

Tropic Town Council Meeting

Minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting
Held August 14, 2014 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 excused. Marie Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk & Sydney Syrett – Tropic Town Treasurer.

OTHERS: Gaia Greenhalgh, Brett Chynoweth, Raymond Brinkerhoff, Les Barker, Dennis Pollock, and Danny Shakespear.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff

PRAYER: Jason Bybee

PLEDGE: Brett Chynoweth

APPROVAL OF MINTUES: A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve the minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting held July 10, 2014. Second by Jason Bybee. Motion carried.

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

THE COMMUNITY

Revised Dog Ordinance: The draft of the revised dog ordinance was reviewed, contents compiled from three communities: Tropic Town, Panguitch and Escalante cities; all address the same issues. Jackie Slack has also agreed to contract with the town to use her kennel as the pound; need to decide on a late purchase penalty - if left in place, also financial details for Jackie. Travis expressed concerned about enforcement, Officer Pierson is not going to enforce the ordinance “to the letter of the law”; he will enforce “law of the land” – dogs killing sheep, biting, etc. more in the lines of being a nuisance. Travis asked to revisit the ordinance, only including those items that can be and will be enforced. Discussed kennels: # of dogs, where allowed, etc.

Discussion continued with a specific resident and the actions taken to find homes for them. Best Friends has been contacted a number of times without success; it was asked the Marsha Holland be called asking for her assistance in working with her contacts at Best Friends to place these dogs.

It was asked that notification be sent out asking for the community’s input regarding the ordinance; tentatively plan a public meeting prior to September’s town board meeting – possibly adopt.

Cary Deccio: Farmer’s Market is Friday & Saturday – August 15th & 16th; Cary asked for assistance in setting up the canopies, table/chairs, etc.

FINANCIAL/WARRANTS

A review of the Town’s financials were reviewed and discussed. Sydney reported she had added “donation” item to the budget as directed, reporting that in 2012-2013 the Town contribution was \$2,300 and in 2013-2014 was \$1,600; all was found in order. A motion was made by Travis LeFevre to approve the warrants as reported. Second by Jason Bybee – Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Danny Shakespear: A building permit application to build a garage was submitted and reviewed by the planning commission for Danny Shakespear. Paperwork showing setbacks, construction, etc. was all in order; no water or sewer needed, only electrical. A motion was made by Jason Bybee to approve a building permit for Mr. Shakespear – Second by Travis LeFevre – Motion carried.

Riley Roberts: Mr. Roberts was not able to attend, his project to build a gazebo was submitted to the planning commission; setbacks, construction were in order. The project will cost less than \$1,000 – no building permit is required, only approval.

CULINARY/SEWER

The odor from the sewer lagoon as improved greatly, water was pumped into it and the air-rater has helped; Brett replaced a motor on one of the air-raters; a backup motor will be order. Discussed possible causes of the problem; disposing of medications, illegal dumping, etc. Brett expressed the need for expansion; create another primary/secondary, combining the 1st & 2nd cell into one big cell, acquiring more land and keeping the Primary and keeping the secondary cell, etc. Mayor Brinkerhoff expressed creating a sewer district involving Cannonville and Henrieville; it was reported that the towns are interested in this.

Brett will be attending Rural Water conference next week; will have LaMar help Ray read meters. Kathy Shakespeare reported she had her water turned on ½ rate when Darwin passed away; but has continued to pay full rate. Brett verified he had turned it off; Sydney will arrange with Kathy to credit her account.

Spring Creek Redevelopment: Discussed Spring Creek CIB application, meeting is 11th of September. Discussed financing the full project or just Dr. Goode Spring, options of what to accept; a 50% Grant/50 Loan option in not acceptable, Tropic does not have enough revenue to pay 50% loan. Water rates are not where they need to be, way below the State’s average. At some point water rates will need to increase; current charge of \$21 barely covers the cost of the meter, let alone the cost of depreciation, future growth, or repairs.

Continuing, Travis expressed concern with possibly being offered the 50/50, when this project was first discussed there was nothing said about raising rates; we’ve manipulated the public. First inform the residents of the need for the project, how to accomplish it, get their input. Brett responded stating that Tropic has to do this project, if residents want to continue having safe drinking water. Dr. Goode is not producing what is the Town is using, this initiated the discussion of utilizing the Well; either way, rates will need to increase – for the redevelopment or to cover the cost of operating the Well; Dr. Goode would be cheaper. The project and issue is complicated, need to inform and explain to the residents what is happening and needs to happen to correct it.

ROADS/STREETS

Vacating Streets: Country Recorder * Les Barker was in attendance to address a number of undeveloped street and discuss the requirements for vacating them. Two plot maps were displayed Plat “A”; which is not valid and Plat “B” valid. Those areas to be vacated include: Alston Shakespeare, Stan Mecham, 400 West, a portion of 200 West by Jean Seiler; and the road on 100 East can be claimed as a prescriptive easement, being it has been used for more than 10 years. Another area discussed was a section of 200 North & 600 West. Marie reported the section of 200 North and 600 West was vacated in 1999; public hearing held, consent to vacate street by owners, ordinance passed, etc. Les Barker reported he does not have them recorded; Marie will follow up with Mr. Barker and get them recorded.

Another item that is affecting the Town’s roads/streets is the E-911 street addressing system; changes need to be made to those living on Francisco Lane. Notification of address changes will be prepared and sent when those addresses are available.

Maintaining the trash cans on Main Street – Brett will meet with business owners to assist the Town in emptying the trash can(s) near their place of business on Monday mornings; Town will provide the liners. Council discussed potholes being reported in the Bryce Meadows subdivision and repairs to shoulder work by Franz Shakespear. Brett reported the problem lies with field water spraying on the roads, as well as residents allowing water to hit the streets; this is the cause of the erosion. This issue will be address in the newsletter also.

Entrance Signs: Almost completed, little more rock work. Marie reported Susan Garrard told her the metal lettering should be done Friday – August 15th; all looking good.

PARKS/RECREATION

Sod was purchased by Bryce Canyon City; before it can be laid, Town needs to re-do the sprinkling system. Tyson Brinkerhoff purchased a sod cutter and opened the option of buying into it. A motion was made by Travis LeFevre to put funds towards this equipment. Second by Jason Bybee – Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The public hearing to purchase a new fire truck is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Funds were secured from Garfield County of \$100,000.00.

EMPLOYEE REPORT

Raymond announced his retirement; since coming back to work after back surgery there has been some issues with possible damages. Last day is September 1, 2014. An announcement of vacancy, a job description and an employment application will be prepared for review before posting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

N/R

ADJOURN

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

Approved this 11th September 2014
Marie H. Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk