

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
March 9, 2023

Present:

Clyde Watkins
Brent (Ole) Olsen
Sommer Arnold
Glen Jessen
Craig Kettle, Town Employee
Amanda (Mandy) Gardner, Town Clerk

Public:

Shilo Monney was excused

Clyde Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved (7:00 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to approve the minutes of February 9, 2022 as written. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department (7:02 p.m.)

Postponed as Chief Phillips was not in attendance

Sidewalk Project (7:03 p.m.)

Glen reported that the Town has been approved for the second sidewalk phase. Awards are based on population size. Altamont, Tabiona and Wallsburg, were the only ones in our category. The three towns were ranked, Altamont was ranked number 2. All three towns were funded with money left over. The project is approved on the state level, it then goes to the federal level. The federal level is where the funds come from. Funds will not be available until fall of this year. The town will have some time to budget for our portion of the project. Glen was not sure if the towns portion was due this fall or next spring when the project begins. The Towns match is \$37,641.00. Glen informed the council that after the Town comes up with the \$37,641.00, UDOT handles all the financial arrangements. Glen will work with Civco on the details, and will inform Civco of any future roads that could need different engineering. The town will probably need to have a survey done with the location of the road behind the church before the project begins.

Mayor Watkins expressed that in the past the council had considered having a snow removal ordinance. On years with large snow totals, does the council really want to enforce an ordinance? Glen stated that the sidewalks will be low, and could be used to push the snow

from the roads onto the sidewalk. On heavy snow years, the sidewalks could be closed and the snow pushed onto them. Glen stated that he did not want to enforce a snow ordinance.

Glen stated that with left over money the State Committee asked why the Town was not doing a bigger project. Glen informed the State Committee that the town would not be able to match the funding for a bigger project. If the town did not have to match part of the funding, then it would do a bigger project. For small towns it is hard to come up with money even if it is only a 7 percent match.

Mayor Watkins indicated that there could be water boxes that may need to be moved depending on where the sidewalk is placed. Glen added that there is a drain that will be moved. The Town will need to review the plan when it is drawn up.

Upper Community Recreation District (7:16 p.m.)

Postponed as Shilo Monney was not in attendance

Utilities/ Secondary Water (7:18 p. m.)

Ole stated that with the amount of snow this year, it would be a good year to run a camera down the sewer. The cost to run a camera down the sewer will affect the budget. With regards to the budget how does running a camera now affect the budget? Mayor Watkins answered that the budget can be amended now or in June at the next budget hearing. Mayor Watkins added that this year's budget included running a camera. Sommer and Mandy agreed that the budget did include money for running a camera down the sewer. Mayor Watkins added that inflation was not accounted for, therefore the budget may need to be amended.

Craig informed the council that the grinder for the sewer need to be replaced, and that additional cost will also affect the budget. Mayor Watkins asked if he had an estimate for the grinder. Craig answered no, as he needed to take the grinder apart first to see what was not working. Mayor Watkins advised Craig to ask about the lifetime of the grinder. If the grinder is only expected to last 7 years, and the Town's grinder is 10 years old, it will be better to get a new one, than to replace the parts that are broken. The cost of the grinder will determine if the Town will be able to run a camera down the sewer line.

Mayor Watkins notified the council that the mailing address for the secondary water had changed. If the payment is not sent to the correct address, the Town may not get its water turn. Mandy confirmed the change in address and has the envelope already addressed. This year the payment goes to St Louis Missouri.

Mayor Watkins suggested the town write a letter, concerning secondary water, to our representees. Mayor Watkins spoke with Senator Winterton over the Towns concerns. Mandy informed the council that after multiple attempts at a letter, she still has not found the right words, and would need help with a letter. Mayor Watkins suggested to read through the 2023 legislation for changes, before writing a letter.

Mayor Watkins recommended that the council watch the numbers on secondary water over next several months to learn exactly how much money is available in regards to the secondary water. Once the council knows the figures for secondary water, then the council can decide on a price increase. The secondary water should be self-sustaining. Glen stated that there should be a years' worth of operating cost in savings. Comparing the towns secondary water to other sources of water, Glen thought the town water was a good deal, and would not mind if his bill doubled. Clyde advised that the savings did not have to be made up in one year.

The next council meeting, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by Glen Jessen to end the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 13 day of April, 2023.
Minuets of the meeting prepared by Amanda Gardner Town Clerk