

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Lutitia Ford called the regular meeting of the Bryson City Council to order at 7:00 pm April 16, 2025, in City Hall.

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

**Roll Call:** The following people were present: Mayor Lutitia Ford, Ald. Heather Neer, Ald. Jesse Laine, Ald. Travis Rhoten, Ald. JR Stearns, PWD Brian Rushin, APWD Cory Allen, City Secretary Cheryl Adams, Justin Hand and Todd Powell, Community Programs Specialist with the USDA.

- III. Todd Powell addressed the Council about any help options the USDA had available for the purchase of a wastewater treatment plant. He informed the Council about low-interest loans available through USDA. He briefly explained steps that could be taken such as consulting with an engineer and starting the permit process as soon as possible. He provided printouts to all present with information on grants and direct loans.
- IV. A motion was made to approve the consent agenda including all bills as presented and minutes for the March 10, 2025, Regular Meeting by Ald. JR Stearns; seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 4-0.
- V. A motion was made to approve Justin Hand to take the place on the Council vacated by Ald. Shelly Tinney by Ald. Jesse Laine, seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 4-0.
- VI. Justin Hand was sworn in by City Secretary Cheryl Adams. He completed the Statement of Officer and Oath of Office.
- VII. The Council discussed how to allocate Opioid Abatement Funds. A motion was made to postpone until next month's meeting after research by Ald. Jesse Laine, seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.
- VIII. A motion was made to appoint City Secretary Cheryl Adams as representative to act on the City's behalf to Public Power Pool by Ald. JR Stearns, seconded by Ald. Travis Rhoten. Vote 5-0.
- IX. A motion was made to accept the Public Power Pool Procurement Proposal under Resolution 2025-04-16-02 and removing the unused properties from the list by Ald. Heather Neer, seconded by Ald. Jesse Laine, Vote 5-0.
- X. A motion was made to begin weed and debris inspections by Texas Communities Group by Ald. JR Stearns, seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.
- XI. A motion was made to approve reinspection of properties by Texas Communities Group by Jesse Laine, seconded by Ald. Travis Rhoten. Vote 5-0.
- XII. A motion was made to approve Ordinance O-2025-01 (Fees for Mowing, etc.) by Ald. Jesse Laine, seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.
- XIII. After discussion on Ordinance O-2025-04 (Uniform Administrative Code Fees...) a motion was made to adjust the wording to simplify the ordinance with the City of Newcastle's ordinance being used as an example by Ald. Jesse Laine, seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.

- XIV. After discussion on purchasing the 2-foot extension and additional ornaments for the City Park Christmas tree a motion was made to make the purchases by Ald. Jesse Laine, seconded by Ald. JR Stearns. Vote 5-0.
- XV. Quarterly Budget Report – The Council discussed revenues and expenses incurred so far in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal year. It was noted that the budget for street signs was almost expended after a large purchase. Almost all needed street signs have been replaced. Also noted was an issue with “Service Charges & Miscellaneous” being recorded strangely through the RVS software. City Secretary Cheryl Adams said she would try to figure out what the issue is.
- XVI. Report from Public Works Director – Public Works Director Brian Rushin updated the Council on the status of the Bryson Lake pump. He said the divers were expected on Tuesday to install the screen on the intake pipe. He also informed the Council that he had an expected call with TCEQ concerning the EPP on Thursday. He also updated the Council on the status of the Lead & Copper testing. Public Works Director Brian Rushin announced his resignation to the Council.
- XVII. Report from City Secretary – City Secretary Cheryl Adams updated the Council on the SLFRF funds reporting letting them know that all funds had been obligated and spent. Reporting is due April 30, 2025.
- XVIII. A motion was made to move into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. by Ald. Heather Neer, seconded by Ald. Travis Rhoten. Vote 5-0.
- XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel Matters - Council discussed APWD Cory Allen taking over the position of Public Works Director. A decision was made to offer a test run period of 90 days to let Mr. Allen decide if wanted to take the job. A discussion was made to hire another employee at an hourly rate of \$18. City Secretary can get more hours if needed to help Cory with any paperwork, etc.
- XX. A motion was made to move out of Executive Session at 9:13 p.m. by Ald. Heather Neer, seconded by Ald. Jesse Laine. Vote 5-0.
- XXI. Adjournment – There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm by Ald. Jesse Laine; seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.

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Lutitia Ford, Mayor  
City of Bryson

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Adams, City Secretary  
City of Bryson