

Stevensville Town Council Meeting Minutes
for THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024, 6:30 PM 206 Buck Street, Town Hall

CONDENSED MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Michalson called the meeting to order. Councilmembers Barker, Brown, Nelson and Smith were all present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comments (Public comment from citizens on items that are not on the agenda)

Marilyn Wolff: 300 Aspen Trail, Ms. Wolff provided her public comment to the town clerk to be included in the minutes of this meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Meeting Minutes 06/13/2024

Mayor Michalson: introduced approval of minutes for Town Council Meeting Minutes 06/13/2024.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we approve minutes for Town Council Meeting Minutes 06/13/2024.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: Motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

b. Town Council Meeting Minutes 06/27/2024

Mayor Michalson: introduced approval of minutes for Town Council Meeting Minutes 06/27/2024.

Councilmember Nelson: make a motion to approve the town council meeting minutes for 06/27/2024.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

5. Approval of Bi-Weekly Claims

Mayor Michalson: introduced approval of bi-weekly claims, you got the email today and Gina has been very busy. This is rare, but please take your time to look over them. #19063-#19100.

Councilmember Barker: make a motion to approve bi-weekly claims #19063-#19100.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? The claim for the water meters Steve, are they still on hold?

Stephen Lassiter, Public Works Director: we got some, got all of Emerine's meters and some from the back order.

Mayor Michalson: claim #19078, MMIA property claim, that is for the annual MMIA property insurance.

Councilmember Barker: I would like to say thank you for breaking it down. Nice to see it.

Gina Crowe: it took a bit but got with Robert and got those broken out.

Councilmember Barker: questions on #19071 for Rain Deck.

Stephen Lassiter: UV light and the sensor.

Councilmember Barker: is that covered from some of the money from the Splash Pad?

Stephen Lassiter: yes.

Councilmember Nelson: that is for cleaning?

Stephen Lassiter: yes, it is.

Gina Crowe: anything that is spent on the splash pad has its own line.

Councilmember Nelson: claim #19099, town hall keys?

Jenelle Berthoud: I had some more made for the police officers.

Councilmember Barker: claim #19089, UPS boxes, why so many? Monthly fee for PO Box.

Gina Crowe: that is just the PO Box broken down by all departments. They all pay a portion.

Councilmember Barker: question for Gina, where you said that the splash pad had its own account why are we not seeing this in the back?

Gina Crowe: (addressed the councilmember Barker to show it) these are funds, and this is coming out of that fund.

Councilmember Brown: on the PO Box have we ever thought about just going to the street address. It would say \$200.00.

Gina Crowe: you are talking about having all of the mail delivered here.

Jenelle Berthoud: if you are talking about the mailbox here, I truly do not know how they would put all those water bills in that section unless they delivered it to town hall.

Mayor Michalson: if you saw what Colette brings and dumps on the table, they would not be able to fit that. We could ask.

Councilmember Brown: just a way to save \$200.00.

Mayor Michalson: anything further from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

6. Administrative Reports

a. Airport

Will Rowe, Airport Manager: gave his report to the council, report provided in the packet.

b. Building Department

In the packet.

c. Finance

d. Fire Department

Chief Motley: gave his report to the council, report provided in the packet. River is dried up and it is going to be a dry summer. Fire out at the airport, came out of the gravel pit.

Councilmember Nelson: how many car accidents?

Chief Motley: 5

Councilmember Smith: how many fires from the 4th?

Chief Motley: one, but it was put out.

Mayor Michalson: I want to thank you and the fire department for a great show this year.

Chief Motley: it was a good turnout. We were able to fundraise the whole part.

e. Police Department

Chief Boe: gave his report to the council, report provided to the council at the meeting.

Councilmember Smith: doing anything about the J turns?

Chief Boe: ideally, we want to focus our patrol on trouble areas, Main Street seems to be our primary focus. I am seeing less of the J turn issue.

Councilmember Barker: talking about the J turns there still seems to be some confusion when you come into the town about the sign. I think that it is confusing when turning on to 2nd. They think that they can't turn onto 2nd.

Chief Boe: my understanding is that it is indicating from this point forward. I had never heard of it until I came to Stevensville.

Councilmember Smith: on the 4th of July did you have any calls on the big booms?

Chief Boe: no, we did not, a lot of the neighborhoods in the community pooled together and put on shows. I had my folks out until about 12:00-12:30. I had talks and wanted to make sure that the fireworks ended at 12:00. They did a good job. I think that it was because of us being out patrolling.

Councilmember Smith: not on my street.

f. Public Works

Stephen Lassiter, Public Works Department: gave his report to the council, report provided in the packet.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Stevensville Park Board Recommends Lewis & Clark Park Hours for Closure be Sundown to Sunup

Mayor Michalson: introduced unfinished business item a. Stevensville Park Board Recommends Lewis & Clark Park Hours for Closure be Sundown to Sunup. As you look in

your packet the Park Board met on Monday, and they recommend that the park hours be sundown to sunup.

Councilmember Nelson: make a motion to approve the park board's recommendation Lewis & Clark Park Hours for Closure be Sundown to Sunup.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion? Public Comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

b. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 533, a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Lewis & Clark Park

Mayor Michalson: introduced unfinished business item b. Resolution No. 533, a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Lewis & Clark Park.

Councilmember Barker: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 533, a Resolution of the Stevensville Town Council Adopting Park Hours for Lewis & Clark Park.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Barker: thank you for us to be tabling it and take it to the park board. I think that things like this should go to the Park Board.

Mayor Michalson: any other comments from the council? Public Comments? Seeing, none Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

New Business

a. Discussion/Decision: Stevensville Park Board Recommends that the Public Works Department get Estimates to Repair or Replace the Fence at Father Ravalli Park

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item a. Stevensville Park Board Recommends that the Public Works Department get Estimates to Repair or Replace the Fence at Father Ravalli Park. We had a couple of citizens that were concerned about the fence, citizens want to know what to do about it. It has come forth before, but no action taken. Hopefully we can get some action on this.

Councilmember Barker: make a motion for the Stevensville Park Board Recommends that the Public Works Department get Estimates to Repair or Replace the Fence at Father Ravalli Park.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vicki Motley, Park Board Member: I will give a little bit of clarification, we did decide that when the new fence does go in it be moved in towards the park so that the town can mow that strip instead of the citizens. And we decided that chain-link was the safest.

Councilmember Smith: will that interfere with any of the plumbing?

Vicki Motley: no, Steve said that it would not interfere with any of the sprinklers.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

b. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 536 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Animal Licenses by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item b. Resolution No. 536 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Animal Licenses by the Town of Stevensville. After looking at the fee schedule and going back over the years every time it was pulled out it pulled everything out, so Jenelle did the same with job descriptions and broke it down into categories and their own resolutions. Then if you want to make a change to one thing, we just pull that one thing out. It makes it easier for Jenelle and the council.

Councilmember Smith: I move that we adopt Resolution No. 536 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Animal Licenses by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Brown: how many people have come in for licenses for dogs.,

Jenelle Berthoud: this year about 20-30 and two chicken ones.

Mayor Michalson: the problem is enforcing.

Jenelle Berthoud: the best part about it and there has been multiple times, and I don't know why but the dog has just shown up here at town hall, easier than the \$65.00 to get the dog out. We have made calls in the past that their dog has shown up at town hall.

Councilmember Smith: I believe that you answered this, my question is that we are giving out tags?

Jenelle Berthoud: yes, law enforcement or anyone can come by town hall and check that tag number. Andrena has made a new spreadsheet for this to track.

Councilmember Barker: and this is yearly?

Jenelle Berthoud: yes.

Councilmember Brown: I was wondering, something to think about, maybe a three-year plan give them a break? I like the idea that it does not matter if they are altered or unaltered. Are we getting away from older than 5 months.

Jenelle Berthoud: I do not remember that in the ordinance but will look at that.

Mayor Michalson: any other discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

c. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 537 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Business & Alcohol Licenses by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item c. Resolution No. 537 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Business & Alcohol Licenses by the Town of Stevensville. If you look at that we have bunched them all together and did them all at

\$75.00. I would hope that they will pony up another \$25.00 and if any of them were to say that is for safety, Chief Boe walking the streets, and Chief Motley and the fire department.

Councilmember Barker: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 537 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Business & Alcohol Licenses by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council?

Councilmember Barker: I know that this is something that we have talked about before, but airport pays more than the business is that correct.

Jenelle Berthoud: they have a separate fee.

Councilmember Barker: what are some of the other towns, did anyone look to see what some of the other towns are charging.

Mayor Michalson: the bigger towns break it down by how many employees, the size of the business, what the business does. They have a whole different fee schedule, and it has to do with safety as well.

Councilmember Barker: I know that at one time I think the fire department had information on each building.

Jenelle Berthoud: they still do.

Councilmember Barker: is that incorporated in that fee on how they.

Jenelle : they have an entire packet, about 6 pages and in that packet, they are providing their floor plan for the fire department. They get updated every year.

Chief Motley: they do not all fill it out or return it.

Jenelle Berthoud: I am still enforcing 4 large business that still need to pay.

Councilmember Barker: it is part of our ordinance that they have to pay.

Chief Motley: but you have to enforce it.

Mayor Michalson: any further comments from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Brown: no

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 3-1

d. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 538 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Town Cemeteries by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item d. Resolution No. 538 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Town Cemeteries by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Brown: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 538 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Town Cemeteries by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion?

Councilmember Nelson: we just upping the fees for opening and closing for visiting hours or?

Jenelle Berthoud: for opening and closing of a grave.

Stephen Lassiter: the change is for Saturdays, overtime.

Councilmember Brown: is there a lot of room left in our cemeteries?

Stephen Lassiter: the old part of Riverside is pretty much sold out. Pretty much do not want to do anything in Maplewood anymore because there are so many unmarked there is plenty of room in the part of Riverside. Jenelle and I have looked through the map at Riverside we came to conclusion that it is pretty much sold.

Jenelle Berthoud: not as much that it is full but sold.

Stephen Lassiter: the new area already has 3 people in it.

Councilmember Smith: why are we stopping at 3:00 pm?

Stephen Lassiter: because then we go into overtime, if we get into 5:00 it is all about overtime.

Mayor Michalson: any more comments from the council? Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vicki Motley: just a question since the family members are getting the engraving done on the Niche is the town give that family the guidelines on the script that they can use?

Jenelle Berthoud: Garden City Monument is really good about that.

Vicki Motley: just in case they try to take it to another engraving place. Maybe there should be something about this is the only font that can be used.

Mayor Michalson: any other comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

e. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 539 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Records Requests by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item e. Resolution No. 539 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Records Requests by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 539 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule & Charges for Records Requests by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

f. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 540 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule for Special Events and Park Use by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item f. Resolution No. 540 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule for Special Events and Park Use by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Nelson: I make a motion that we adopt Resolution No. 540 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule for Special Events and Park Use by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion?

Councilmember Barker: I just want to say that I like the structure of this, it is not about the fees it is about bringing people to our community.

Councilmember Nelson: a thought, garbage can access. I know that they are around but at Lewis & Clark there is plenty of trash laying around.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vicki Motley: shouldn't the Pig Nick fee be included under annual events?

Jenelle Berthoud: currently they only get charged for a pavilion rental because their numbers are under the required.

Jeff Motley: our event fees are we covering our costs? How many garbage containers do we fill and empty for Creamery?

Stephen Lassiter: Civic club provides their own garbage cans.

Councilmember Barker: how this came up was when Civic Club came in, they had a whole slue of fees totaling over \$750.00. I think that is where we have lost some of the events coming into town because of those high fees.

Mayor Michalson: any other comments? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

g. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 541 a Resolution Adopting a Charge for Fingerprinting Services

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item g. Resolution No. 541 a Resolution Adopting a Charge for Fingerprinting Services. Jenelle is our fingerprinting specialist, and she is pretty busy, and she did not want to raise it to much so that we would not lose business.

Councilmember Nelson: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 541 a Resolution Adopting a Charge for Fingerprinting Services.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion?

Councilmember Smith: I believe that \$25.00 is a standard fee all around.

Jenelle Berthoud: no, it varies between Missoula and Ravalli County and us.

Mayor Michalson: any other council comments?

Councilmember Nelson: so that is going from \$25.00 to \$30.00?

Mayor Michalson: no, just to \$25.00. any further comments? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

h. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 542 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for Ambulance Fees by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item h. Resolution No. 542 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for Ambulance Fees by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Smith: I make a motion approve Resolution No. 542 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for Ambulance Fees by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment?

Chief Motley: so, we currently charge zero for our ambulance fees, we have stopped billing because the company was costing us a lot. We have stopped doing any billing but can still transport. These fees were set when we were charging, we need to be in compliance with the same fees that the others are charging. Yes, we can set this resolution in place and then if we start to bill then we could charge the fees as set. The ambulance fund is being funded by the general fund. We have decided that it does not make sense fiscally.

Jenelle Berthoud: can I make a suggestion, Jeff instead of the fees being there what if "ambulance fees are as follows: to be determined by implementation of a billing service" then we are not giving a false number.

Chief Motley: then if we do bill, we as the billing agency can forgive due to hardship or a minimum payment.

Jenelle Berthoud: what you are saying Jeff is that we would need a billing service like Pintler to be able to bill.

Councilmember Smith: when was the last time the ambulance was used.

Chief Motley: a couple of years ago.

Councilmember Nelson: make a motion to rescind the first motion to adopt resolution no. 542.

Councilmember Smith: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Jenelle Berthoud: to rescind?

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0 to rescind.

Councilmember Nelson; make a motion to adopt Resolution NO. 542 with said changes.

Councilmember Brown: 2nd.

Councilmember Smith: should those changes be noted?

Councilmember Barker: she has them.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0.

i. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 543 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for General Public Works Fees by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduced new business item i. : Resolution No. 543 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for General Public Works Fees by the Town of Stevensville

Councilmember Smith: make a motion to approve Resolution No. 543 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for General Public Works Fees by the Town of Stevensville.

Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Discussion from the council? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

j. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 544 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for Excavation Fees by the Town of Stevensville

Mayor Michalson: introduce new business item j. Resolution No. 544 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for Excavation Fees by the Town of Stevensville .

Councilmember Nelson: make a motion that we adopt Resolution No. 544 a Resolution Adopting a Fee Schedule and Charges for Excavation Fees by the Town of Stevensville

Councilmember barker: 2nd.

Mayor Michalson: motion and a 2nd. Council discussion?

Councilmember Brown: one question for the curb cut, someone that did it over on 10th street did they pay it.

Jenelle Berthoud: yes, they paid for it.

Mayor Michalson: further discussion? Public comment? Seeing none, Jenelle please take the vote.

Councilmember Barker: aye.

Councilmember Brown: aye.

Councilmember Nelson: aye.

Councilmember Smith: aye.

Mayor Michalson: passes 4-0

9. Board Reports

Mayor Michalson: I will report for Councilmember Nelson who had a prior engagement. Park Board met, elected Tawnya Eickert as the board chairperson and Vicki Motley as the secretary.

Councilmember Brown: seats still on the park board?

Jenelle Berthoud: one.

Councilmember Smith: airport board, as Will mentioned pretty standard meeting, one thing that I think that we should address has to do with the mower. Will is going to take it home himself to fix it and this is something that we need to take care of.

10. Town Council Comments

Councilmember Brown: it did make a difference with the fireworks that there were patrols out.

Councilmember Nelson: apologize for my tardiness and not being at the park board meeting.

11. Executive Report

Mayor Michalson: did a walk through with HDR, Emirian and Stephen on Mission Street. They will start working on the items that need to be cleaned up. Town clean up continues,

nine more in total. Paving has started on Railroad Street. Had a meeting today with HDR about our Scada system. They will come back with a bid. Walked spring Street today and hung flyers on the doors to let them know about the paving project. We are getting close to the .gov.

Jenelle Berthoud: .gov corrected some issues with their onboarding. Last night they accepted me and now we have had to re-register because they had closed down in October, I would say that we are about 60-70% ahead. They say about 20-30 days for completion of the domain.

Mayor Michalson: having a police commission meeting on Monday morning and then a swearing-in of Kenneth Franklin. John Boe going on training. Then Chris is going to school as well for 13 weeks. I would like to ask the council to sign up for email billing. I would also like to read; we have pulled out the MCA code and we will be noticing the public about water and sewer rate increases. We will send a letter to everyone.

Jenelle Berthoud: yes, in the newspaper 17, 24, and 31 then the meeting is August 6, 2024.

Councilmember Smith: I had a call this week about water pressure? Anything Steve. I have also noticed the pressure is low.

Stephen Lassiter: I can set a gauge on the faucet and see what it is.

12. Adjournment

Councilmember Smith: adjourn.

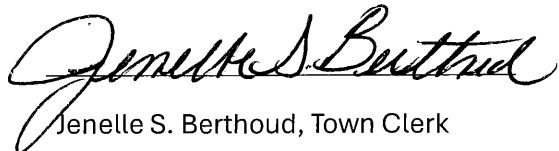
Councilmember Nelson: 2nd.

APPROVE:



Bob Michalson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk

July 11, 2024

To: Mayor Michalson and Town Council Members

RE: Two Incidents with Burnt Fork Estates (BFE) – Public Comment

I am addressing you as the VP of Creekside Meadows HOA and as a former Stevensville Town Council Member. Burnt Fork Estates has been an ongoing concern for Creekside Meadows and especially now under the ownership of the third developer, Jess Jessop. There seems to be no concern for the property rights of other Town citizens, and are development requirements being followed?

6/11/2024: Early in the morning the fence at the end of Aspen Trail in Creekside Meadows was cut open and two dump trucks began continuously delivering overloaded truckfuls of dirt to three new homes being built by Big Sky Builders on Sassafras Court, Phase 1 of Burnt Fork Estates. This went on all day and with the wind blowing at more than 10 mph, dirt was blowing into Creekside homes and residents were alarmed. The dirt was for landscaping but neither the Town, or Creekside HOA were given advance notice that Aspen Trail would be opened for this purpose. I came home mid afternoon from a camping trip and neighbors started contacting me. I stopped one of the truck drivers and questioned how many more loads were coming through. The young man told me ten. I asked who authorized opening Aspen Trail. He said, Jess Jessop. He said unless Creekside Meadows wants to pay for the developer's Logan Lane access, they would use Aspen Trail. I called Big Sky Builders and complained. I called the Mayor, who came over and witnessed the trucks hauling dirt. I asked the truckers to slow down because of the wind and blowing dirt. The contractor finally called an end to the hauling and I asked that the fence be put back in place to prevent the cattle from entering Creekside Meadows property. It is pure luck the cattle didn't come through the open fence during the dirt hauling fiasco. There could have been a lot of property damage in Creekside Meadows and the cattle could have entered Creekside streets, even Logan Lane causing traffic accidents with serious consequences. A responsible developer would have asked for permission first. More importantly, Mr Jessop has had time to build the accesses on Logan and Middle Burnt Fork Rd, approved long ago by the County Commissioners. Creekside Meadows is not responsible for building the developer's entrances and road system, or paying for it.

6/20/2024: A black truck pulled up to the recently repaired fence on Aspen Trail and the driver spent over an hour photographing, and videoing Burnt Fork Estates land next to Aspen Trail. At first I thought the driver was with Big Sky Builders checking on the repaired fence. I approached the man, introduced myself, and asked if he had questions. He told me he was a contractor looking at BFE property to buy lots. That was quite a surprise answer since Phase 5 is opposite Aspen Trail, and far out in the development

phases. I said each phase has to go through Town Council approval sequentially before construction can begin, and right now the Town's water rights issue is preventing any construction in Stevensville. He told me he read the DEQ denial and thought it was "fishy". I told him DNRC is reviewing whether water rights are available through a new approach by the Town's water rights attorney who has advised no more development until legal water rights are approved.

The man stayed longer after we spoke and jumped the fence onto BFE property, pacing out, and walking the land. The land opposite Aspen Trail bordered by the school has good mountain views. Two of my neighbors saw this man and asked what he wanted. I told them what had been discussed.

Marilyn Wolff
300 Aspen Trail
Stevensville MT
406-529-3018