



TOWN OF BAR NUNN

1500 Palomino Ave., Bar Nunn, Wyoming

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

1500 Palomino Avenue,

Bar Nunn, Wyoming

- 1) **Roll Call:** Mayor Peter Boyer called the meeting to order on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. The roll was called, which determined the presence of a quorum.
Present: Mayor, Peter Boyer. Councilmembers: Steven Clark, Tim Ficken, and Dan Sabrosky.
Video Conference: Tyler Martin.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Town Council and all present stood in service to the United States Flag and pledged allegiance to the United States of America.
- 3) **Minutes of May 6, 2025:** Moved by Dan Sabrosky, seconded by Steven Clark, and carried without dissent to approve the minutes for May 6, 2025.
- 4) **Payables List for May 20, 2025:** Moved by Steven Clark, seconded by Dan Sabrosky, and carried without dissent to approve the payables list for May 20, 2025.
- 5) **Financial Reports: Balance Sheet, Detailed Income Statement & Trial Balance for the period ending April 2025:** Moved by Steven Clark, seconded by Dan Sabrosky, and carried without dissent to approve the Financial Reports: Balance Sheet, Budget Income Statement & Trial Balance for the period ending April 2025.
- 6) **First Reading for Ordinance No. 2025-01: "ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE (BUDGET) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026".** Moved by Steven Clark, seconded by Tim Ficken and carried without dissent to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2025-01.
- 7) **Attorney's Report:** A written report was submitted. Attorney Patrick Holscher was present for questions or comments from the council.
 - Attorney Holscher reported ongoing complications with the incorrect property tax assessments on Bar Nunn properties and properties that were formerly part of the Wardwell Water District. Progress has been hindered due to personnel changes within the county attorney's office, and the treasurer's office has yet to fully assess the extent of overbilling.The council discussed escalating the issue, Councilman Sabrosky advocating for a formal legal demand to compel county action. Holscher outlined potential legal pathways, including a writ of mandamus, and agreed to continue coordinating with the treasurer's office. The mayor stated he would also follow up directly. The council acknowledged that the situation may require legal or public pressure if resolution isn't reached soon.
- 8) **Engineer's Report:** A written report was submitted. Town Engineer, Ray Catellier, PE was present to answer questions or comments from the council.
 - Mr. Catellier informed the council that the Antelope Park Improvements Project would be delayed

until at least the first week of June due to weather and scheduling issues with the contractor. This delay would impact plans to open the splash pad by Memorial Day. While access to the splash pad was technically possible, the surrounding area was unprepared and muddy. The council considered potential remedies and requested verification of whether contract penalties for delays applied.

-Mr. Catellier also presented findings from a geotechnical analysis of McMurry Blvd. The results indicated that the east side of the raised crosswalk was in poor condition, while the west side was moderately better. He suggested that the town consider replacing only the drive lanes rather than the entire road surface, significantly reducing costs while maintaining safety and usability. The council agreed to revisit this proposal during their upcoming budget work session.

-In a positive development, Mr. Catellier announced that the town already owns the section of Salt Creek Highway from Westwinds to Antelope. WYDOT had transferred the land years ago, but the town had not been formally notified. The discovery simplifies future infrastructure planning in that area.

-Mr. Catellier concluded with an overview of the Wyoming Water Development Commission's grant programs. He explained that Bar Nunn may be eligible for a 67% grant to support expansion of water transmission infrastructure to the Westwinds interchange. Sabrosky questioned whether public infrastructure investment in this context would benefit private landowners at taxpayer expense. Mr. Catellier responded that the town could implement recapture mechanisms to ensure costs are proportionally recovered as development proceeds.

Sabrosky also voiced concern over the use of public funding in connection with Radiant's project and distinguished between projects that expand tax base infrastructure versus those that use public resources to incentivize private energy development. He concluded that while WWDC-funded transmission line expansions could serve broader growth, public contributions to specific private projects like Radiant's require more scrutiny.

- 9) **Fire Department Report:** A written report was submitted. The council had no further questions or commentary.
- 10) **Public Works Report:** A written report was submitted. Head of Public Works, Dustin Smart, was present for questions or comments from the council.
 - Mr. Smart added updates to his submitted report. He confirmed that the EPA now officially lists the town as the water system operator, and the former "Wardwell" name has been retired in official databases. He planned to remove outdated signage and update vendor accounts accordingly.
 - In response to the delayed splash pad improvements, Smart proposed the possibility of a faster solution of replacing turf with concrete. However, due to the high cost, the council chose not to pursue this option. Instead, they discussed extending the splash pad's operational season later into the fall to make up for the postponed opening.
- 11) **Parks and Recreation Report:** A written report was submitted. The council had no further questions or commentary.
- 12) **Emergency Preparedness:** Ken Hume, the town's Emergency Operations Coordinator, reported difficulties in securing grant funding due to state-level freezes and federal budget constraints. He asked the council to consider adopting a formal resolution recognizing the EOC to improve future eligibility. The council agreed to move forward with this resolution and referred him to the town attorney for drafting assistance.

13) Petitions and Public Comment:

County resident, Rozmaring Czaban, urged the council to review legislative session recordings related to nuclear energy projects. She expressed concern that significant public opposition had not been fully acknowledged and encouraged the council to pay closer attention to statewide discussions and committee actions.

Matt Wilson, Director of Operations for Radiant, informed the council that a public town hall was scheduled to address concerns related to spent fuel and facility transparency. He emphasized the company's intent to maintain open communication with the community and noted that Radiant had not been invited to recent state-level meetings where it was discussed.

Representative Bill Allemand addressed the council next, stating his ongoing opposition to the Radiant project, particularly its pursuit of public funding. He cited local polling data indicating strong community concern and stated that Bar Nunn residents did not want to host a facility involving spent nuclear fuel. The council questioned the depth and reach of opposition and whether the project would move forward if Radiant withdrew from public funding applications. Matt Wilson confirmed Radiant would move forward with or without public funding.

Michael Newquist commented on the presence of peace officers at the meeting, implying that it suggested fear of resident backlash.

Lee-Ann Newquist shared her concerns about council communication and community perceptions. Mrs. Newquist emphasized that many residents may not speak publicly because they feel the council has no power to influence the project, especially as it lies outside town limits. She also expressed frustration with how council members engage in public discussions online, stating that it discourages residents from participating.

Council members responded by explaining the limitations placed on municipalities by a 2019 change in Wyoming law, which removed extraterritorial zoning authority. Copies of the relevant statutes were distributed to the public for clarity. Council members acknowledged the need for improved outreach and confirmed that the town's role in approving or denying the project is limited to offering public input.

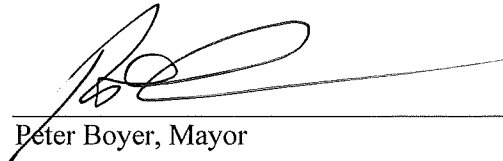
The council reiterated that no public funds had been committed to the Radiant project and that the only vote they could take would concern potential financial participation in an economic development grant. At present, no such funds had been allocated or approved.

14) Council Business:

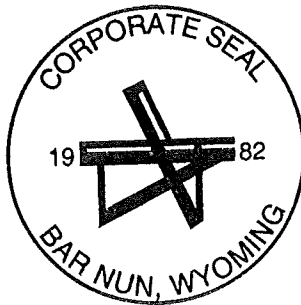
A) Regional Water Report—Councilman Sabrosky: Councilman Dan Sabrosky informed the council that the Regional Water System is entering its annual budgeting process and is currently considering a 3% rate increase for water customers. He noted that this is the lowest proposed increase he has seen, though it is still subject to change as the board finalizes the budget. Sabrosky explained that the board typically reviews various rate scenarios using financial modeling to determine what increase is necessary to cover upcoming infrastructure projects and operational costs.


The council acknowledged that this rate increase, if finalized, could impact the town's utility budget and local customers. Mayor Boyer indicated that the town would factor the increase into upcoming budget discussions. No action was taken at the meeting, but the council agreed to stay updated on the final rate decision and inform the public accordingly.

- 15) **Executive Session – Legal Matter:** Mayor Boyer adjourned the regular council meeting and entered Executive Session at 8:38 p.m. Moved by Tim Ficken, seconded by Dan Sabrosky, and carried without dissent to enter the Executive Session.
- 16) **Reconvene regular council meeting:** Mayor Peter Boyer reconvened the regular council meeting at 9:13 p.m. Moved by Tim Ficken, seconded by Dan Sabrosky, and carried without dissent to reconvene the regular council meeting. No action was taken.
- 17) **Adjournment:** Moved by Steven Clark, seconded by Tim Ficken that there being no further business the meeting of May 20, 2025, be adjourned, at 9:14 P.M.


Peter Boyer, Mayor

ATTEST: (seal)




Kalista Schwarzrock, Town Clerk-Treasurer