



Lowell Clawson
Mayor

Town of Batroil
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Ashley Hopkin
Clerk/Treasurer

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday May 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Lowell Clawson called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Council Members present were Butch McFall, Alan Thornton and Audra Thornton.
Others present were Clerk Ashley Hopkin. Attorney was available by phone if needed (but not present).
Guests present were Doreen Garrison, Robert and Sandra Niblett.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: Doreen Garrison stated that she would appreciate not having conversations about the elections or political matters while she is working at the Post Office. She has felt cornered by some of the conversations in the past by a council member.

Mayor Clawson, under public comment, wanted to address some of the issues that he felt were untrue or unfair that were listed in the political flyers that had been mailed. He wanted to know instances where the council had not been transparent or had not conducted business in the council meetings. The meetings are open to the public and minutes are posted. He knew of no time when the council had not listened to residents' concerns, but not every suggestion would be in the best interest of the town. He stated that Town Hall is open more than a lot of towns, bigger than us in the state, and that our clerk is justified in having appointments for personal or medical reasons. The clerk takes the town phone with her in order to answer any calls during business hours while gone from the office, including when she is getting supplies for the town. The town does not have the budget to hire a part-time employee to simply sit here and answer the phone, especially since the clerk has it. As far as essential employees, the town has been trying to hire a police officer for years but there has been no interest in the position. We will also hire a maintenance man when a qualified one is available. The mayor then addressed the statement that the cost and return on the townhouses to the Town is too expensive. Using the duplexes as an example he talked about how the return on the town's investment to repair them to a livable condition would take 6-8 years with no other costs in that time period. This is assuming that both duplexes were rented at current rates the whole time. That is not a good return on the investment of the town's money. He then wanted to clarify that the statement he supposedly said about water meters being installed in the next 2 years was false. What he did say was that he would not be surprised if governmental agencies forced us to install meters within the next few years. This is from information that he has heard from knowledgeable sources. However, he has been assured that if that happens, they could be used for water monitoring only and would not have to be used for billing purposes. The town is currently working with the state and an engineering firm to investigate our current water system and give us recommendations on how to improve it and its reliability. Finally, he stated that he knew of no old business's not thriving nor of any new businesses that had tried to get a business license and were rejected.

Approval of the minutes for May 7, 2025, they were posted according to law. With no changes necessary, the minutes stand as written.

A motion was made by Alan Thornton, and seconded by Audra Thornton, to approve the agenda of May 21, 2025. Motion passed.

Monthly Reports:

Police: There was none.

Court: There was no court held this month. No citations were issued for the next court docket. The next scheduled court date is Wednesday June 4, 2025. Initial appearances will be conducted by phone at 4 pm. At that time an evidentiary hearing will be set for the following month for a time that will not interfere with the town council meetings.

Water/Sewer: On Wednesday May 21, 2025 the monthly BIO tests were taken to Energy Labs in Casper. The chlorine level has been averaging 0.3 and the water tank has been at 38.5 feet. There are no issues with the sewer lagoons. Bartlett Oilfield Service is going to dredge the entrance pipes in the sewer lagoons while they have a long reach excavator available.

Maintenance: Scattered wood around the burn pit was cleaned up, mow and weed eat around front and side of Town Hall, plowed snow, repaired the hanging tennis court light, organized more items in the town shop, cleaned out debris in police garage. Maintenance was done on the skid steer for summer use, mow and weed whacked the duplex yards and in front of the police garages. Maintenance was done on the string mower, some mudholes in the corral area were filled in with crushed concrete, and the sticks and leaves were picked up in the park. The camper lots were mowed, and the electric was repaired on the 102 Indian Paintbrush camper lot. Repaired a leak on the water riser at 106 Indian Paintbrush camper lot.

Fire: On May 5, 2025 a meeting was held where they had five volunteers present. They discussed budget items, weekend schedule, radios and pagers that work consistently and an airline system for the compressor to use on E-1. They also discussed having E-Z Lift coming to look at the garage doors and Plus Electric checking the plug system on E-1. They plan on flushing culverts and oiling hydrants on May 19, hydrant testing on June 2, run trucks and spray water on July 7, and hydrant testing on July 21st.

Mayor's Report: The 2025 municipal election went smoothly.

The outdoor sign was not communicating because of a power switch that Union Wireless had not hooked back up after they upgraded the town's internet service. That was found and reconnected. The town still could not communicate with the sign. It was discovered that programming issues were the reason. We can now communicate with the sign.

The pet clinics new date will be Tuesday June 3rd at 2:00.

Old Business: A motion was made by Alan Thornton, and seconded by Butch McFall, to ratify awarding BW Construction the Bluebell projects instead of Core Construction. After re-examining the estimates and having them resubmit their bids due to items that were not addressed in the original bids, BW Construction was cheaper. Motion passed.

New Business: No executive session was needed.

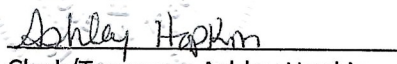
A motion was made by Butch McFall, and seconded by Alan Thornton, to pay check#17139 through check#17156, including all debit card charges and EFT's, excluding check#17151 for Audra Thornton for a total amount in bills \$15,823.84. Motion passed and Lowell Clawson abstained due to pecuniary interest. There was check#17143, 17155 and 17156 in there for him and Plus Electric.

A motion was made by Alan Thornton, and seconded by Butch McFall, to pay check#17151 to Audra Thornton. Motion passed and Audra Thornton abstained due to pecuniary interest.

With no further business this council meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.


Mayor Lowell Clawson

Date 6-4-2025


Clerk/Treasurer Ashley Hopkin