****DRAFT** MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
TOWN OF OPHIR, CO 81426
TUESDAY OCTOBER 21ST, 2025 7:00 PM
OPHIR TOWN HALL 36 PORPHYRY ST.
Video and audio recording available upon request

1. CALL TO ORDER
Joan May (mayor pro tem) calls the meeting to order at 7:01pm

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Emma Gerona, Janice Gerona, Daniel Forgrave, Gunnar Doyle, Teri Steinberg, John Humphries, Eric Beerman, Phil Hayden, Mark Campbell, Leigh Sullivan, Cara Binkley, Nan Darkis, Jerry Oyama, Kim Wheels, Allyn Hart, Tyler Schultz, Larry Rosen, Natalie Fijalkowski, Paul Emrick, Annabell O'Neill

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: John Wontrobski, Mark Pearson, Cindy Wyszynksi, Alex Shelly, Wiley Freeman

2. ADOPTION & SIGNATURE of August 19th 2025 Regular GA minutes
Teri motions, Gunnar seconds.
All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Teri motions, Nan seconds.
All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

4. i) Emma Gerona presents for EcoAction Partners.

ii) Wiley Freeman presents for SMPA
SMPA accepting public comment before Nov. 18th on potential rate increases. Dec. 15th when new rates would take effect.
John H. Asks if access charge is the same for all customers.

Wiley responds yes.
Gunnar asks about monitoring Tri-State energy reduction goals and if there are other local renewable opportunities?
Wiley responds 80% reduction by 2030 is looking good, the state does oversight. For local projects funding disappearing could affect things but projects outside of the service area can be pursued.

iii) Cindy Wyszynski presents preliminary budget (First Draft reading)
Second reading in Nov., final approval in Dec.
Due to valuation increases $60-80k income increase from Mill for town is expected.

iv) Ophir is a home rule charter municipality. Last update to our charter was in 2015. A petition was signed by 21 electors requesting an election to change the form of government to town council. The petition did not meet state requirements to trigger an election but did meet Ophir requirements to be put on the agenda for discussion.
Current proposal up for discussion is to create a charter review committee again to meet during the GA.
John W. States he has no opinion one way or another on this issue, his role is as administrator/facilitator.
Joan clarifies this process would be to explore new options.
Eric states he would like to re-start charter review process. He proposes to potentially have charter review committee meetings before each GA instead of during. First step to take survey ASAP, and explore options over next 6 months. Final survey or vote at the end of process.
Janice expresses desire to have the right form of government moving into the future.
Tyler states he does not want to guarantee a vote at the end of the process.
Allyn states she supports Eric's proposed process.
Nan states she also would like to go through the exploration process as proposed by Eric.
Teri addresses concern we'd be bound to 3 amendments in the ordinance.

Joan notes we could vote just to create the committee, and not need an ordinance.
Tyler motions to create committee according to Eric's plan.
Jerry seconds.
Joan asks what happens if there's no recommendation from the committee.
Tyler amends motion to say committee will come to a recommendation if possible.
Jerry seconds.
Jerry asks if it is a closed committee or open to anyone.
Eric responds it would be open to anyone to attend, not just committee members.
Joan states she has offered to chair committee. She would like dedicated members but meetings would be open to the public. If charter is amended a vote would have to be conducted.
Joan states she'd like to include town lawyer in review to bring everything into line w/ state regulations/laws.
Nan asks if a moritorium on charter amendments is possible.
John responds no.
Voice vote: unanimous approval

Joan motions taht we direct town attorney to review charter.
Voice vote: unanimous approval

5. STAFF REPORTS

Town Manager- Gunnar and John are going to a water conference.
Ryan and Sonja will set up ice rink again this year, any help with setup would be appreciated.
Temporary fixes at water plant are in place. East Ophir backup pump is on order. Redwood box work continues, and should be installed before winter.

OEC – Grants for this year cost $5k, brought in $35k. Working on new Blixt gate with Forest Service. Now is a good time to re-seed disturbed ground around your property.

P&Z – 1 vacant alternate position.
Gunnar motions to nominate Cole Mokosko.
Tyler seconds.
Voice vote – passes unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS
None!

7. ADJOURN
Joan adjourns the meeting @ 8:58pm

Minutes prepared by Ben Foster, Town Clerk

Audio and video recordings of all General Assembly Meetings are available to the public. Please contact the Town Clerk if you would like a copy of this month's audio of the meeting minutes.