

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
April 9, 2020

Present:

Clyde Watkins

Brent "Ole" Olsen

Glen Jessen

Melba Markham, Town Clerk

Craig Kettle, Town Employee

Josh Phillips, Fire Chief

Sommer Arnold was absent.

Also present was Kimberly Layton, taking minutes.

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

Minutes Approved (7:05 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of March 12, 2020. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Sidewalk Project (7:06 p.m.)

Glen reported that he had a pre-construction meeting. They discussed starting the project on April 20, but all the paperwork states the beginning date is May 20. He will find out for sure. They will be using the vacant lot straight up from the water well by the park as a staging area. They will post a bulletin board with all pertinent information. The week they start construction they will hold will a post-construction meeting, and will then meet every Monday morning at 8:00 a.m. Glen will plan on attending those meetings, and Craig will also attend if he is available. The project has a 30-day construction period. Arizona Concrete from Roosevelt is the contractor. The contractor will be doing everything they can to keep the project under budget.

Once this project is complete, Glen would like to fence the empty lot so that people cannot cut through the lot. He will get some bids.

Discussion of Ordinance 11-000 thru 11-395; Transportation, Streets and Public Ways (7:13 p.m.)

Melba talked to Gayle McKeachnie about these ordinances. She asked if we should have liability insurance plus the bond and he agreed that we should. Melba stated that we need to get an idea of how much the bond should be. Glen will work on getting some information.

Fire Department: (7:20 p.m.)

The fire department is not supposed to be holding meetings, so they will be turning in a blank sheet to register for the month. Right now, they will just respond to fire calls, but may try to do some online training. Chief Phillips reported that they were able to gain some ground on the ISO rating and are getting closer to being rated a 5. The next rating will depend on water, hydrants, and other issues. Josh will follow up with the water department to see if they are testing the hydrants yearly for pressure and flow.

Utilities (7:25 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins stated that secondary water for the pond will be available on April 20. He is not sure when there will be enough to turn into the system. The cost per share went up from \$21.00 to \$23.00 for each share.

Sewer (7:26 p.m.)

Craig purchased chemicals for the sewer and has been adding chemical to the system every morning.

Secondary Water (7:31 p.m.)

Melba pulled the deed from when we acquired cemetery from the church, and it does not say anything about the water. The Town acquired the cemetery in 1978 and has been using 10 shares of BIA water since then. The BIA has contacted the Town and stated that there will not be 10 shares for the cemetery this year. Mayor Watkins informed them that as the years went on, the Town made changes and upgrades, and we were never informed that there was a problem with the water. The BIA stated that there is no grandfather clause. If the Town cannot prove that they own the water, the BIA will not deliver it.

The council discussed options at this point. We could write a letter to the superintendent of the BIA to ask for permission to put temporary water over there. We could take waters that are around the Town to put over there. It was taking 20 shares to run the cemetery (10 BIA and 10 Dry Gulch). The Town still has the 10 shares of Dry Gulch water for the cemetery, but it is being delivered through a BIA ditch. The Town has shares of water in the roads that could be transferred.

Glen will visit with a few people to see if they remember anything about the water shares.

Zoning Concern (7:55 p.m.)

Melba reported that when Nathan Coulter sold the trailer park to Ashley Webb he kept the double -wide with the house. He is claiming that it is zoned mobile home park. We need to have our zoning and planning board look that over and give us a ruling on that. Ashley thought he had bought that trailer, but Coulter told him that was a separate property. There are some problems with the way the utilities are set up as well.

Budget Information Needed (8:00 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins reported that budgets will be done soon so council members need to let Melba know what items they would like to have included in the budget.

Melba stated that she received an e-mail from CIB that we could ask for leniency of payment for one year if needed.

The next council meeting will be held on May 14 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 14th day of May, 2020.

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