

**ROUND MOUNTAIN TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
DONALD L. SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTER
650 CIVIC DRIVE, HADLEY SUBDIVISION
ROUND MOUNTAIN, NEVADA
rmtownadmin@gmail.com
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017 – 4:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

Members Present: James Swigart, Chair
Roger Morones, Vice Chair
Lisa Davila, Member
Liandra Dutton, Member

Members Absent: Wes Hubred, Clerk

Also Present: Pearl Olmedo, Town Manager
Rebecca Hansen, Administrative Supervisor
Tini Mittelstadt, Administrative Aide

Citizens Present: David Hendriks
Sara Sweeney
Andrew Swazey
Lorinda Wichman



CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Jim Swigart called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (FIRST)

David Hendriks asked if there were any questions for him, no questions were asked. He stated that it was nice having the pot holes filled in at Pablo and Electrum. Morones asked if it was the county or the Town. Olmedo let the Board know it was both and they will continue working on the pot holes with the material they have, and when more material comes in they will fill more pot holes.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 14, 2017 AGENDA

Olmedo requested to remove item #10.

Morones motioned to approve the March 14, 2017 agenda with the removal of item 10. Dutton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

READING, CORRECTION, AND APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Dutton motioned to approve the February 28, 2017 meeting minutes as written. Davila seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

DISCUSSION, DELIBERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE OF A LETTER TO THE NEVADA STATE ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE IN OPPOSITION OF SB21, A BILL WHICH PROPOSES TO REPEAL THE ACT CREATING THE NYE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Olmedo let the Board know SB21, in regards to the online video she sent from the February 24 Senate Committee meeting, was to abolish the Nye County Water District Board. Beatty and the Town of Tonopah had already unanimously opposed the dissolving of the Water District and had sent letters to the Assembly Committee. Morones read a letter from Jay Dixon on the pros and cons of what we should prepare for, and he would provide a copy to the Board members. Dutton felt that the county as a whole was well represented as the Board has 7 members, one from each district, whereas with the Board of County Commissioners, the majority of their members were located in southern Nye County.

Lorinda Wichman stated she serves on a Board 5 and the vote to put SB21 through was 3 to 2, not once but twice. A minority report was sent to the legislator. One member that did vote in favor continues to repeat that the Water District is a stand-alone district and has too much power and they want local control. That is why the District Board was created, to protect all of Nye County from intrusions like this. SNWA specifically told the Board of County Commissioners they would not talk to us unless we had a district. The reason for the District is to attract people that concentrate on that issue alone. Before the District, we had commissioners that didn't take the time to research, we had people making assumptions and making votes based on what people were saying on the street. She continued to explain the water district and its history. She thanked the Town for having this item on the agenda.

Olmedo asked if the planning department would take over some of the functions; if they had personnel due to Nye County downsizing staff; would we be looking at higher taxes to cover the duties this department would take over. Wichman stated that when that question was asked at the BOCC meeting, the planning department said that without hiring more help there is no way he can take on those duties. Olmedo asked about the D.A.'s office looking into the constitutionality of dissolving the water district prior to their contract ending and how that would affect our County or the BOCC should they need assistance. Wichman stated that the District Attorney's office is extremely challenged with the things that are come to them on a daily basis as it is right now. The water laws in Nevada are difficult to understand, to have someone with no experience with water law try to straighten out those problems in two weeks and provide the analysis needed, I don't think it will get done.

Swigart states that he believes water is one of our most valuable resources. With Pahrump having 75 percent of the decision making ability regarding the county water, any way we can make things even or fair, or have some additional representation on this end of the County, he thinks it would behoove us to write the letter as others have done.

Wichman explained where SB21 would go from here. Olmedo offered the Board a draft letter she had to look at it and make changes if needed. Davila asked Wichman what more besides the letter could be done. Wichman stated if you know Senator Ratti or Senator Parks, any of the members of committees on governmental affairs and on the assembly side, if you know any of them call them.

Swigart asked if the Water Board was appointed. Wichman stated that they take recommendations from the existing Board and that they are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Morones motioned to approve a letter the Nevada State Assembly Government Affairs Committee be drafted and finalized by the Chair and Town Manager. Dutton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

ROUND MOUNTAIN PTO REQUESTS TO WAIVE THE RENTAL FEE OF THE TEEN CENTER FOR THE FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE.

Davila motioned to waive the rental fee of the Teen Center to the Round Mountain PTO for the Father/Daughter dance. Morones seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

SMOKY VALLEY BASEBALL TO REQUEST THE USE OF TOWN BALL FIELDS AND CONCESSION STAND

Liandra Dutton requested use of the Town ball fields and concession stand for youth baseball practice and games. Dutton addressed her concerns about turning on the water; if sani-huts were available; the potential of creating a T-Ball field; fixing the missing dugout roof. Olmedo would get sani-huts placed; check on the water status; address a T-Ball field during budget workshop; and confirmed quotes for repair on the dugout roof had already been obtained.

Morones motioned to allow the use of the Town Ball fields and concession stand to the Smoky Valley Baseball program. Davila seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Dutton abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE, AWARDS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DEPARTMENT UPDATES

1. Pearson Brother's Construction recognition.
2. Tonopah Town Board Meeting Agenda.
3. Tonopah Library Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda.

Olmedo let the Board know the pot holes were being filled by the county and the help of the maintenance personnel, and will continue to fill them, as they get the material. Olmedo mentioned 2 prominent big dips in the road around Big Creek Drive around Hadley that she had heard were created by loaded mine water trucks. Hendriks was unaware. Olmedo requested any equipment coming through Town be unloaded. The Board stated the dips had been there for a long time.

Olmedo addressed updates: sewer update – still waiting on the weather to be warm enough for the pipes to be pliable. The pool - most of the tiles have been replaced and they are moving forward and hoping to have it completed by the end of April. The Board expressed concern about the extension for the additions; would the pool be ready in time to train lifeguards prior to opening. Olmedo said they would be able to utilize the pool in Tonopah or Fallon to do the recertification. Morones asked if there were any provisions in the contract for delays that it takes for them to finish, unrelated to the additions. Olmedo did not remember. Davila thought that it was incorporated into the pool contract because of issues that delayed the sewer project. Swigart stated that if at every Town Board Meeting these updates are going to be on the agenda, he would request to have Mitch or Josh here to give an accurate status of where we are at.

The Board talked about concerns with the hiring process and the changes in the process for the hiring of the Recreation Director; the criteria that was used for hiring; and the change of the Board involvement; a potential conflict of interest. They stated that the community has approached them and are concerned with the person hired and how they left when they were in a position with the Town before. Hansen stated when POOL/PACT came out and did an HR Audit there was concern having the Board involved with the hiring process; there was a potential open meeting law violation; it removed the Board from their role as an appellate level for the Town preventing any appeal process. The Board questioned why they did not know this, and that they have been involved in the past with the hiring procedures. Olmedo states that the Town is continuing to be made aware of potential open meeting laws violations. Swigart commented that he disagreed with the Board not being involved with the process; he feels that once the name of the person is decided on, it should come before the Board. Morones states that he sees it differently, in reading it, it is Pearl's decision and as a Town Manager, it is one of

her duties to hire a staff supporting of her and the Town. That is not our decision; we gave her the right to hire who she deems is acceptable for that position. Our job is to provide her an avenue via the budget, to open a position if it is necessary to fill that. The concern is how Management came to this decision. They were concerned that once the decision was made the Board had no knowledge of who got hired, so when questions came up they could not support the Manager. Olmedo answered that the Town can make available the Weighted Scale that we used. This scale was done on the recommendation of our HR representative above us. She invites anyone that has concerns to come to the Town office and sit down with us to ask questions on these concerns. She let the Town Board know she will talk to POOL/PACT about their concerns.

Sara Sweeney voiced her concerns on the decision of the Recreation Director. Olmedo invited her to come to the Town Hall to discuss her concerns. Mittelstadt was concerned about the comment made regarding the office staff treating a customer with disrespect. Andrew Swazey offered his opinion; freeze hiring at the Town; investigate the hiring process and the Board's involvement in the process; Town Manager's accountability.

The Board stated that they were not sure where to go from here. Olmedo suggested that they get ahold of legal counsel and address their concerns and see what we can come up with.

REVIEW AND APPROVE VOUCHERS

The Board questioned the 800 dollar phone bill. Olmedo stated that we had a line install and repair work for the Administrative Supervisor's office. Dutton questioned the frequency of the Volunteer Fire Department stipend. Olmedo stated it is monthly, however two invoices were late.

Dutton motioned to accept the vouchers as read. Davila seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

BUDGET WORKSHOP- THIS WORKSHOP IS TO DISCUSS THE 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Olmedo requested to have the merit raises discontinued, instead change it to a cost of living increase or defer raises for the fiscal year 2017-2018. The Board agreed there should be no raises for the fiscal year 2017-2018. Olmedo stated that she will get everything together for the tentative budget and if there are any increases or decreases she would let the Board know at the Final Budget meeting. The Board discussed ways to save money, and asked that the overtime figures be brought in at the next meeting to look at. Swigart suggested someone from the Mine's CI department come down and provide a program like their Continuous Improvement. Olmedo talked about the Public Safety Tax for Fire and Sheriff monies and that they may come to the Board for approval on using those monies. Hendriks gave his opinion on ways to work on the budget and provide information to the Board. Olmedo explained how she puts together information on the budget to the Board and why. Swazey asked when the last time the Budget was zero based; should that be completed this year. Olmedo stated that it has been several years, the current process that we work from now has been in practice for 20 years plus. Swazey recommended it take place to best understand the Town Budget.

DISCUSSION, DELIBERATION, AND POSSIBLE DECISION TO PURCHASE 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS.

The Board discussed the prices and tabled until the next Board Meeting. They talked about people in the local community purchasing fireworks, and looking at different avenues to help pay for the fireworks. They talked about putting together a survey on what the public thought about the Town paying for the fireworks, and seeing how the community felt about helping with the costs.

Agenda item was tabled.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (SECOND)

Dave Hendriks stated if the Town could come up with a time or date, he would look into the issue of the Mine trucks coming through Town. He addressed the appellate group versus being a directed group; getting that information to the Board so they can understand it. Dutton commented that when the CPA came in, he had said that Round Mountain Gold was leasing not buying equipment so no sales tax was paid, so we would not be getting that sales tax. Hendriks responded that RMGC still pays sales taxes on a monthly basis; there was sales tax on the shovel the Mine bought; he believes the library received some of those sales tax monies. The net proceeds tax changed and there is another one in front of the government on whether we pay in advance or whether we pay in arrears. He stated that the CI Board could be looked into coming down, if the Town wanted. The Mine is in the middle of a feasibility study on Phase W; it will be produced in the early part of September. In late September is when we will be talking to our board.

Swazey reiterated the Town should have a hiring freeze; requested more visibility into the sewer project; involving the budget, was there some way we could fill in any gaps created by the sewer project through better budgeting.

The Board liked the idea of getting the word out on things happening in the Town. The Town Hall will work toward getting information out.

ADJOURN MEETING

Davila motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:25 p.m. Morones seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.