

Regular Meeting

The Town of Chester Council held the Regular Scheduled Council meeting on December 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Liberty County Senior Center.

Members Present: Mayor James Dahlen Council Persons, Sonja Dahlen, Scott Decker, Rachel Ghekiere, Garrett Graff, Tina Neer, and Jim Sivils

Members Absent:

Staff Present: John Kleinsasser (PWD)
Ashley Wickum (Clerk/Treasurer)

Guests:

1. Mayor James Dahlen called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Tina Neer made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on November 13, 2024, with the correction to line #3. Rachel Ghekiere seconded the motion. Motion to approve the minutes passed with all voting ayes.
4. Claims were presented to the council for approval. Sonja Dahlen made the motion to approve the claims submitted for payment. Ck # 20592-20632, electronic payment -99966-99965 & Payroll Advances Ck #20633-20634. Tina Neer seconded the motion. Motion to approve claims passed with all voting ayes.
5. The council reviewed the adjustments and journal entries made in November. Rachel Ghekiere made the motion to approve the JV & Adjustments. Tina Neer seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.
6. Public Comments: None
7. Sheriff's Office Report: was provided to the council.
8. New Business:
 1. Ordinance No. 2024-1 Second Reading: Prohibiting Unpermitted Concealed Weapons and Unconcealed Weapons In Town Building- Scott Decker made the motion to approve the second reading for Ordinance No. 2024-1 Prohibiting Unpermitted Concealed Weapons and Unconcealed Weapons In Town Building. Jim Sivils seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.
 2. 1-4-1 Chester Municipal Code – General Penalty: Amend penalty to include up to 6 months incarceration. First Reading. The council would like clarification that the added penalty would only apply to Ordinance No. 2024-1. Rachel Ghekiere made the motion to table 1-4-1 Chester Municipal Code – General Penalty: Amend penalty to include up to 6 months incarceration. First Reading until clarification is made. Jim Sivils seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.

3. Approval of Resolution #08-2025 Adopting the 2023 Montana Central Region Hazard Mitigation Plan. Sonja Dahlen made the motion to approve Resolution #08-2025 Adopting the 2023 Montana Central Region Hazard Mitigation Plan. Tina Neer seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.
4. Motion to appoint Megan Hedges 3-year term Urban Supervisor Liberty County Conservation District. Scott Decker made a motion to appoint Megan Hedges to a 3-year term as Urban Supervisor Liberty County Conservation District. Tina Neer seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.

9. Old Business: Mayor Dahlen discussed the general labor position. The job listing description can be updated with benefits listed and a starting wage range included. This will be worked on so advertising can begin.
10. Mayor Report/ Additional Agenda Items: None
11. PWD update: PWD John Kleinsasser updated the council that they are digging a new pit at the landfill and servicing equipment.
12. Clerk update: Ashley Wickum updated the council that audit is planned for February.
13. Council: None
14. Rachel Ghekiere made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tina Neer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Submitted by _____ Approved by _____
Clerk Mayor