

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
March 14, 2024

Present:

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

Public:

David & KaraLee Kettle K&K
Brett Renolds Civco Engineering
Greg & Yvonne Gardner Moon Lake Resort
Garrett Sorensen Upper Community Rec
Chaz Fisher Upper Community Rec
Russell Brinkerhoff Upper Community Rec
Jordan Thacker Upper Community Rec
Sherri Holgate Upper Community Rec
Annisa Maxfield Upper Community Rec
Jonny and Debbie Thayne Upper Community Rec
Vicki Jessen

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved (7:03 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of February 8, 2024 as written. Motion seconded by Russell Sorensen. Motion carried unanimously.

Sidewalk Project (7:04 p.m.)

Mr. Renolds updated the council on the sidewalk project. After meeting with the state, the project will have the option for a contractor to work the project over two years, to give the contractor some flexibility. To limit disruption to home owners, driveways will only be closed for two weeks.

UDOT had an estimator review the bid and the state individual's low bid estimate was 120,000 more than CIVCO's estimate, the high bid was 250,000 more than CIVCO's estimate. After reviewing each line item, the town can use Civico's original bid. UDOT will look to see if they can add any money to the project. If a bid comes in ten percent over the bid, it can be accepted. Any bids over ten percent, the town will have to decide what to do, the town can agree to pay the extra cost, the town can reject the bid, or this is where the money from UDOT could be used, if they awarded the town an extra money. If the town rejects the bids, the project would need to be repackaged, by eliminating part of the sidewalk.

Mr. Renolds reported on the meeting for funding for phase three of the sidewalk project. Altamont was sixth on the list, and only the top three were funded. The town can reapply for funding next year.

Brett Reynolds left meeting 7:19 p.m.

K&K (7:19 p.m.)

David and KaraLee Kettle informed the town of a situation where a town resident had been paying double for garage service for the last ten years, the customer was paying both K&K and the town. Refunding ten years of service is not option. K&K will stop billing the customer, and give the customer two years of free garbage service. After the two years have passed, the Town will start collecting the garage fee again. Going forward the town and K&K will work together to prevent double billing.

David and KaraLee Kettle left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Upper Community Recreation District (UCRD) (7:38 p.m.)

Easter Egg Hunt

Baseball

The high school kids', part of National Honor Society, put on the Easter Egg Hunt. The high school kids go to business for donations, and the rec district donates money toward the hunt. The easter egg hunt cost between three and four thousand dollars. The honor society has been in charge of the Easter Egg hunt for the last four years. This year the hunt will be March 30 at 9:00 a.m. UCRD asked if the bathrooms would be open for the hunt, Craig answered, it was too early to turn water on. If water was turned on right now, with the cold, it would cause the pipes to freeze. If they want bathrooms, porta potties would need to be brought in.

Annissa Maxfield reminded the council that the town has a spot on their board, that has been vacant for a little while, and encouraged the council to fill it. UCRD would like to revisit the agreement for the care of the park. There is no official agreement, after taking the last two years to come to an understanding of the cost involved with the care of the park, UCRD is ready to have an official agreement.

Russell Brinkerhoff informed the council that UCRD has partnered up with Babe Ruth to bring a baseball program to Altamont. Bringing baseball back to Altamont requires more upkeep to the baseball fields. Does the maintenance the town provides cover the ball fields? To keep cost down the town has not spent any extra time on the ball fields.

Mayor Watkins explained that since UCRD collects the tax money, that the town does not put any money towards the park. The Town bills UCRD for the exact cost. The Town can do more towards maintenance, as long as UCRD pays the cost. In the past UCRD expressed to the council that they did not want to spend more than the budgeted amount, so upkeep has been kept within that amount. The Town residents can not legally pay taxes to UCRD and to the Town to take care of the park.

UCRD has the option of finding a third party to take care of the park, if a third party took over care of the park, then UCRD and the Town would then need to come up with a lease agreement. The town has continued care of the park over last two years, because the towns cost was lower than a third party.

When WBBA used the ball fields, they were responsible for keeping the fields and fence maintained. After WBBA left, what ever program used the fields then rented the fields from the town to pay for the up keep, that only last for a year or two. To keep budgets down, only care has been mowing.

Next month UCRD will bring an agreement to the town.

Park Reservations (8:17 p.m.)

Greg and Yvonne Gardner, representing the Moon Lake Gathering, asked the council what a park reservation included. The Gathering only uses the amphitheater and the area around the amphitheater, they do not use the pavilions. The rental agreement does not include the amphitheater, it includes the pavilions.

Vicki Jessen entered meeting 8:21 p.m.

On the rental agreement, renting both pavilions are equal to renting the whole park. For two-day event, there will only be one cleaning depot. With the size of the Moon Lake Gathering it would be best to rent the whole park.

Upper Community Recreation District members and the Moon Lake Resort members left meeting 8:36 p.m.

Fire Department (8:36 p.m.)

Chief Phillips reported that the fire department has been working on wildland preparation and training. The department has finished Pack testing. The two prospects are looking good, and still coming to the trainings.

The Council asked Chief Phillips what type of truck the department is wanting to replace. The tender truck and the city truck are in good shape. The Wildland truck is the week one. The trucks should be okay for another fire season, sometime in the next five years, 153 will no longer pass ISO.

Chief Phillips left the meeting 8:50 p.m.

Park (8:50 p.m.)

There are two options for the care of the park, the town will continue to provide maintenance of mowing and watering, or Upper Community Recreation District may hire a third party to do all of the maintenance of the park, to the town's standard. With Craigs other obligations to the town, there is not time in Craig schedule to do much more at the park. The council decided that any improvement made to the park should be taken care of by Upper community recreation district, including labor.

There needs to be an agreement in writing stating what Craig will be responsible for. If Upper Community Recreation District want's Craig to do more at the park it will cost them more money, the town is not going to do more without having costs covered.

The Council discussed having UCRD take over reservations for the park, the Town has continued to take the reservations, because we have an office. One concern with UCRD taking charge of reservations, is communication. Will the town be informed of request at the park in a timely manner.

Utilities (9:04 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins reported on a meeting with Duchesne County School District concerning the utility lines under the road behind the elementary (4200 North). While the School District is willing to pay to move lines, it is not that simple, there are right-of-way's that need to be taken into consideration.

Mayor Watkins asked the School District why they did not annex the high school into the town. One reason for not annexing is concerns over secondary water. Currently the majority of the two schools' water is in a separate system from the towns secondary water. The concern, is that the town wants the school's water. The Town does not want, or need the school's water. The Towns system is not capable of taking on the school's water. Mayor Watkins requested that the water stay as it is.

After the bond is paid off, a land owners could pull out of the towns irrigation system, if that were to happen there needs to be a way to deliver the water to the land owner. BIA delivers water to the head of the ditch. The main BIA ditches and right ways need to be kept available. Mayor Watkins talked with the local BIA, the BIA told Mayor Watkins that if a land owner were to come to them saying the line was plugged, the BIA would dig up anything in the ditch, including culverts, to open the ditch. The BIA also informed Mayor Watkins that the BIA has not put any culverts in the Town.

The Town and School District could exchange the town's road (4200 North) for the School Districts Road (15675 W), and move the utility lines, with a right-way at the north end of the School Districts property. Any deal with the school district to move utility lines does not include the BIA right-away, the town does not have control or a say, over those right-ways.

Training

Due to time training was postponed for a future meeting

The next council meeting, April 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to end the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Motion seconded by Russell Sorensen . Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 11 day of April, 2024.
Minutes of the meeting prepared by Amanda Gardner Town Clerk