

**ROUND MOUNTAIN TOWN BOARD MEETING
DONALD L. SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTER
650 CIVIC DRIVE, HADLEY SUBDIVISION
ROUND MOUNTAIN, NEVADA
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

Members Present: James Swigart, Chair
Heather Enzi, Vice Chair
Robert Spivey, Jr., Clerk
Nicole Silberschlag, Member

Members Absent: Samantha Faga, Member

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

Citizens Present: Allen Stumpf Blanca Spivey Neil Jensen
Sergio Olmedo



1. Call meeting to order/roll call

James Swigart called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Swigart – Chair, Heather Enzi – Vice Chair, Robert Spivey, Jr. – Clerk, and Nicole Silberschlag – Member, were in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. General Public Comment (FIRST)

No comment.

4. Approval of the February 23, 2021 agenda

Enzi motioned to approve. Spivey, Jr. seconded; motion passed 4-0. February 23, 2021 agenda approved.

5. Approval of January 26, 2021 meeting minutes

Enzi motioned to approve. Silberschlag seconded; motion passed 4-0. January 26, 2021 meeting minutes approved.

6. Approval of February 9, 2021 cancelled meeting minutes

Enzi motioned to approve. Spivey, Jr. seconded; motion passed 4-0. February 9, 2021 cancelled meeting minutes approved.

7. Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to extend current community gym facility hours approved on September 22, 2020.

Pearl Olmedo stated that current gym hours are from 6 a.m. through 8 p.m. The town would like to extend the hours because the community has been doing good. Asked what the opinions were on hours. Enzi stated twenty-four hours will work and to give it a try since it has been going well. She also stated that if people start to break the rules then they are out. Spivey, Jr. stated he agrees with Enzi, that it won't be as crowded as people will go back to their normal times. Swigart stated as long as they are following the rules, he sees nothing wrong with it.

Enzi motioned to extend gym hours to twenty-four hours a day. Silberschlag seconded; motion passed 4-0. Gym hours will go back to twenty-four hours a day.

Enzi motioned for the extended gym hours to be effective February 24, 2021. Spivey seconded; motion passed 4-0. Gym hours will start at twenty-four hours a day on February 24, 2021.

8. Review of COVID-19 Temporary Gym Member rules adopted on September 22, 2020 for discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to adopt revised COVID-19 Temporary Gym Member rules.

Olmedo states the only change is to number three. As the mask mandates have changed through updated directives, that rule has been revised to say that members are to wear face coverings based on the State mandates and directives.

Enzi motioned to approve. Silberschlag seconded; motion passed 4-0. Revised COVID-19 Temporary Gym Member rules approved.

9. Discussion, deliberation regarding status of an Interim Volunteer Fire Chief due to resignation of Fire Chief Brown.

Swigart opened the item by stating his years on the Fire Department service. Stated he solicited a previous Fire Chief, Mr. Sweeney regarding coming back as Fire Chief, however Sweeney was not interested but willing to help a new Fire Chief with any questions or trainings during the summer months. Swigart asked what do we want to do and what direction do we want to go regarding the Fire Chief. Unsure of the status of the department and the number of members. It is a huge liability for the Town not to have a qualified department and Fire Chief. Need an experienced person in there to keep the members safe, the Town safe, surrounding areas safe and follow the job description. Would like to know more about the department, the training status, certifications, and if any members are interested in the position who are qualified to these standards. If there isn't anyone qualified, we may have to look outside the department. In the meantime, the Assistant Chief could and should step until there is a final decision on a Chief. Silberschlag asked if we currently have an Assistant Chief. Allen Stumpf stated Sergio Olmedo is the Assistant Chief. Silberschlag asked if the Fire Chief is appointed or if they have to apply for the position. Swigart stated that in the past we looked at hiring from the outside, and not a lot of qualified individuals applied. P. Olmedo stated we had one candidate interview and at that time we decided not to hire a full time Chief and went to advancing the Assistant Chief at that time. That was when we brought the volunteers in and asked what they wanted to do. We've done that twice now. Spivey, Jr. asked if the Assistant would be stepping up. P. Olmedo stated it would need to be asked to the Fire Department. Swigart stated it was brought up the last time and the reason we didn't do it was because for Sergio to move into the Fire Chief he would basically be reporting to P. Olmedo. He personally is totally against nepotism and against doing it, so it's something we didn't do even though he was probably the most qualified as it puts both parties in a bad position. Spivey, Jr. questioned which way it was as one paper states Chief answers to Town Manager and other says Chief answers to Town Board. Swigart states that Chief answered to the Town Manager except when the Chief was the Town Manager and feels the Chief should report to the Manager. Rebecca Hansen stated the 87-01 ordinance creating the Fire Department states the Chief reports to the Town Board and there is correspondence including

the NRS stating what the Board has the power to do when it comes to the Fire Department. Spivey, Jr. asked if there were any changes voted in and if not the Chief still reports to the Board. Swigart stated they don't really see the current Fire Chief like the Town Manager does and the Town Manager can better manage the Chief as the Board only meets twice a month. Enzi agreed. Spivey, Jr. looking at what's written it's about if we can get someone local and get them the training like we have in the past. Feels like if they answer to the Board and not just one person, we can avoid problems. If we can't get the most qualified people to take the position because we change who they report to, then leave it at the Board level. Swigart asked when the last time the Fire Chief came to a Board meeting with updates. Spivey, Jr. recalls he came a few times. Swigart asked if we knew about certifications and if they were up to date on SCBA training. Spivey, Jr. responded in his opinion we have a Fire Chief and we just need to ask them to come and present that information and they should present it. Swigart stated there is an accountability factor and how do we know if everyone is trained and knows what to do. Spivey, Jr. commented there should be documentation. Swigart stated we haven't seen the Chief in three months, we don't know. Spivey, Jr. commented the Assistant is here, we can ask him about procedures and training. Enzi asked P. Olmedo how it is going with the Chief reporting to her and if the fire department goes to the Town when they need stuff as far as initial monies go. P. Olmedo stated she manages moneywise for the fire department for operating and really only works with the Fire Department in that aspect. As far as the PSST taxes and government funds, they come before the Board for approval just like the Town's budget. Regarding updates provided by the Chief outside of operating costs, the Manager's office does not receive those updates. As far as handling other updates and training attendance, that is done through the Administrative Supervisor. Enzi asked about the sign in sheets that were provided in past Board meetings. Olmedo responded those were provided by Rebecca. Olmedo stated the Fire Chief position is unique. In calling around to other Towns, they all follow the NRS regarding the Chief. If the Towns do not have a Town Board, the Chief reports to the County Commissioners. Silberschlag asked if they had questions regarding if volunteers had training, they would just have to ask. P. Olmedo responded to ask the Fire Department. Enzi mentioned in past the volunteers came and talked to the Board about what they wanted and asked the volunteers present if they had talked about who they might want to take over the current Chief's position. S. Olmedo gives the history of the fire department. They meet every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. and have training. It is mandatory to go to trainings twice a month. If people don't show up, they get pulled aside and talked to because everyone needs to be ready and we understand sometimes things come up. The department usually carries about 14 people and some are in the probationary period. We ask new people to show up to 3 trainings on their own to be out of the probationary period and then move forward with an interview prior to bringing them onto the roster. We make sure everyone is trained prior to using equipment so no one gets injured. As Assistant Chief I wouldn't put anyone on equipment untrained. We also have yearly SCBA testing done by the state. They have three captains who are working on being better trainers. Asked to consider not to change things from the way are as the team asked him to step up but it is up to the Board. If things change there will be a conflict of interest between the Town Manager, his wife, and him. S. Olmedo went over his background in years of Fire Service, Mine Rescue, ERT. Silberschlag asked how the hierarchy actually works, as was under the impression Chief reported to the Manager. P. Olmedo states that currently the Chief should be reporting to the Board. The Town keeps track of the people on ERT and fire department for the mine program, but that is all. Enzi asked if she went to the fire department if they would say they want S. Olmedo as Chief. S. Olmedo states that they sat down and talked about it and that you can ask the Captain sitting there about it. Stumpf states he personally talked to everyone and an overwhelming majority wants Sergio as Fire Chief. With his training history, fire history, great ideas for the department we'll have a good foundation. Stated they train to a National and State standard and Sergio has a lot to offer in that aspect. Swigart stated if the Board takes on Fire Chief, they want to make sure everyone is trained and would like to see where they are at in training, numbers and documentation. Silberschlag asked if there was a training plan. S. Olmedo and Stumpf states they are working on a new plan for training, they are working on getting everyone on the same page. Hansen requested prior to tabling the items, to comment that looking at the job description stating the Chief reported to the Town Manager, it was created initially when the Town was going outside the department to hire, not a volunteer and if it is something we need to update we can work on that.

Item tabled.

10. Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to appoint a new Interim Fire Chief due to resignation of current Fire Chief, effective on April 30, 2020.

Item tabled

11. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision regarding reporting assignment of Volunteer Fire Chief to A) to remain under Round Mountain Town Board or B) Town Manager.

Item tabled

12. Correspondence, awards, department updates, and announcements

P. Olmedo reviewed the correspondence:

1. Letter from Department of Taxation, Re: Town of Round Mountain Annual Audit Report – Fiscal Year 2020, dtd. 1/25/21.
2. Gmail from Arnold Knightly, Re: COVID-19 vaccinations continue; Updated COVID-19 statistics; Public board meetings this week, rcvd 2/1/21.
3. Tonopah Town Board and Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees meeting agendas for 2/10/21.
4. Tonopah Town Board and Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees meeting agendas for 2/19/21.
5. Division of Minerals Re: Abandoned Mines, dtd. 1/29/21.
6. Agenda Item Request form Hayli Kinzer, rcvd 2.17.21
7. Tonopah Town Board and Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees meeting agendas for 2/24/21.

P. Olmedo states that Emily Hendrickson has been updating the town on 54 Prospect and went to the property owners. The 30 days have passed so the mine is cleaning up the property and is starting to remove and move the fence. They are working with the sheriff's department to get the vehicles removed. Swigart asked about a public auction P. Olmedo states it is up to the mine lawyers. P. Olmedo states that there is a survey on the Town Facebook page for the people to take regarding the outdoors. It is talking about all of the Towns Recreation outdoor areas to get things fixed up. The recreation van has damage due to wind; the door is no longer able to open and the Town is working with the insurance company to get it fixed. P. Olmedo thanked Spivey for completing his open law training and reminded the rest of the Board to complete it. Nye county swapped out engine 2 for a different engine 2, the new engine can hold more water. They also swapped out engine 3's tires to keep up with DOT standards. Public safety sales tax is split up between fire departments and sheriff's office. The town wants to use some of the tax money to do a surveillance system in the fire department. In January during ART the teen centers thermostat wasn't working, it was discovered it was completely out of date and it was changed out. Will be installing an air purification system in the weight room and cardio room to help keep the air clean, as well as upgrade the HVA system. As well as upgrade the HVA system in the community center. The Round Mountain Town Board seat was filled by Sam Faga. The Nye County Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution numbered 2021-03 it is for the local business impacted by COVID-19. The letter is asking the government to lighten the restrictions on Nye County due to the way it is uniquely set up. If that doesn't work, they are going to jump on with other Counties and go that way. Next Town Board Meeting is March 9, 2021. Silberschlag asked if the money for the fire department comes from the fire department or the town. P. Olmedo states it comes from the department the town is just asking the board for the cameras as it was discussed already. The Town staff asked

about it as the Town just upgraded their camera system and the fire department agreed with it. Silberschlag confirms the Town asked the fire department if they wanted to use their PSST on surveillance cameras. P. Olmedo stated the Chief and company was asked, yes.

13. Review and approve invoices for the Town of Round Mountain from February 9, 2021 cancelled meeting

Enzi motioned to approve invoices. Spivey seconded; motion passed 4-0. Invoices approved.

14. Review and approve invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for February 23, 2021

Enzi motioned to approve invoices. Silberschlag seconded; motion passed 4-0. Invoices approved.

15. Budget workshop for fiscal year 2021 – 2022.

P. Olmedo went over the Administrative operating budget, minus the wages. Services and supplies are \$157,750 and Capital Outlay is \$33,000. Enzi asked if the anti-software is for when people use their cards online. Hansen states that are under the third party not us and their site is secure. Silberschlag asked what the cap for the budget is. P. Olmedo states it is roughly \$1.2 million, but normally majority of it isn't spent.

16. General Public Comment (SECOND)

No comment

17. Adjourn meeting

Enzi motioned to adjourn the meeting. Silberschlag seconded; motioned passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.