mayor Upton then read letters from Kevin and Brandi McMasters, Gary and Deanne Glodt, and Cris Gay, all against having chickens. Councilman Mitchell had heard from Eileen Schiller and Colleen Helwig. Both were against chickens. Justin Strong, Denise Thompson, Gloria Riehemann, and Julie Abbott all spoke against chickens. The Council as a whole stated that they had gotten only negative comments from citizens in regard to chickens. Deputy Clerk Millar stated that Margaret Holmes, and Deb Schmidt both had indicated that they were against chickens in town. Lacey Gurien, Rick Rothleutner, and Justin Norman all spoke in favor of having chickens in town.

Councilman Beck made a motion to pass on an emergency basis ORDINANCE NO. 3, 2016 entitled: THE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 3, SERIES, 2016, with a second from Councilman Mitchell. All voted in favor, and the motion passed. A complete copy of the Ordinance will be published in the June 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Weston County Gazette.

Mayor Upton asked for a motion to pass on the first reading ORDINANCE NO. 4, SERIES 2016 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6.08.010, KEEPING OF CERTAIN ANIMALS PROHIBITED—EXCEPTIONS, OF CHAPTER 6.08, LIVESTOCK, OF TITLE 6, ANIMALS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF UPTON, WYOMING. No motion was made. Mayor Upton again called for a motion to pass the Ordinance on the first reading with no motion made. Mayor Upton then declared that the Ordinance failed due to lack of a motion to pass. At that time, Justin Norman asked Attorney Hughes for a referendum. This request will have to be researched by Attorney Hughes.

A motion was made by Councilman Watt to table the job descriptions until the July council meeting. Councilman Mitchell seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Councilman Beck made a motion to take the personnel policies off the table for discussion. Councilman Watt seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Discussion ensued without resolution. Councilman Watt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Mitchell to again table the personnel policy addendums. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Councilman Beck made a motion to pass the following Proclamation declaring July 16, 2016 CONNIE MONTGOMERY DAY. Councilman Watt seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The Proclamation is as follows:

**PROCLAMATION  
CONNIE MONTGOMERY DAY  
JULY 16, 2016**

**WHEREAS** the Town of Upton, Wyoming recognizes the importance of honoring the life and service of Connie Montgomery; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Upton, Wyoming believes it is important to establish a date upon which its residents may recognize and celebrate the importance of the impact Connie Montgomery's service to the Town of Upton in Upton, Wyoming; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Upton, Wyoming urges its residents to celebrate the life of Connie Montgomery in Upton, Wyoming; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Upton, Wyoming recognizes that the years of service given to the Town of Upton by Connie Montgomery were of great benefit to the Town of Upton.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY** the Governing Body of the Town of Upton, Wyoming, that:

July 16, 2016, is hereby proclaimed as Connie Montgomery Day in the Town of Upton, Wyoming, to be celebrated and observed as may be appropriate to honor the importance the service given by Connie Montgomery to the Town of Upton, Wyoming.

**DATED** June 14, 2016                      **Town of Upton, Wyoming**

Clerk Barker asked for a Council decision to renew the pasture lease to David Gose. Councilman Beck made a motion to renew the lease in the amount of \$600.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Watt. All voted in favor, and the motion carried. The lease renewal date will cover the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. Attorney Hughes will draw up the new lease agreement.

Clerk Barker reported that the approved Upton Park Improvements Community Enhancement Grant has been signed and returned to the Town of Upton. Councilman Watt made a motion to advertise for an architect to oversee the project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beck. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Millar reported that WAM Conference personnel felt that it is highly likely that some towns will see bankruptcy due the economic downturn. Councilman Mitchell stated earlier in the meeting that things are going to get tough financially, and that public involvement was needed to help the town survive.

Chief Hofland submitted his written report. Councilman Watt asked how many citations were issued from the eighteen animal complaints. Chief Hofland was unsure. Councilman Mitchell asked if the police department vehicles were in good shape. Chief Hofland stated that at this time the vehicles were good.

Fire Chief Strong had submitted his written report prior to the meeting. Superintendent Lindstrom will be traveling to Cheyenne on June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> to try to secure grant money for the fire truck. He will know by the end of the week whether or not the grant application was approved.

Attorney Hughes commented that the building abatements have been pretty successful. Councilman Watt specified concerns in regard to a person living in a camper on city property. Attorney Hughes will get with Chief Hofland in regard to this matter.

Superintendent Lindstrom reported that he has been working on building abatements.

Councilman Beck made a motion, seconded by Councilman Watt to pay the following bills: Aflac, \$122.31; Alpha Communications, \$50.00; Arrow Service, \$724.05; AT&T Mobility, \$400.91; Black Hills Energy, \$5,490.71; BC/BS, \$8,478.86; B-4 Automotive, \$132.86, \$576.41; Chase Cardmember Service, \$2,816.78; City of Newcastle, \$1,622.00; Collins Communications, \$28.00; Comfort Inn, \$396.00; C.W. Waste, \$5,964.15; Dana Kepner Co., \$2,850.00; David McElhiney, \$375.00; Department of Treasury, \$12,544.19; Department of Workforce Services, \$381.29, \$1,226.44; Deposit Refunds, \$90.00; Energy Laboratories, \$40.00; Fire Truck Certification Co., \$2,425.50; First State Bank (transfers), \$670.00, \$13,730.98; Gillette Contractors Supply, \$24.55; Gillette Steel Center, \$468.00; Hawkins, Inc., \$267.60; Hughes Law Office, \$1,839.90; Joe's Food Center, \$292.64; Mark Lindstrom, \$41.50; Midland Implement, \$493.14; NCPERS Wyoming, \$16.00; Newcastle Fire Suppression, \$384.79, \$61.79; Newsletter Journal, \$541.80; Norman Engle, \$350.00, \$400.00; NW Pipe Fittings, \$2,186.23; Omega Computers, \$85.00; Postmaster, \$166.26; Powder River Energy, \$602.47; Powder River Heating, \$12,851.00, \$3,662.00; RT Communications, \$1,146.93; Servall, \$113.58; SourceGas, \$387.41;

Top Office Products, \$130.90; Office of State Lands & Investment Board, \$302,432.06, \$126,211.08; Titan Machinery, \$3,144.63, \$505.19 credit; Upton Co-op, \$1,982.54, \$88.94; Upton Fire Department, \$4,445.41; Upton Housing Authority, \$500.00; USA BlueBook, \$375.24; Van Diest Supply, \$1,050.00; Walmart Community/RFCSELLC, \$282.78; WAM, \$225.00; Weston County Gazette, \$737.52; Weston County Clerk, \$50.00; Weston County Treasurer, \$160.33; Wyoming Machinery, \$417.58, \$266.96 credit; Wyoming Network, \$50.00; Wyoming Retirement, \$420.00, \$6,438.02. **SALARIES:** Rona Barker, \$2,835.00; David Brooks, \$1,771.52; Joseph Creamer, \$3,133.32; Patrick Crow, \$300.14; Michael Hobbs, \$2,579.45; Lynn Hofland, \$3,516.22; Virginia Jenkins, \$92.41; David Larson, \$3,122.82; Mark Lindstrom, \$4,353.13; Corina McPeters, \$148.17; Kelley Millar, \$2,254.87; Colleen Moneymaker, \$158.38; William Palmer, \$2,972.29; Jason Pinter, \$1,336.98; Dustin Upton, \$103.92; Robert Willis, \$1,764.94. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Mayor Upton commended Deputy Clerk Millar on the excellent job done with the Annual Appropriations Budget for next year. He further asked that employees manage the overtime to eliminate every ounce of overtime possible.

In other business, Rick Rothleutner brought up the dog issues in Town. Chief Hofland suggested that when a dog is running at large for townspeople to take pictures of the dog to help with identification. Also, call dispatch with dog complaints. He asked that the Pet Ordinance again be published.

Police Chief Hofland stated that there will be a law enforcement officer present during the prescription pick-up on August 27<sup>th</sup> for hazardous waste disposal.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Watt, and seconded by Councilman Beck. All voted in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.