

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
February 8, 2024

Present:

Clyde Watkins
Scott Allen
Glen Jessen
Russell Sorensen
Craig Kettle, Town Employee
Amanda (Mandy) Gardner, Town Clerk
Josh Phillips Fire Chief

Public:

Bret Reynolds
Craig Koelliker
Vicki Jessen
Brian Winterton

Sommer Arnolds was excused

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes Approved (7:02 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Scott Allen to approve the minutes of January 4, 2023 as written. Motion seconded by Glen Jessen. Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to exit the regular schedule meeting and enter the public hearing Motion seconded by Scott Allen Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing (7:04 p.m.)

A rate increase for the secondary (irrigation) water system.

A rate increase for the garbage fee

Mayor Watkins stated that the purpose of the hearing is to address a rate increase to the secondary water and garbage collection.

The council discussed a rate increase last year for secondary water, this meeting is to clarify and inform the public about the increase.

Mandy reported that over the last five years on average the secondary water has a profit of \$1687.31. Slowly the account can build up as long as there are no major repairs. The cost of one part could wipe out the profit.

Glen added that the system is ageing and the potential for repairs is there. At the last discussion the council looked at an increase of between 10-25%.

Craig Koelliker expresses his concern over an increase. For a person on a fixed income, rate increases are hard.

Mandy explained that for a half-acre the price increase would be at the lowest amount \$12.00 at the highest \$30.00.

Mayor Watkins added that if meters were ever added to the system, it would be state mandated, and the rate could change to pay for meters.

Craig Koelliker stated that he would be okay with a 25% increase, it is a good system and cheaper than using culinary water.

Mayor Watkins stated that garbage increase is across the board, K&K set the increase. The garbage increase will be \$2.50.

Brian Winterton asked if the council had ever price compared for garbage services. Mayor Watkins replied that the town had compared prices in the past, and K&K has been willing to work with the town to keep cost down, and they donate dumpsters during community celebrations.

Russell Sorensen arrived 7:10p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to exit the public hearing and re-enter the regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting Motion seconded by Russell Sorensen. Motion carried unanimously.

Craig Koelliker left the meeting 7:25 p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to increase the secondary water rate 25% starting 2024. Motion seconded by Russell Sorensen. Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion was made by Russell Sorensen to increase the garbage rate \$2.50 Motion seconded by Scott Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

Utilities(7:29 p.m.)

The muffin monster at the sewer is down, shafts are good, a nut come off preventing it from turning. To replace the bottom part of the muffin monster, with a trade of our part for a rebuilt one would cost \$12,000. A brand-new muffin monster would cost at least \$20,000. If the town had to buy a new muffin monster, the funds are there, it would empty out the saving, and there would not be anything left for other repairs.

Bret Renolds (7:33 p.m.)

Bret Renolds is here to update the Town on sidewalk project. There is a meeting March 6, 2024 meeting for phase three of the sidewalk project, Glen and Troy Ostler will represent Altamont. There is 4.8 million dollars for funding, and about 10 million in applications. Not all projects will be funded. If Altamont does not receive funding this year the town will apply again next year.

After meeting with the state, the state is allowing the last environmental document for the current project. Using the last document cut down on time, and allows for the project to go to bid sooner. Mr. Renolds, Glen and Craig meet earlier today at the job site, looked at signs that will need to be moved, if a regulatory sign is moved, a new sign will replace the old sign, and new codes will be met.

Bret Remolds left the meeting (7:43p.m.)

Mayor Watkins pointed out, that a ten-foot sidewalk on a fifty-foot road could cause parking issues. In a future meeting the council will need to address parking on the sidewalk.

Fire Department (7:51 p.m.)

Fire Chief Phillips was not in attendance this will be addressed at a late date.

Cemetery (7:51 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins informed the council that in a future meeting the public may come with a request for change because Altamont's cemetery ordinance are not the same as other cemetery's ordinances. There are several things to keep in mind when comparing cemeteries. Funding is not going to be the same, nor staffing or equipment. Lot size's will also be different. If you make an exception for one individual, you then have to make an exception for everyone.

Mandy explained that the current situation is about headstone size. For comparison Roosevelt's ordinance has two sizes listed, Altamont only has one. Roosevelt's double headstone is twice the length of Altamont's. When the individual comes to the council, the request will be to have a second size added to the ordinance.

After discussing the current size and taking equipment into consideration the council agreed that a second size should be added to the ordinance.

Duchesne County School District Construction Projects (8:12 p.m.)

The School District is looking at building a new elementary school. The current plan is to take out the road behind the current elementary school and to the east of the football field (4200 North). The road is owned by the town, not the school district. Under the road there are utilities, both culinary and secondary water lines. When the secondary water lines were put in, they were put in the old BIA ditches. Moving lines is not hard, changing BIA right-way is different. The Town and School District will meet to discuss future plans and utility right-ways.

Russell Sorensen left the meeting 8:40 p.m.

Vicki Jessen Zoning (8:40 p.m.)

Glen and Vicki Jessen are considering splitting their lot, would the town approve this change. The council responded that setbacks would need to be met, and a public hearing would need to be held, along with meeting with the zoning committee. After approval from the zoning the town council would be favorable to the changes.

Training (8:55 p.m.)

Because of Time this will be address next meeting

The next council meeting, March 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to end the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Motion seconded by Scott Allen . Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 14 day of March, 2023.
Minuets of the meeting prepared by Amanda Gardner Town Clerk