

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
September 12, 2024

Present:

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

Public:

Danelle Brinkerhoff, UCRD
Jacob Hansen, Hansen Group via Zoom
Michel Weldon, DCSD
Jason Young, DCSD
Dee Miles, DCSD

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

Minutes Approved (7:04 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of August 1, 2024 as written. Motion seconded by Russell Sorensen. Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion was made by Russell Sorensen to approve the minutes of August 14, 2024 as written. Motion seconded by Scott Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

Sidewalk Project
Moved to later in the meeting

Dee Miles entered the meeting 7:02p.m
Jacob Hansen Joined the meeting via Zoom 7:02

Park agreement: Upper Community Recreation District (7:02p.m.)

Danelle Brinkerhoff with UCRD visited with the council concerning a purposed maintenance agreement for next year. UCRD is wanting to have bids in for next year before their budget hearing in October. The agreement would be the same as this year. The council agreed that having UCRD take care of maintenance this year work well. The council suggested having the contract be for the length of the watering months, most years that is from the 1st of April to the end of October, and to add winterizing the sprinklers to the bid.

Mrs. Brinkerhoff asked the council, if the town had any funding set aside for the park maintenance, or if the town was able to get any grants. The Council answered that there was not funding set a side, and that one of the reasons for the creation of the recreation districts, was that it is easier for districts to get grants, than it is for a town. While the District is focused on the rodeo ground, the towns priority is getting a new fire truck.

Mrs. Brinkerhoff stated that with limited funds, UCRD will look at fundraising opportunities for the park. For the long term it may be time to look at a lease option. Currently because the town owns the land, UCRDs insurance may not cover any damages that happen to the buildings or playground. There was an incident this year where a person received an injury

at the park and UCRD's insurance would not pay the claim. The council stated that at future date, after the start of the new year, the council would be willing to look at lease options.

A Motion was made by Russell Sorensen to accept Upper Community Recreations District's proposal for park maintenance next year, with UCRD coming back in three to four months with a lease proposal. Motion seconded by Vickie Jessen. Motion carried unanimously.

Danelle Brinkerhoff left the meeting.

The Council discussed what conditions the town could require in a lease. What happens if the district is unable to meet the town requirements, and breaks the lease, then what? The town cannot take the park back, because the community voted to move the park to the districts care. Depending on how the district was set up, if the district was dissolved, the park would probably go to the county. The county would then most likely give the park back to the town.

Subdivision Project: Hansen Planning Group (7:22 p.m.)

Mr. Hansens stated that the purpose of the new ordinance it is to meet state law. Mr. Hansen explained the changes to the law. The key takeaway, is the process is moving from a legislative to administrative process.

The council explained that because of the small size of the town having a planning committee is hard to staff, is there a way around having a planning commission. Mr. Hansen explained that there was a work around, if the town had a committee outside of the town council, could work. The town could hire an outside engineering firm to fill that role. The council disused having a committee an engineer, the ordinance will state that a committee will be formed as need for the process. The town explained that currently that for a large subdivision to happen, ground would have to annexed into the town.

Jacob Hansen left the meeting 7:50

Duchesne County School District: New Elementary (7:51 p.m.)

Jason Young, Micheal Weldon, and Dee Miles from Duchesne County School District updated the council on the progress of shops at the High School, the shops should be completed next spring. The next project for the district will be an elementary school in Altamont. The plan is to build the new school just north of the current school in the field. The current school including the portable class rooms is 37,000 square feet. The new elementary will be 74,000 square feet. Current teaching space is 22 the new building will have 30 teaching spaces. The new school will also separate the gym and cafeteria. Once construction starts, estimated completion is two years, depending on funding, construction could start in the spring. The high school is not in city limit, the school board has voted to annex it into the town.

The school district would like the town to vacate part of the road 4200 north. The road ends at the football field, and the school district owns the property to the north and south of the road. The school district would like to incorporate part of the road into the land that the new elementary will be built on. One concern the town had voiced, are the utility lines and right ways under 4200 N, to address this the school board plans on moving the lines to the north top

of their property, and bringing the line down 15675 West, to connect at the intersection of 4200 N and 15675 W. There will be a right away on the north end of the property for the utilities and will also give access to the water well. There will be a fence and a gate put up to protect the well. The school district would like to start moving the utility lines this fall, and have that done before construction on the elementary begins. The secondary water system will be in uses until the end of October, and would need to be ready for spring use in April.

Vickie asked about how the increase of traffic on 15675 W, will affect the current road, can the current hold up to the extra traffic? Mr. Young answered that the north end of the road would not see an increase in traffic. The plan right now includes two pick up and drop off zones. One for lower grades and the other for upper grades. Scott asked if there was a sidewalk plan. Currently the school district is looking at having two sidewalks that would connect to main street, one at each existing cross walk. Currently the crossing guard, crosses children at the cross walk at the corner of 15675, and main street. The safety of the children on the north end of town will need to be addressed. Most of the children use 4100 north to get to school, 4200 north is not a through street, and part of the road is privately owned. Mr. Young stated that each school is required to have a safe route plan in place, so that will be addressed.

Vickie asked if there was a plan for storm drainage, the town does not want a repeat of the mess the new high school created. Mr. Young and Mr. Weldon stated that it was in the works, the engineers are currently working on a plan. The Council informed the school district that Jones and DeMille Engineering has started on a storm drain plan for the town, and suggested having the two engineering firms work together.

Micheal Weldon, Jason Young, and Dee Miles left the meeting 8:30p.m

Fire Department (8:32 p.m.)

Chief Phillips updated the council on fire activity, four firefighters are out fighting fires, Brandon Peck, and Hunter Phillips are in Idaho on two separate fires. Bev Sorenson and Jared Thacker took 155 to Bear Lake to help out there. The town has done well this year with wildland fires. Chief Phillips is hoping to grow that next year. The fire department has been awarded a wildland grant, the grant will go towards gear, Shelters and packs. Chief Phillips will apply for the grant again next year. When the wildland season dies down, the department will go work on the new bed for the truck 157. The estimated cost will be \$16,000, which is half the cost of buying a new one.

The Department is planning on doing a Halloween fundraiser for a family in need, if the council knows of anyone let him know.

Josh Phillips left the meeting 8:40 p.m.

Property Management (8:40 p.m.)

Mandy informed the council that there have been multiple complaints about the trailer court, and the people want the town to stop the activity. Mayor Watkins stated that the only thing the town could do would be to take legal action. The trailer court does not have grandfather status, and does not meet the ordinance. The council agreed it is time to consult

an attorney, and get their opinion, does the town have a chance at accomplishing anything, without bankrupting the town. Scott knows a real estate lawyer, and will ask his opinion and will let the council know what he finds out. In addition to talking to a lawyer, the town should find out if there are grant opportunities that would allow the town to buy the property and develop it. Another option would be to find a developer to buy the land.

Sidewalk Project (9:02 p.m.)

Glen informed the council that the kickoff meeting will be next Wednesday, and work can start the next day. Pronghorn is the company that will be doing the work.

Utilities

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next council meeting, October 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Russell Sorensen to end the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Motion seconded by Glen Jessen. Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 10 day of October, 2024.
Minutes of the meeting prepared by Amanda Gardner Town Clerk