

Tropic Town Council Meeting

Minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting
Held September 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Tropic Town Heritage Center

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

OTHERS: Gaia Greenhalgh, Brett Chynoweth, Bob R Subweeks, Dennis Pollock, Paul Krauth, Terral Dunn, Carson DeMille, Shiloh Syrett, Sandra Francisco, Brook Wiseman, Clay Mortensen, Joshua Brinkerhoff, Caleb Cloud, Jonathan Deccio, Nathaniel Steed, Levi Holm, Scout Holm, Denny Orton, Gary Bybee

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff

PRAYER: Marie Niemann

PLEDGE: Jonathan Deccio

APPROVAL OF MINTUES: A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve the minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting held August 13, 2015 - Second by Jason Bybee. Motion carried.

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

THE COMMUNITY

Tropic Scouts: Scoutmaster Shiloh Syrett and members of the Tropic Scout Troop 679 presented a scout project “12 Months * 12 Eagles” – a new Veterans and Service Member’s Memorial. The proposal included the removal of the existing memorial and place the new memorial on the grounds of the Heritage Center; timeline is one-(1) year; the project will be done in phases, possible overlapping – When the project is finished, twelve-(12) boys will have their Eagle Scout award. Discussed cost and funding; currently there are four-(4) scouts ready to begin phase of the project; an application has been submitted to the Bryce Community Foundation for \$20,000 – this is not a guarantee and asked for start-up fund of \$2,500 from the Town. Mayor Brinkerhoff and Council are in full support of this project, details of location will be worked out. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to appropriate \$2,500 funding the beginning of the project – Second by Travis LeFevre. Motion carried. Anyone wanting to donate to the project may contact Shiloh Syrett.

Denny Orton: As a realtor, Mr. Orton inquired about the sale of water/sewer connections; a property sale fell through due to no water/sewer connection. He reported the property is being cleaned, removal of cars, etc. It was clarified that a water connection is there, but has been inactive for some time, due to none payment; a new connection will need to be purchased. Mayor Brinkerhoff stated that this is a temporary situation; hoping that the report from the State will give information that will guide the Council to allow the purchase of w/s connections.

FINANCIAL/WARRANTS

A report of the Town’s monthly financials were reviewed and discussed ~ Workman’s Comp increased \$500; EMT Dinner is September 18th, as is the past Town will provide the funds for this event. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve the warrants are reported – Second by Travis LeFevre. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Two building permit applications have been reviewed by the planning commission. Plans, setbacks, etc., were found to be in order for a home construction, with basement, for Mr. Gene Anderson; property current has water/sewer connection. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve a building permit for Gene Anderson, Second by Travis LeFevre. Motion carried.

Nathaniel Steed present plans to for the construction of a garage for Mr. Sondossi; all was found to be in order. A motion was made by Jason Bybee to approve this project – Second by Mike Burbidge – Motion carried.

CULINARY/SEWER

Water Quality/Rural Water: In July Paul Krauth and Terral Dunn met with Brett to address sewer lagoon issues; after assessing the situation, it was found the Town was over capacity in the lagoon and they recommended no sewer connections be sold until a study was completed, which will show what the issues are and how they could be resolved. The study is completed and it was found, as it was 22 years ago, the two-(2) main cells are full and need to be cleaned; the process will take time – 1-yr to 18 months to dry out and once dry the sludge can be removed. After much discussion and clarification, Terral reported the 3rd and 4th cell have the capacity to handle current demand, while the 1st & 2nd Cell is cleaned; it was recommended that no further septic tank dumping be permitted until the cleaning project was completed. Mayor Brinkerhoff and the Town Council expressed their appreciation to Paul and Terral for their time spent in resolving the lagoon's issues.

Sewer Study - Jones & DeMille: With the Sewer Survey Study being awarded to Jones & DeMille, Carson approached the Council as to what specifics to address; future growth/capacity, mapping, video lines, rate increases, etc. Mike and Travis felt much of this information was given from Paul and Terral, Jason would like to know how much growth Tropic can support. There was much discussion on the availability of funds; Carson stated there is 100% Grant money for sewer projects. Travis expressed being proactive in increasing w/s rates, current rates are only covering the cost to maintain; need cover depreciation as well. It was reminded that a \$7 rate increase was recommended by the Water Committee; with all the changes/additions it was agreed that a new w/s ordinance was needed. Charges for Commercial Sewer rates were clarified; Brett expressed and supported sewer fees be billed same as water; charge for what is used.

Redevelopment of Spring Creek: Carson reported on the Special Use permit from BCNP, continuing to wait for approval from the Corp of Engineers; hoping to get started in October.

Bryce Canyon Lodging: Finding the status of the lagoon to be operational as reported by Paul and Terral the Council lifted the restriction on the sale of water/sewer connections. Scout was made aware that w/s connection fees will be raised at some point; may be different when they are ready to begin project. Gary Bybee is also interested in purchasing 3-5 w/s connections; but a project has not come to before the board; Gary asked to be on October's Planning Commission agenda. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve 10 water/sewer connections. Second by Travis LeFevre – Motion carried. Mayor and Council agreed that he sale of Water/Sewer connections are to accompany a building project; a person cannot purchase just w/s connections.

ROADS/STREETS

The cost of one-(1) block of cement for curb/gutter was \$5,248.00 and labor was \$6,000. It was reported that Garfield Ready Mix would finance the cost of the sidewalk - \$12,000. Travis expressed concern on how the Council is funding projects; need to look at the project in its entirety before funds are spent. Discussed possibly using funds collected from the road/storm drain fees; Sydney reported there are no sewer funds available. A motion was made by Jason Bybee to use funds from road/storm drain funds and B&C Road funds to finance this project. Second by Mike Burbidge – Motion carried.

PARKS/RECREATION

Painting and repairs for the Heritage Center is \$2,000 with doors \$170. Council discussed possible options and cost of regarding flooring; acid staining, tile, carpeting, etc. A motion to approve funds for painting and door repairs and for Mike to follow up with flooring was made by Travis LeFevre – Second by Jason Bybee. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

No Report

EMPLOYEE REPORT

As requested, Bob R reported the cost of providing tools and needed equipment for apprehending dogs. A draft of the proposed Animal Control Ordinance will be posted on the Town's Website, Facebook, Post office, and available at the Town Offices for review; a copy will also be provided to Officer Pierson. Adoption will take place at the first of the year.

Marie reported there will not be a November 2015 Election – Under Utah Municipal Code 20A-1-206 when the number of municipal candidates does not exceed the number of open offices; the election is cancelled. Notices and a Resolution need to be posted/published 20 days before the election; the Resolution will be prepared for adoption in October's meeting.

ADJOURN

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

Approved this 8th Day of October 2015
Marie H. Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk