

**Council Work Session
January 8, 2024**

Present was Mayor Trish Callahan, Vice President Delena Oden, Councilor Stacy Equitz, Councilor Peggy Davis Gilliam, Councilor Keith Gilliam, Councilor Paul Price. Councilor Alvin Thompson was absent.

Fire Chief Jeff Gorman representing the BF fire department.

Vice President Oden made a motion to open the meeting at 3:10 pm. President Equitz seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Mayor Callahan presented the reason for the work session was to review the vacation of property located on Cedar Ave, crossing Bluff Lane. As a recommendation from the planning commission to accept Marc & Shone Ellis's request to vacate 40 feet of Cedar Ave to them. A petition was also presented for interest from 3 other residence located on Bluff Lane to vacate additional property located behind their individual residences between the existing railroad grade on the falls side and a nonexistent / undeveloped road referred to as Bluff Street, no amount of property requested was listed in the petition.

Fire Chief Gorman spoke on other property located within the towns limits that have been vacated in the past that have created an impasse for any possibility for the town volunteer fire department to have access to fight any fire approaching from the Southeast side of town near 2nd street or the falls on the North East side, along Laurel Ave located at Steve Nelsons property. Chief Gorman presented a letter to the council with a request to consider no more property be vacated in the town of Butte Falls and please revisit to make a fire wise decision.

Mayor Callahan presented a letter sent from Marc Ellis to past Mayor Linda Spencer to contact our city attorney stating” she thinks the town should not allow any vacation of street, either improved or unimproved.”

Review of all the mapped location of current vacated property, letters and/or documents presented, a discussion of all the pros and cons for vacation of this property was reviewed in detail. The council will vote at the January 16, 2024, city council meeting on their findings.

The topic of the Planning Commission was presented to reviewed as well, the planning department has had 2 written complaint and 2 verbal complaint for not staying within their specific area of the town boundaries, mis information on building on the Medco addition, disrespect to the City Council members and the lack of members attending to do planning business. A decision will be voted on at the January 16, 2024, council meeting.

Councilor Price made a motion at 5:15 pm to adjourn the meeting, a second made by Council President Equitz, all ayes carried

Minutes submitted by Mayor Trish Callahan