



TOWN OF BAR NUNN

1500 Palomino Ave., Bar Nunn, Wyoming

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025- 7:00 P.M.

1500 Palomino Avenue,

Bar Nunn, Wyoming

- 1) **Roll Call:** Mayor Peter Boyer called the meeting to order on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
The roll was called, which determined the presence of a quorum.
Present: Mayor Peter Boyer. Councilmembers: Steven Clark, Tyler Martin, Tim Ficken, and Dan Sabrosky.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Town Council and all present stood in service to the United States Flag and pledged allegiance to the United States of America.
- 3) **Minutes of March 18, 2025:** Moved by Steven Clark and seconded by Tyler Martin. Councilman Ficken recused himself due to his absence. The motion carried without dissent to approve the minutes for March 18, 2025.
- 4) **Payables List for April 1, 2025:** Moved by Tyler Martin, seconded by Steven Clark, and carried without dissent to approve the payables list of April 1, 2025.
- 5) **Payable List for March 2025 & The 24-25 Year-to-Date Budget Report:**
Checks #32997 – #33067, Direct Deposit #2966 – #3002, ACH #93366206 & ACH #81711505. Moved by Steven Clark, seconded by Tim Ficken, and carried without dissent to approve the Payables List for March 2025 & the 24-25 Year-to-Date Budget Report.
- 6) **Resolution No. 2025-09** “A RESOLUTION NOTING THAT THE TOWN OF BAR NUNN IS THE OPERATOR OF THE FORMER WARDWELL WATER & SEWER DISTRICT” Moved by Dan Sabrosky, seconded by Tyler Martin, and carried without dissent to approve Resolution No. 2025-09.
- 7) **Resolution No. 2025-10** “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE LOAN AND INVESTMENT BOARD FOR A LOAN THROUGH THE STATE REVOLVING FUND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF BAR NUNN” Councilman Sabrosky inquired about the urgency and cause behind this funding need.
Head of Public Works, Dustin Smart explained the funding request was driven by an EPA directive to inventory all lead service lines, including those extending into private property, specifically from the water meter to inside the home. He revealed that approximately 400 lines in the town system were classified as “unknown”, meaning their materials couldn’t be verified without physical inspection.
The inspection process would involve “potholing” to dig down to visually inspect the line and document it. Mr. Smart emphasized this wasn’t just about testing the water but verifying the actual pipe material. Councilman Sabrosky inquired if the EPA would accept a lead contaminant test from the tap water.
Mr. Smart clarified that those are separate EPA rules that require periodic water sampling every three years. This rule, however, focused on pipe composition.
They discussed how Mr. Smart used Natrona County’s GIS records and historic building data, establishing that structures built after 1987 are considered lead-free, thanks to a federal ban. He also found that Wardwell had banned lead in construction as early as 1977.
Councilman Sabrosky asked how the \$700K figure was determined. Mr. Smart said the cost primarily covered purchasing a vac truck for \$520,000 with the remaining loan amount covering compliance-related costs. The vac truck would be a multi-use asset: beyond potholing for EPA compliance, it could assist with leak repair and sewer maintenance that currently costs the town approximately \$30,000 a year to outsource.
Councilman Sabrosky asked what would happen if lead was found. Mr. Smart informed the council that under EPA rules, the town would be responsible for replacing the entire line up to where it enters the house, not the homeowner. He added

that although they haven't found any lead lines to date, compliance is still required. Moved by Tim Ficken, seconded by Steven Clark, and carried without dissent to approve Resolution 2025-10.

- 8) **Verbal Resolution:** Mayor Boyer proposed a motion to authorize a \$2,000 monthly stipend for the Fire Chief. Moved by Tyler Martin, seconded by Tim Ficken, and carried without dissent to authorize a \$2,000 monthly stipend for the Fire Chief.
- 9) **Attorney's Report:** A written report was submitted. Town Attorney, Patrick Holscher, was present for questions or comments from the council.
 - Attorney Pat Holscher gave an update regarding the mill levy for the dissolved Wardwell District. He discovered that Natrona County did not formally dissolve the district until November, and property taxes continued to be collected under the old mill levy. Mr. Holscher explained that the funds had been sitting in a "ghost" file until they were recently flagged. He plans to send a letter to the County Assessor requesting no further levy collection in 2025. A small refund or adjustment may be necessary for over-collected properties, though complications could arise with any ownership transfers during the overlapping period. Councilman Sabrosky stated that he calculated that for a home like his, paying around \$2,800 in property taxes, the removal of the 8-mill levy would result in \$50/month savings. Everyone agreed that small savings are still savings.
- 10) **Engineer's Report:** A written report was submitted. Engineering Associate, Enrique Jimenez was present for council questions or comments from the council.
 - Councilman Ficken commented that he liked Mayor Boyer's ideas discussed at a previous meeting regarding drainage improvements on Salt Creek Highway.
- 11) **Fire Department Report:** Interim Fire Chief, Eugene Zahara, delivered a verbal report.
 - Chief Zahara reported that the fire department onboarded 4 new department members, which increased staffing by 125% since December of 2024.
 - He also reported that Fire Rescue and EMS academies are now online. Wildland refresher training and pack testing were scheduled for the end of April.
 - And finally he reported that Rescue 11 is down due to a cracked intercooler. Firefighter and mechanic, Eric Vanblaricom identified the problem and stated that he would be repairing it. The council discussed ways to ensure Mr. Vanblaricom was reimbursed for his work and determined to pay him as a 1099 private contractor until a final solution was determined.
- 12) **Public Works Report:** A written report was submitted. Interim Head of Public Works, Dustin Smart, was present for questions or comments from the council.
 - Mayor Boyer inquired how the AMI (Automated Meter Infrastructure) was working. Mr. Smart reported that Ferguson had upgraded the frequencies at which the meters were transmitting. This has improved data collection and it is now much easier to detect issues remotely and early.
 - Councilman Ficken inquired about the repairs to meter pits damaged by Visionary's fiber installation. Mr. Smart stated that since nothing was leaking, they would wait until the weather was more favorable to complete those repairs.
- 13) **Office Staff Report:** A written report was submitted. Town Clerk, Kalista Schwarzrock, was present for questions or comments from the council.
 - Mrs. Schwarzrock reported that her and Deputy Clerk, Tiffany Popp, had recently attended the Wyoming Community Gas Board Meeting and Forum. While there, they were presented with the town's annual distribution from Wyoming Community Gas in the amount of \$4,874.55. She informed the public that this year's distribution is dedicated to putting in a bus shelter at the Palomino Bus stop.
 - Mrs. Schwarzrock also requested that the council consider expanding access to gym memberships to the broader water system customer base. The council approved extending gym memberships for county residents served by the town's water system.
- 14) **Petitions & Public Comment:**
 - Parks and Recreation coordinator, Virginia Wharton, requested more information about the Fire Department's Car Show in July. Firefighter, Eric Vanblaricom stated that it would be July 19th. Registration would start at 8 a.m. and judging would take place beginning at 3 p.m. Resident, Mike Schoolcraft suggested the fire department consider moving the judging to earlier in the day.
 - Resident, Mike Schoolcraft inquired of the town attorney what the status was of the Zoning books he was updating. Mr. Holscher stated he had emailed them out a while ago but could send them again.
 - Resident, LeAnn Newquist asked how and when the Mayor first heard about Radiant Nuclear. Mayor Boyer explained that former commissioner Steve Friel invited him to a multi-agency meeting nearly two months ago. Initially, Radiant was

considering multiple locations, including Bar Nunn and Tennessee. Only recently did the company firm up plans and request use of town facilities for a public forum. Mrs. Newquist inquired when Radiant booked the meeting at the community center and if they paid to use the town hall. Town Clerk, Kalista Schwarzrock said it was approximately a week before the event, and they filled out a facility agreement, but would need to check with her staff to confirm if they were charged. Councilman Ficken noted Radiant admitted they were behind on public outreach due to property negotiations and testing.

Resident, Michael Newquist emphasized that if Radiant moves forward, Bar Nunn should receive tangible benefits, especially funding for fire protection services. Attorney Pat Holscher confirmed that with a project of this size, the town could likely seek unmitigated impact funding through the Industrial Siting Council, especially for emergency service needs.

Resident, Venus Childress, stated she believed there was an extension on the manufacturing tax exemption until 2045. Representative Jayme Lien, who was also present, confirmed that was accurate, but the exemption did not include sales tax. Councilman Sabrosky confirmed that Radiant Nuclear's final product was still taxable once sold. Representative Lien stated that it was taxable.

County Resident, Rozmaring Czaban commented that she had located all of the legislative sessions pertaining to Radiant and suggested that the council watch those sessions. She offered to provide council members with archived legislative footage and stressed the need for everyone to stay informed.

Representative Jayme Lien clarified that Radiant would still need legislative changes to proceed, and nuclear energy discussions are tentatively on the April 8 Minerals Committee agenda.

15) Council Business:

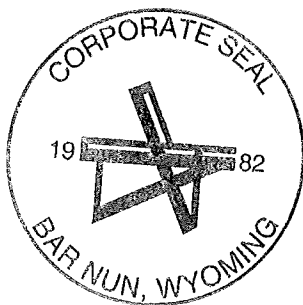
A. Code Enforcement Officer Appointment: Head of Public Works, Dustin Smart, nominated Public Works staff member, Kolby Hall as the new code enforcement officer. Mayor Boyer stated they would have to discuss compensation at a later date, but expressed support for Mr. Hall's willingness to serve.

- 16) Adjournment:** Moved by Steven Clark, seconded by Tyler Martin, and carried without dissent that there being no further business the meeting of April 1, 2025, be adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Peter Boyer, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)



Kalista Schwarzrock, Town Clerk-Treasurer