

## **Tropic Town Council Meeting**

Minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting  
Held January 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Tropic Town Heritage Center

**PRESENT:** Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff **BOARD MEMBERS:** Shilo Richards, Jason Bybee, Travis LeFevre; Mike Burbidge was excused. Marie Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk & Sydney Syrett – Tropic Town Treasurer.

**OTHERS:** Gaia Greenhalgh, Bob R Sudweeks, Dennis Pollock, Dan McClendon, Rob Wolfey, Cary Deccio

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff

**PRAYER:** Jason Bybee

**PLEDGE:** Rob Wolfey

**APPROVAL OF MINTUES:** A motion was made by Jason Bybee to approve the minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting held November 13, 2014. Second by Shilo Richards – Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES:** A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve the minutes of the Dog Ordinance Public Hearing held November 13, 2014. Second by Jason Bybee – Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve the agenda. Second by Travis LeFevre. Motion carried.

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### **THE COMMUNITY**

Garkane Energy: In response to an invitation from Tropic Town, Garkane Energy's CEO Mr. Dan McClendon and Mr. Rob Wolfey were in attendance to discuss tree trimming concerns voiced by residences to the Council. In October 2014, trees throughout Town were trimmed (a clearance of 14ft -15ft) to prevent possible power outages/damages caused by broken tree limbs; as a result many residents were unhappy with a number of items: tree appearance after trimming, debris left behind, and lack of communication/notification. A slide presentation was presented and comments and concerns addressed; Mr. McClendon acknowledged improvement can be made in keeping the public informed and listed a number of ideas being implemented, which included the placement of door hangers, posting flyers, etc., prior to the day of trimming. Mayor Brinkerhoff and Town Council thanked Mr. McClendon and Mr. Wolfey addressing their concerns, as well as their service in providing power to the community.

Travel Council: A meeting was held prior to Christmas, the committee discussed possible venues to host generating more revenue for the Tropic/BV during tourist season; the feedback from the committee was they didn't want anything right now, they're feeling overwhelmed. It was suggested that the Business Association take over tourism planning ~ what is it that Tropic is lacking, brochures/pamphlets, website, etc., conducting a research survey asking for feedback on what activities or services visitors would like have access to.

Continuing, Cary reported that the County would fund 65% of the cost to build a kiosk (\$4,000 - \$5,000) one that is geared more toward tourism than historical. Cary was encouraged to look into a producing a survey, which would give feedback on what is needed, have Tropic as a destination not a stop for the night. Council would also like Cary to move forward applying to the county for funds for these projects.

## **FINANCIAL/WARRANTS**

Review of the November & December's financial activity was presented; a motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve the warrants as reported – Second by Jason Bybee. Motion carried.

Sydney reported the Town's Audit is complete and will be scheduling Hinton Burdick to report findings next month. Also, a request for a \$50 donation was received from Rural Water to place in their education fund. A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve a donation of \$50 to Rural Water's education fund – Second by Jason Bybee. Motion carried.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

No Report

## **CULINARY/SEWER**

Sunrise Engineering: Re-scheduled for February

Since the passing of Greg Richards, his family had been paying full rate; no notification or request was given from the family to place the account on ½ Rate. Sydney explained that the Town cannot cut a check but can credit the account; Council agreed.

Brett prepared a list of the Town's Total water usage for 2013-2014 and amount used per month per minute. Looking at the statistics, Tropic used less water in 2014 than 2013. In 2014 the Town's gpm overall water usage is 71.8 gallons monthly; not using the 200 gpm as contracted.

Sewer Lagoon: Brett reported to Shilo that the BOD testing is complete; the ponds are allowed 112 pounds, Tropic has doubled this adding to the cause of the smell. Travis felt that the Town's engineering firm Jones & DeMille has given false information regarding how much growth Tropic can do before a sewer expansion is needed. Minutes of previous meetings with Jones & DeMille will be pulled and reviewed, invitation will be extended to them to verify information; does the Town have room for expansion and what steps the Council will need to take ~ expand sewer lagoon, create sewer district, etc.

Need to move forward in creating a water committee, Mayor and Council will each choose 2 people from the community to sit on this board; to review minutes of previous committee meetings, discuss rates, etc.

Changes to the ownership of Clarke's business(s) gave cause for the Mayor and Council to review the w/s connections being properly charge to each new owner. One specific was the charge for the laundry mat - \$100 a month is not covering the cost of water used and being deposited in the sewer system.

## **ROADS/STREETS**

Council Member Jason Bybee received a phone call from Slate Stewart asking for closure on a right-of-way on his T-Hill property, possibly doing a land swap; would like this resolved before a prescriptive easement is established. The project was started, but not completed. Marie reported calls have been placed to Les Barker to discuss the Town's ROWs vacating project, and will add the T-Hill project to her list to discuss with Mr. Barker.

Capital Improvement List: Mayor reported a number of projects have been added to this list; a road reconstruction on section of 50 South was listed.

## **PARKS/RECREATION**

No Report

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Travis reported a bid was received on the new fire truck; a number of items had been added. They could save \$16,000 if the total amount was paid up front \* \$392,000.00. Funding for the projects is scheduled for February.

## **EMPLOYEE REPORT**

With the retirement of Raymond Brinkerhoff, the Council hired Mr. Bob R. Sudweeks; will begin working Monday, January 12, 2015. Mr. Sudweeks needs to complete the paperwork for Sydney to process; a number of trainings will need to be scheduled; CDL, Animal Control, etc., also, Raymond has been asked to train Bob on the grader.

Mayor Brinkerhoff and the Town Council have asked that the employee use google calendar as a communication program recording their work days and project. Cell phones are used as another communication device that can access the calendar. Brett and Bob do not want an Iphone, so the Council agreed to take them off the Town's plan and pay \$50 a month toward their personal phones, which is what the Town was paying monthly for full-time employee cell phones.

Discussed the use of the Town's lab top computer for Bob R to used; discussed the current software on it, will need to be re-programmed with Windows 7. Glen at Mountain West Computers comes to Panguitch once a week contact will be made to arrange for the lab top to be picked up and re-programmed.

In regards to the Animal Control Officer, there has been no response from Jackie Slack on using her dog kennel; it was therefore agreed to do it in-house. Information will be researched on licensing/certifying Bob and what requirements are needed as to housing the animals.

Municipal Code Online, a Codification program was contacted and a bid was present to Mayor Brinkerhoff and the Council. This "Online/In House" codification program allows Marie to create/edit document and maintain documents with an online word-processing editor. It was asked that Marie research a couple more services and report findings next meeting. It was also agreed to look into updating the recording system.

## **ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Jason Bybee to adjourn – Second by Travis LeFevre. Motion carried.

Approve this 12<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2015  
Marie H. Niemann