

**\*\* Page 1\*\* A SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF THREE FORKS, MONTANA, MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

**MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2025,** The Three Forks City Council met at the Three Forks Temporary location in the Basement of the Three Forks Community Library, 607 S. Main Street and via Zoom. (Zoom is a virtual meeting tool which the City began using due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines and continues to use to encourage participation from the safety of one's home.) The meeting was chaired by Councilman George Chancellor as both the Mayor and Council President were unable to attend. Chairman Chancellor called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:** City Council members George Chancellor, (Warren) Garret Buchanan, Ed Tharp, and Roxi McDermott attended in person. City Treasurer Kelly Smith was present at the meeting, who also completed the minutes. City Engineer Susan Hayes attended via Zoom. City Clerk Crystal Turner was excused.

The record reflected a quorum with the attendance of four (4) Council members and the meeting was held.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was not held as there was no flag in the room. Chairman Chancellor reminded the audience that this meeting was audio and video recorded and may be streamed via Zoom and on our Facebook page.

**GUESTS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS (For items not on the agenda)**

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Water Project**

**a. Recommendation to Award the Water Distribution Line Project Based on Bid Tabs**

Chairman Chancellor asked if anyone had any questions. Ed Tharp and George asked what an Additive Alternative was. Susan Hayes explained that with a large project, the engineers break it down into smaller projects. "You have the Basic Bid which is for the most important part of the project. Then the other smaller parts are bid individually as 'extras'. With projects, bids can be all over the place, and if it is bid as one project, if all the bids are over what you can afford to pay you must go back out to bid with a smaller project. With the Additive Alternatives you can accept the Basic Bid, and if you still have money to spend you can add the alternatives (smaller parts) the City needs most," she explained.

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Garret Buchanan wanted to clarify that the lowest bidder, Emerine Contracting, had done work for other municipalities and Great West had checked their references. Susan stated she had called Stevensville and Dillon since Emerine had done work for them. She also talked to another engineer at Great West that had worked directly with Emerine on a project in Sheridan. There were no negative or concerning comments. Kelly said she thought Emerine had also contacted Steve Johnston. Susan replied yes they talked to Steve after the pre-bid meeting. Susan added, "They came out and walked the site with him, and asked about staging area. It is not required but no other bidders did it." Ed Tharp said he thought it looked good.

Councilman Chancellor made a motion to accept the bid from Emerine Contracting. Councilwoman McDermott seconded. There was public comment.  
**Motion Passed Unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilwoman McDermott, seconded by Councilman Tharp. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 2:05P.M.

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Randy Johnston, Mayor

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Kelly Smith, Deputy City Clerk