

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
October 8, 2020

Present:

Clyde Watkins
Brent "Ole" Olsen
Glen Jessen
Sommer Arnold
Melba Markham, Town Clerk
Craig Kettle, Town Employee
Josh Phillips, Altamont Fire Chief

Public Present:

Vicky Jessen

Also present was Kimberly Layton, taking minutes.

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m..

Minutes Approved (7:04 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of September 10, 2020 as written. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Haslem – Requesting Zone Change (7:05 p.m.)

Joe Haslem called during the meeting and stated that he would not be in attendance. He has pulled out from any involvement or ownership at the trailer park.

The council discussed the issues at the trailer park. They have not been given any information from any party to be able to move forward.

Fire Department (7:06 p.m.)

Chief Josh Phillips stated that he had a medical company call with regards to the trailerhouse fire. They had some equipment there so Chief Phillips sent them some paperwork.

With regards to the fire by the sewer lagoon, Melba has not seen a job sheet from the County yet. Chief Phillips stated that he has submitted it so he will follow up on it. Additionally, Melba stated that she was paid for Chief Phillips' time for the fire on 07/21 but has not been paid for Thomas's time. Josh Phillips will follow up on that.

Chief Phillips will review invoices with Shades Diesel for work done on the fire truck.

Chief Phillips stated that the department's water tender is back on the East Fork fire. They are on the second day of 14-day contract. He also reported that a truck was donated by EP. He left the title for Melba. Melba will get with the County for a new license plate and will work on insurance. The department is planning to get that truck painted, pull the bed off and do some restoration so that the truck can be used with rescue equipment. Once it is ready, they will have EP come out to do a thank-you presentation. They will tag the truck with a sign that it was donated by EP.

When COVID clears up, the department would like to hold a BBQ for EP to show their appreciation.

After East Fork fire they may look into getting some new tires for the truck. Income from the East Fork fire and other recent fires should help with that expense.

The fire department plans to hold a Christmas party on November 18 at the fire house. They will be doing a potluck. Chief Phillips asked for permission to order shirts for the firemen. The department is in need of about 20 new florescent lights. The council approved those requests. He will get those ordered.

Chief Phillips stated that they currently have 20 firefighters. Gary Brinkerhoff just joined and has a lot of expertise to add to the department. The department might lose one trainee. Mayor Watkins has asked for permission to move to 22 firefighters. The department raised training hours from 2 hours twice a month to 3 hours twice a month. Eventually they would like to get up to 4 hours twice a month. This will help with the ISO rating.

Trailers parked by storage units (7:28 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins stated that the Town received a letter from a resident with concerns about the trailers parked by the storage units. Glen asked what legal grounds the Town had to ask them to move the trailers. Mayor Watkins stated that the council needs to assure that they are fair across the board with any decisions that are made. If we ask these property owners to take care of the problem, we need to do that with other property owners as well.

Melba reviewed the pertinent ordinance with the council. The council agreed to send a certified letter to the property owner from the Town, along with a copy of Ordinance 10-333 asking him to remove the trailers.

Mayor Watkins stated that he has talked to Mr. Webb about the trailers. Melba will send a letter tomorrow. Mayor Watkins will call next week.

Sidewalk Encroachment Discussion (7:42 p.m.)

Glen stated that he talked to someone at Roosevelt City to get ideas for street and sidewalk encroachment regulations. They informed him that most Towns post their ordinances online. Glen has gathered a few different ordinances to review and most of them are very similar, requiring surety bonds and other things. Decisions can be made on a case-by-case basis. Melba will provide a proposal to all council members so that a public hearing could be held next month, and this ordinance could be adopted.

Glen stated for the next project phase they would be coming in December to get pictures and preliminary information. Mayor Watkins stated that there is a UDOT program offering approved funding for pedestrian safe projects. The Town would need a 25% match. The funding would provide 75% of the cost. Smaller projects re more likely to get funded. The Town will file an application, which must be submitted by November 1. Glen will look into this for additional information.

Park (7:58 p.m.)

Sommer reported that the meeting went well for the recreation district. Sommer has been looking at the property but would appreciate some input with regards to what property should be turned over to the Recreation District.

Glen suggested keeping a 50-foot right-of-way on the back end of the park and straight up the fence to the road so that the drainage ditch stays on the Town's property. We could provide the Recreation District with an easement. Glen stated that he could meet with a surveyor. The Town should keep the road going down the west side of the park. Mayor Watkins stated that the Town needed to keep enough to maintain utility lines.

Mayor Watkins also reported that there may be changes coming for old water wells. The State is implementing fees. The Town will need to assure that if there are future issues with drinking water the Town is protected. Currently there are old water wells that the Town owns, but Upper Country Water leases.

Covid Financial Aid (8:07 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins wanted the counsel to know that the Town of Altamont applied for some care act funds. Melba stated that the Town was given \$7,194 which could be used to help people if there is a problem. Mayor Watkins stated that the Town may end up giving those funds back to the County as the County does all interviewing with local businesses. If the County needs those funds to pass on to local businesses, the funds will be turned over to the County. Otherwise the council can discuss uses for those funds. Melba will keep in touch with the County to see if we can keep the funds and what they can be used for.

Mayor Watkins reported that the Town has applied with Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) for flood protection. The application doesn't guarantee any funds for the Town, but we listed projects for debris basins, channels, crossings, bridges, culverts, and mitigation projects. Our application included an estimated total cost of \$25,000. Council members were encouraged to review the application. Jones and DeMille will be assisting with this application process.

Mayor Watkins asked Sommer Arnold to assist with flood work issues as part of her council assignment.

Miscellaneous

Glen stated that he has had calls from concerned residents about barking dogs. He has encouraged them to call the Sheriff. He asked if the Town could send something out to residents reminding them about dog licenses and noise ordinances. .

The next Town Council meeting will be held on November 12 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Ole Olsen to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Motion seconded by Sommer Arnold. Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 12th day of November, 2020.

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