

# Town of Talking Rock Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 6th, 2025

Mayor James Bryant called the meeting to order at 6:59pm.

## I. Attendance

Board:

James Bryant

Tony Hawf

Jason Little

Lynda Cagle

Darlene O'Connell

Town Clerk: Amanda Buntin

Others in attendance:

Mari Livsey, David O'Connell, Judson Bourke, Dan Poole

## II. Pledge of Allegiance

## III.

## IV.

**Mayor Announcements:** Mayor Bryant announced that 2024 was a good year, we had a lot of amazing things take place, and we are looking forward to 2025 and what the Town of Talking Rock will accomplish! It was noted that during the 2024 Bronco Stampede we had enough sponsors to be able to donate. It was decided, during the making of the event, that the money would be donated to "Save the Horses". It was a very busy period, and the donation had been overlooked so it is now being done. We are also giving them the hay after the Heritage Days Festival from here forward. The council welcomed their newest member Darlene O'Connell to her first official council meeting!

**V. Approval of January 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Tony Hawf, seconded by Lynda Cagle to approve the January monthly meeting minutes. All voted unanimously in favor, except Caleb Gay, who was not present.

**VI. Approval January 2025 Financial Report:** A motion was made by Jason Little, seconded by Lynda Cagle to approve the January 2025 financial report. All voted unanimously in favor, except Caleb Gay who was not present.

**VII. Summary of Maintenance:** Entrance to Town Hall was finished and looks great! Mayor Bryant announced that the ARP funds went to the improvement, and we are still going to purchase a couple bushes or flowers to go out front to finish the look. The restrooms over at the train cars are in the process of being fixed. The women's restroom needs a part that's hard to get so we are waiting for that. The council also wanted to look into quotes to completely repair both restrooms to see if we must purchase a new toilet for the women's restroom, if the part can't be ordered to fix it. It is one of the items on the council's list to completely remodel those restrooms.

## VIII. Old Business:

A. Budget for 2025: The council voted on the new 2025 budget.

## IX. New Business:

A. **Special Projects Account:** Mayor Bryant announced that the council will be deciding on the projects and things that need to be done with the funds from this account. The Town and Council want to get started on these as soon as possible and not delay anything any longer

than it has been. The council would like 2025 to be a year where we get things done! One of the projects that the town and council would like to see get done is to make our parking lots ADA compliant. We have parking at the Bar & Grill that needs a ramp built, and other items to make all the businesses more accessible. Jason Little has been put in charge of seeing where we can possibly get funding and help to get those projects moving. With the events we have we feel the town would greatly benefit from these structural improvements. We have made small improvements every year and it shows.

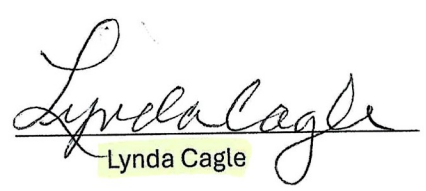
- B. **Study for Pedestrian Crossing:** The Mayor and council decided not to vote on moving forward with the study at this time because we want to see if we can get additional funding from Grants. If we can get funding to go with the funds, we have it allows us to do more for the town.
- C. **Storage Unit:** The town needed a place to store all the items we use during events to make it easier for when the new Fire Station is built. It will help keep everything separated and organized until we are able to use the other half of the building, then we will use part of that area for storage and will not need the storage unit any longer. Mayor Bryant announced that if any Talking Rock citizen wants to see what's being stored in that storage unit, we will make arrangements to show them. Contact Town Hall or Amanda and we will set it up.
- D. **Vote on the Qualifying fee:** The clerk explained that the qualifying fee needed to be voted on this year. With the council now being paid it is appropriate for the fee to increase in most towns. If someone wants to go to the election office and apply to run for a council seat or for the mayor's office, they must pay the qualifying fee. In the years past it was one dollar. Mayor Bryant asked if there was a motion to set the qualifying fee to two dollars this year. A motion was made by Darlene O'Connell and seconded by Jason Little to make the qualifying fee two dollars. All voted unanimously except Caleb Gay, who was not present.

- X. **Adjourn:** A motion was made by Tony Hawf to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lynda Cagle at 7:16pm. All voted unanimously in favor, except Caleb Gay, who was not present.

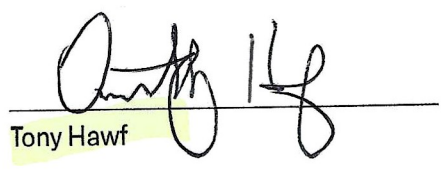
The next regular council meeting will be February 6, 2025, at 7pm with the working group session beginning the same day at 5:30pm.




James W. Bryant Jr. Mayor




Lynda Cagle



Tony Hawf



Caleb Gay

  
Jason Little

  
Assisted by: Amanda Buntin

  
Darlene O'Connell

