

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
September 9, 2021

Present:

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

Also Present:

Vicky Jessen
Amanda (Mandy) Gardner

Also present was Kimberly Layton, taking minutes.

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes Approved (7:03 p.m.)

The date on the minutes should be corrected to read August 12, 2021. Additionally, a correction should be made with regards to the cost of the pond. The minutes should state that the cost for the pond liner is estimated at \$3,000. With those corrections, *A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of August 12, 2021 as written. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.*

The council agreed to adjust the order of the agenda items to take care of the Oath of Office at this time.

Oath of office for Councilman Shilo Monney (7:07 p.m.)

The oath of office was given to Shilo Monney by Melba Markham. All paperwork was signed.

Fire Department (7:09 p.m.)

Chief Phillips provided the fire protection agreement with Duchesne County for the council to review. The agreement includes a 2% increase each year and goes through 2024. Mayor Watkins asked if any other entities have asked for an increase above and beyond this agreement. Chief Phillips stated that he believes Duchesne asked for an increase several years ago. Mayor Watkins stated that when these agreements began, we were asked what it cost to run the departments. The number the Town provided at that time was not detailed. This agreement will be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

Chief Phillips reported that the department has added three additional firefighters. John Bagley is taking the pack test now. Hunter Phillips and Tice Sorensen are joining as junior firefighters. Junior firefighters can start at the age of 16 but are not used on active fires until they are 18. The department could use three more junior firefighters. The department is starting rope rescue training.

Chief Phillips stated that Myton Fire is in need of firefighters as they are close to losing their department. He encouraged council members to spread the word and help recruit firefighters for Myton.

Chief Phillips left the meeting.

Upper Community Recreation District (7:30 p.m.)

Vicky Jessen stated that she had received budget numbers from Craig and Melba. She turned in a higher number to the Recreation District to help keep the park maintained as well as it has been maintained. Annissa Maxfield assured Vicky that there is some cushion in the budget in case they need to do something extra. The current budget for the Altamont Park is \$15,000 per year.

Mrs. Jessen suggested that the Town get the survey done so that the survey reflects appropriate boundaries. She asked if the Town could get the survey and legal paperwork done and then the Recreation District would reimburse the Town for those costs. Vicky stated that she doesn't believe the District wants to take over any roads. Craig can work on getting some measurements at the park so that the Town can request a survey.

Glen stated that the Town needs to keep the city's water well and the drainage.

Mayor Watkins stated that the Town could have the survey done as long as it's ok with the Recreation District. He further stated that it may be beneficial to have the Town and the District agree on what surveyor to hire. Vicky can do some legwork on that to get some cost estimates. This item will be discussed at next month's council meeting.

Town Clerk Position (7:44 p.m.)

Mayor Watkins stated that the council has met with Mandy Gardner about filling Melba's position. Mandy can start training with Melba as soon as she would like to. Gayle McKeachnie stated that there was nothing prohibiting Mayor Watkins, with approval of the Town Council, from selecting a person to fill the position. An employment offer should be in writing and should state the position is exempt from Code 10-3-1105 of the Utah Code. As a separate matter, every Town of Utah is required to have a certified records officer. The new Town Clerk should be trained and certified. Gayle McKeachnie provided information for training. Mayor Watkins would like Mandy to have her financial training done soon, preferably prior to Melba retiring. Other training could be done as time permits.

Mayor Watkins had offered Mandy the position as part-time, but it is difficult to guess how many hours it will take her to do the job. Mandy can work the hours that are needed to get the job done.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to hire Amanda (Mandy) Gardner for the Town Clerk position. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Secondary Water (8:00 p.m.)

Craig stated that the pond is still up. He will take a turn tomorrow and will speak with Rodger to see what the Town should expect.

Vicky asked if the Town could install meters on the secondary water system at the park if they would like to track the usage that way. Alternatively, the Recreation District could go by turns or hours of usage. Mayor Watkins stated that the Town council can discuss this issue.

Altamont Cemetery pond project (8:09 p.m.)

Craig stated that he is working on building the fence so that the liner can be placed in the pond. The liner was \$2,700.00 plus the cost of the fence (about \$2,100). The council stated that the pond liner is a good investment as it will help conserve water. The pipe for runoff will be moved so that it faces west when the pond is lined.

Illegally parked trailer (8:15 p.m.)

Melba stated that she called the owner of the illegally parked trailer but did not get an answer. She left a message, but he has not responded. Our legal counsel has been in contact with him and his legal counsel. Mayor Watkins stated that the Town needs to follow through on getting this trailer removed. Melba will speak with Gayle McKeachnie.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on October 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Sommer Arnold. Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 14 day of October, 2021.

e-mailed to

altamonttown@gmail.com

October 1, 2021