Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
May 9, 2024

Present:
Clyde Watkins
Scott Allen
Russell Sorensen
Craig Kettle, Town Employee
Amanda (Mandy) Gardner, Town Clerk
Josh Phillips Fire Chief Arrived 7:40pm

Public:
Bryan Winterton
Shelby Thayne
Danelle Brinkerhoff
Annissa Maxfield

Glen Jessen and Sommer Arnold were not intendance

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes Approved (7:03 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Russell Sorensen to approve the minutes of as written. Motion seconded by Scott Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

Upper Community Recreation District (7:04 p.m.)

Park

Danelle Brinkerhoff, the chair of Upper Community Recreation District (UCRD), apprised the council, that UCRD is ready to take over management of the park. UCRD plans to have an outside party take over the maintenance of the park. UCRD would work directly with the contractor, and take care of the payment for those services. UCRD will still pay the town for the park utilities.

Russell asked if the contractor would be available any unexpected maintenance needs that may arise? Danelle acknowledged that the response time may not be a quick as Craig, the contractor would be available. This year will be a trial run. Annissa Maxfield let the council know that Shelby Thayne will be the contractor, and he lives close enough to respond to any unexpected maintenance needs.

Scott asked if they would be taking over the scheduling of the park. Annissa stated that they have a website that is capable of taking care of scheduling. Scott asked when UCRD would like to take control of the park? Danelle answered as soon as the council agrees, they have asked Shelby to start taking care of the park this month.

Russell asked if there was a need to have a more formal agreement drawn up by a lawyer. Annissa stated that UCRD could have a lease agreement drawn up if needed. Mayor Watkins stated that the town only did what was necessary at the park. Because UCRD was reimbursing the town, the town was conservative, and kept cost to a minimum. Going forward, if the town does anything at the park, the town will need to be reimbursed for direct costs. Mayor Watkins advised when writing the agreement, to think of contingency options. The town does not want an agreement that ties everyone hands. The council would like to meet with UCRD at least annually to review any agreements, and make sure both parties are on the same page.

A Motion was made by Russell Sorensen to approve the proposal from Upper Community Recreations District to take over care of the Altamont Park pending Glen Jessen comments and/or concerns. Motion seconded by Scott Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

7:26 p.m. Danelle Brinkerhoff and Annissa Maxfield left the meeting.

Budget (7:29 p.m.)

Mandy reviewed an outline of the budget. The budget has three years of information on it, the previous fiscal year, the current fiscal year, and the upcoming fiscal year. For the previous year the final number are listed, the current year numbers are close to the final number, there is still two months left of the fiscal year.

For the upcoming fiscal year, the numbers are the amount you estimate then appropriate. Revenues are budgeted low, with the hope that more comes in, and expense are budget high with the hope they come in lower. The property tax is set by the county, and to avoid a truth and taxation, we use that number. Sale's tax is low, because we do not know what will come in, the state has a formula that decides how that is divided up.

Josh Phillips enter meeting 7:40 p.m.

Property Management (7:44 p.m.)

Scott asked if there was a way to have property owners clean up there lots? The empty lots, especially need work in the summer keeping weed down. Mayor Watkins advised that a policy would have to be the same across the board, not just empty lots. All the town lots would also be held to this standard. There could not be any exceptions for those who have physical restrictions or those who are on a fixed income. There is a potential for fire hazards. The town could come up with an ordinance for just empty lots; however, is it fair to exclude the lots with homes? Russell asked if Duchesne City, has an ordinance that address this issue? Shelby answered that he did not think that Duchesne City had one, but that Vernal City did. Bryan Winterton indicated that enforcing an ordinance is in the eye of the beholder. The person enforcing the ordinance sets the precedence. The council will research what other communities are doing.

Craig reported that the trailer court owner, Ashely Webb, moved a 1975 trailer into the trailer park today, with two more trailers to follow. The town ordinance list 1976 as the oldest date for trailers. It will cost the town to money enforce the ordinance. Mandy emailed, and is awaiting a reply from the county to see if any permits had been applied for.

Utilities (8:17 p.m.)

The council discussed the importance of street lights and safety issues. In the past there has been some opposition of getting street lights, it may be time to see if the opposition is still there.

Secondary water is in and going. Water conservation is a good thing; however, it is not a good thing if the pond overflows.

Scott asked if there were any updates with the School District? Mayor Watkins answered no. Scott suggested keeping in contact with the School District, to prevent last minuet misunderstandings.

Miscellaneous (8:26 p.m.)

Sommer Arnolds has turned in her letter of resignation, next meeting the council will take applications and fill the position.

Fire Department (8:27 p.m.)

Chief Phillips will now be working for the county, he will be replacing Mike Lefler, who retired, as the Emergency Manager.

The new motor for 155 has been installed and hooked up to the pump. Waiting on a hose, then 155 will be up and running. Chief Phillips is still looking for a company that will just replace the bed for 157. Chief Phillips asked the council, if they would okay with the fire department building their own bed? Scott suggested talking to Ray Farnsworth at Innovative Customs? Mr. Farnsworth did the truck beds at Scott's employment. Chief Phillips will get estimates to find the best price. 153 will need to be replaced in the near future, rebuilding is not an option for that truck. The county does have a spare truck if needed.

Chief Phillips informed the council that to outfit a fire fighter with PPE, the cost is approximately four thousand per person. The new members of the department need PPE.

The department has 15 red card fire fighters. Chief Phillips and Brandon are going to take engine boss training.

The next council meeting, June13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Read and approved this 13 day of June, 2024.
Minuets of the meeting prepared by Amanda Gardner Town Clerk