

Rocky Ridge Town Monthly Meeting
October 16, 2024
7:30 PM
TOWN HALL

DRAFT

Opening:

Presiding: Mayor Ronald Allred

Present from the Town Council: Ronald Allred, Lucy Gold, Bethany Sturgeon, and Andrew Aagard. Joanna Covington was absent and excused.

Present from the Town Staff: Marilyn Allred, Rachel Bronson, Terry Allred, Benjamin Allred, Lane Allred, Tim Allred, and Katie Allred.

Others Present: Eslie Jenson, Julie Jenson, Chuck Todd, Chandler Stag, and Charity Dye.

Invocation was given.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: July & September

July:

Council Member Andrew Aagard motioned to approve July's minutes as is with no amendments. Council Member Bethany Sturgeon seconded the motion; all others approved with the exception of Council Member Joanna Covington, who was absent and Council Member Lucy Gold, who abstained.

September:

Council Member Lucy Gold motioned to approve July's minutes as is with no amendments. Council Member Andrew Aagard seconded the motion; all others approved with the exception of Council Member Joanna Covington, who was absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cemetery Policy Update:

Road Dept. Head – Terry Allred presented revisions, specifically addressing the proposal to add an opening and closing fee on top of the existing cemetery rates. The updated policy would allow for a flexible rate structure that can be modified without altering the policy itself. The Town Council was asked to review the draft and provide feedback, noting that the policy mirrored those of neighboring Town's like Nephi and Levan.

Further discussion focused on fees for disinterment, with a proposal to charge non-residents the same fee as internment, with no refunds and additional costs for vault disposal. It was clarified that if a body crosses state lines, a new vault may be required based on funeral home regulations.

Questions arose regarding whether those who had already purchased plots would be grandfathered in under the old fee structure. It was agreed that while they would not face new fees for the plots themselves, they would still be required to pay opening and closing fees at the time of use.

2. Town Hall Security – Verdaka quote:

A second estimate for security measures at the Town Hall was reviewed; Verdaka submitted a bid that was nearly double the price of Harmony Audio's previous proposal. Verdaka's system offered advanced features, such as enhanced camera search capabilities, but it was deemed unnecessary for the Town's needs. The Council also noted that Verdaka's system stored data on the cloud, while Harmony's stored it locally, with most preferring local storage.

Since no funds were available in the current years' budget for a security system, the Council agreed to delay the project until the next fiscal year and consider a scaled-down version. The possibility of installing a temporary camera for election security was discussed, but it was determined that setting up

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the required infrastructure would be impractical for a short-term solution. Simpler alternatives, such as a Ring doorbell, though they expressed doubts about its suitability for state election security requirements was discussed. For the time being, it was suggested that residents bring ballots directly to the office during business hours.

3. R6 Update:

R6 Representative Shay Morrison asked Town Clerk/Recorder Marilyn Allred to announce several updates. The subdivision deadline is set for December 2024, and a public hearing with the Planning and Zoning Commission will take place in November, followed by a Town Council public hearing the next week to approve the related ordinance.

UDOT's Technical Planning Assistance Program (TPA), which offers financial support for transportation, water, and land use projects, was introduced, but the Town determined there is no need to apply.

Regarding the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity Grant (RCOG), an application for \$600,000 will be submitted next week to support the railroad project. The Town must match 10% of this, which will be covered by existing UDOT funds.

The update concluded with a reminder about Utah's Open Public Meetings Act, highlighting that emergency meetings require notification of all public body members and majority approval.

4. Monument – Bloom Committee:

Mayor Allred expressed that there had been a significant issue at the monument, resulting in the usage of 87,000 gallons in the previous billing period and 28,000 gallons in the current period before the water was turned off. The issue appeared to be linked to a malfunctioning timer, though it was unclear if there was also a leak.

Katie Allred, representing the Bloom Committee, expressed concerns about whether the Town should take over the monument's care, as it required more oversight than the committee could provide. Council Member Lucy Gold asked if the monument was under the Town's jurisdiction, and Terry confirmed that it was under the Parks Department's stewardship. Mayor Allred shared Council Member Joanna Covington's suggestion - that the care of the Monument should be a shared responsibility between the Town and the Bloom Committee. The Council discussed whether to keep the monument under the Bloom Committee's management or transfer it fully to the Parks Department, noting that the committee had taken over its care due to previous neglect.

Various solutions to the water issue were discussed, including installing a sprinkler system, but concerns were raised about costs and maintenance. Additionally, there was debate over how to ensure proper water usage and avoid future leaks.

It was determined that the Bloom Committee would continue overseeing the monument, with help from Benjamin in monitoring water use and maintenance. No formal changes were made.

BUDGET REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Marilyn provided an overview and invited questions. A major recent expense involved the purchase of a backhoe, costing a total of approximately \$75,000 which was split between the General fund (under street repair and maintenance) and the Water fund, as approved by the Town Council last month. This expense is reflected on page 3 and page 9 of the financial statement. The decision to purchase the backhoe stemmed from the rising cost of leasing, which had more than doubled, making buying more economical.

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Marilyn also noted the inclusion of a new B&C expense line to match the B&C revenue line for tracking purposes.

The Council discussed delays in purchasing a utility truck, with Council Member Andrew Aagard inquiring whether the backhoe purchase affected the plan to purchase a utility truck. Terry confirmed that the utility truck is still being considered but would likely need to be included in next year's budget due to current financial constraints.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES:

1. **EMS/CERT:** None
2. **Water:** None
3. **Road:** The curb, garden sidewalk, and roadwork at the cemetery have been completed, with the paving company scheduled to assess the project before winter, though the exact timing remains uncertain. Approximately 100 feet of road on the cemetery's south end required rebuilding due to topsoil issues, and work has progressed on the west side, with plans to begin the east side soon. The paving will include both the street and the parking lot, though the loop within the cemetery may be postponed if preparation cannot be completed in time. Additional truck drivers may be needed to expedite the work.
4. **P & Z:** Final review last P&Z Meeting. Public Hearing in November to finalize.
5. **Admin:** Monthly Expenditures; no questions. Marilyn informed the Council that she will be meeting with the Auditor; Gilbert and Stewart, CPA on the 28th of this month.
6. **Park:** None
7. **Library:** None

***OPEN FLOOR:**

1. Citizen Items:
2. Town Council Items:

Adjournment:

Council Member Lucy Gold moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Bethany Sturgeon seconded the motion, all others voted in favor, with the exception of Council Member Joanna Covington, who was absent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Approved by Marilyn Allred
Town Clerk/Recorder; UCC, CMC