

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting  
October 14, 2021

Present:

Clyde Watkins

Glen Jessen

Shilo Monney

Melba Markham, Town Clerk

Amanda (Mandy) Gardner, Town Clerk

Craig Kettle, Town Employee

Josh Phillips, Altamont Fire Chief

Brent "Ole" Olsen was excused. Sommer Arnold was absent.

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Watkins asked the council if they would prefer to continue doing prayers or if they would prefer opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Shilo Monney and Glen Jessen both stated that they would prefer starting with a prayer and would not mind offering the prayers.

Minutes Approved (7:19 p.m.)

*A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of September 9, 2021 as written. Motion seconded by Shilo Monney. Motion carried unanimously.*

Fire Department (7:21 p.m.)

**Fire Department Agreement:** Chief Phillips stated that from his review of the contract from the County, everything looks fine. The council discussed the agreement.

*A Motion was made by Shilo to accept the Fire Protection Agreement. Motion seconded by Glen Jessen. Motion carried unanimously.*

Shilo Monney asked Chief Phillips if the department is in need of any equipment for their rope rescue training. Chief Phillips stated that the department has all of the equipment necessary right now. They currently have three rescue bags with about 300 feet of rope each. Shilo Monney stated that he has a cousin with connections to a fire department in Texas and that department donates equipment because they swap out things every two to three years and he wondered if the Altamont Fire Department could benefit from anything there. Josh Phillips stated that the department would always appreciate any donations.

Chief Phillips reported that the main seal on the pump, truck 152, is leaking. When the department had their ISO interview the two pump trucks passed the pump test, but because of the leaky valves neither truck passed. It didn't hurt the score because we tested higher in other areas, but it is becoming a problem because sometimes when they pull the truck out it is only half full. He estimates they are losing about 500 gallons of water between fill-ups. He asked the council for permission to get some bids on getting those valves repaired. Once that repair is done, he can send the pump test in to help with the ISO

rating. The council agreed that Chief Phillips can obtain some quotes on repairing the valves on the pump trucks.

Chief Phillips reported that the department plans to hold their Christmas party on November 18. The Town will provide the meat for this party. For gifts, he was considering purchasing movie theater gift certificates for each couple. Mayor Watkins approved this expense. Melba will have the checks ready. Chief Phillips will meet with Melba to make sure that she has all W4s, social security numbers and other information needed to prepare checks.

Chief Phillips reported that they are still waiting on hose which has been ordered for several months. It is very difficult to get equipment right now. He further reported that the roof at the department has been repaired. They did not notice any puddles after the last rainstorm, but he will keep an eye on that.

#### Upper Community Recreation District (7:39 p.m.)

Shilo stated that he attended the last meeting for the Upper Community Recreation District, but no one showed up, so they really didn't hold a meeting. Glen stated that Vicky will work on getting a surveyor.

#### Secondary Water (7:41 p.m.)

Craig reported that the pond is full, and no one is using the water. He will dump it in the ditch the end of the month and winterize the system.

#### Home on Lot AL-56 (7:45 p.m.)

Melba reported that Ashley has hired Allred's Surveying to try and resolve issues with the home on Lot AL-56 which is the lot on the corner going into the old trailer park. Ashley wrote a letter to the Town stating that the trailer crossing the easement on the south boundary is removed which solves the encroachment issue. He further stated that encroachment for the trailer directly on the lot line is also solved. He provided a picture showing the fence-line between the trailers and the house and stated that the dashed line of red was the existing fence and that Lot 8 has only one single family house and Lot 9 has the trailer park and no crossover.

The council does not agree with Ashley's description and does not believe the County will approve that either.

Ashley's letter further states that his surveyor is moving forward to complete the process for the property boundary between the house and trailer park at the existing fence south of the home and north of the trailer park. They want to sell the home and are trying to make sure there are no issues as they close. He has two candidates looking for a home. He also stated that he was open to continued conversations considering additional single family on west side.

Melba responded that the Town would need to verify a couple of things. 1: Trailer has been moved off of the Town's property on the south side of the trailer court. However, the trailer that had the fire is still there. Ashley stated that Lot 8 would only be a single-family home. However, the South part where the trailer park is will still be Lot 8. Also, the Council is not aware of any conversation to consider an additional single family on property on the West side of park. She asked Ashley to please send us a proposal and map of what he was requesting. The home is zoned R-20 which will not meet the requirements

and he will need to inform the new owner that they will have to petition the planning and zoning board to change the zoning. The setbacks on each side of the house will need to be 6 feet. Melba stated that she still needs to let him know what the setback would be for the front of the property.

Ashley responded that the Trailer has been moved off the Town's property on the south side of the trailer park, however, the trailer that had the fire is still there. The trailer that is burned is going to the dump. There is an encroachment issue for the trailer directly west of the laundromat when Nathan Coulter separated the ownership of Lot 8 and 9. He acknowledged that this may be more of a concern for him than the council. The line adjustment in the plat he provided would remove the encroachment. He further stated that it was his understanding that a lot line adjustment between 8 and 9 was a course of action that Nathan was supposed to perform or did perform but changed it before I bought it and that Nathan had placed the fence where it needed to be to have the setbacks matching R-20.

The council stated that Nathan never did anything with that line adjustment, and they disagree that the fence helps meet the setbacks for R-20.

Mayor Watkins stated he can leave all the roads where they are because all roads are in Lot 9. He can leave everything the way it is if that's what he chooses to do, but he would need to get a variance from the Town to get part of that house in 8 and 9 but the Town should be cautious about approving any variance because it's hard to know how that will affect people in the future. Mayor Watkins stated that Ashley would need to meet with the planning and zoning committee.

Melba will provide Ashley with Sommer's email address to make an appointment with the planning and zoning committee. Glen will also let Vicky know about this issue.

The next council meeting will be held on November 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

*The Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.*

Read and approved this 17 day of November, 2021.

e-mailed to  
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November 3, 2021