

Tropic Town Council Meeting

Minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting
Held April 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Tropic Town Heritage Center

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

OTHERS: Gaia Greenhalgh, Brett Chynoweth, Raymond Brinkerhoff, Dennis Pollock, Laura Pollock, Oakley Pollock, Elizabeth Ahlstrom, Cheryl LeFevre, Elaina LeFevre, Dakota Stevens, Kevin Clarke, Jeanne Shakespeare, Carl & Mary Miller Boyd, and Natalie Pollock.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff

PLEDGE: Cheryl LeFevre

APPROVAL OF MINTUES: A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve the minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting held March 13, 2014. Second by Travis LeFevre * Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve the agenda with the addition of State Jr. Rodeo. Second by Jason Bybee * Motion carried.

THE COMMUNITY

Garkane Energy: Carl Boyd presented a check for \$1,000 to put toward the splash pad at the Town Park. Much appreciation was expressed from Mayor Brinkerhoff and the Town Council; SCC, County Commissioners, and many other donations have been received to fund the water feature.

FCCLA: A number of Bryce Valley High School Students qualified for Nationals in San Antonio Texas. Representing these students, Elizabeth Ahlstrom asked Mayor and Town Council for a financial donation to help fund the cost. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve a donation of \$250, Second by Travis LeFevre; Motion carried.

State Jr. Rodeo Finals: Hosting the State Jr. Rodeo Finals will be held in Heber City in May. Two of the events are not acknowledged as the others; funds are needed to help purchase 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place prizes in these two events. A motion was made to donate \$50 to each event by Jason Bybee, Second by Mike Burbidge. Motion carried.

BV Alumni Sports: A number of community activities have received sponsorship from the Town as to be able to use the high school and elementary school for practice. Kevin Clark, with a number of BV Alumni, would also like Tropic to support them. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to sponsor the BV Alumni basketball. Second by Travis LeFevre; Motion carried. These sponsorships are renewed annually; notification will be sent to each group Town sponsored group.

FINANCIAL/WARRANTS

A review of the warrants was provided by Sydney Syrett. A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve the warrants – Second by Mike Burbidge. Motion carried.

Adoption of the Amended Budget: A motion was made by Travis LeFevre to adopt the Amended 2013/2014 Tropic Town Budget – Second by Mike Burbidge. Motion carried.

Town employees Gaia Greenhalgh and Raymond Brinkerhoff are not eligible for the employee IRA program set up in 2013; Mayor Brinkerhoff discussed with the Council another possibility of contributing \$25 benefit for them; possible options: \$12.50 each pay period or lump sum at the end of the calendar year. A motion was made Shilo Richards to contribute \$25 a month to Gaia Greenhalgh and Raymond Brinkerhoff ; to be paid in December. Second by Mike Burbidge – Motion carried.

Half Marathon: Two Hundred & Fifty (\$250) will be given to the ½ marathon, same as in previous years.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Unauthorized Building: A construction project has been reported as not having a building permit; rumors or here say of a home becoming a part of a local motel business. Upon further investigation, the repairs and remodel of a home is for personal use. Call was made to the building inspector’s office, in which a letter outlining the State’s International Building Code (IBC) was received. It states “a building permit must be issued for every commercial project no matter its scope or size. This applies to construction, alteration, relocation, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, maintenance, removal, or demolition”. Council cannot issue a “Stop Work” notice on speculation. Mike questioned the use of Annette Chynoweth new business license, will she need a building permit due to it went from family dwelling to commercial family retreat business; Marie will follow up.

Council Member Mike Burbidge reported a project is being discussed in the Shakespear family to restore the family’s home and granary. Nothing has come before the planning commission.

CULINARY/SEWER

No Report

ROADS/STREETS

Entrance Signs: A number of locations have been discussed as to where the entrance signs could be placed; Jason has reviewed with UDOT the purposed sites, taken measurements and has found the two sites meeting the needed requirements. Susan and James Gerard question the size of the north entrance location; not big enough and proposed another location by a power pole. Mayor Brinkerhoff and Council have approved and permits are being processed, moving to new location will lead to getting private property owners to sign off.

Along with the location issue, another proposal on the look and design of the sign was presented; a Hoo Doo was added costing more money. Mayor and Council voted and agreed to the original design of Escalante Mountain; this is already budgeted. An itemized cost of the project has not been received; it was agreed to leave the design and locations as originally agreed and voted on. Volunteers, skills, and talents of local residents are needed to accomplish the project and assist in James receiving his Eagle Scout. Notification will be placed on the Town’s Webpage and Facebook page.

Vacating Right-of-Ways: There are a number of road right-of-ways in town needing to be vacated. A work meeting with Les Barker - County Recorder will be scheduled to review and begin the process.

Sidewalks: Donations for the sidewalk project need to be used; need to address the road erosion by Eric Syrett and Kerry Alvey properties. Travis LeFevre expressed the problems the dips crossing the intersections are causing, too deep; need to correct this and not make future gutters as profound.

PARK/RECREATION

Construction on the splash pad is beginning; County needs letter/statement requesting the \$11,000 they agreed to give toward the project.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

In response to a wild land fire at the junction of Hwy 12 and Hwy 89, Tropic Fire and 20 other fire trucks responded to the call. Discussed new fire truck; it is listed as a priority on the FCAG one-year plan.

EMPLOYEE REPORT

Brett expressed concern for the Town and the local ranchers regarding the faceoff with the BLM and grazing rights currently happening in Clarke County Nevada; will soon be affecting the community and ranchers in southern Utah. This led into the use of winter water not being collected; discussed what options are available for the Town in regards to collecting, storing and use of this water. Having a plan in place will make it difficult for the BLM or any organization to file on this water.

The discussion opened up possible recreation opportunities for the area. Mike reported on a meeting held in Escalante regarding the availability of State funds for development for rural Utah. It was recommended by Travis that a committee be organized to discuss and strategize possible recreation development using this water.

MAYOR'S REPORT

As warmer weather is approaching and with Raymond being on medical leave, Brett is in need of help until Raymond returns sometime in May; LaMar Feltner is willing to assist Brett when needed. A motion was made by Shilo Richards to approve hiring LaMar Feltner on projects Brett needs help on. Second by Mike Burbidge – Motion carried.

Heritage Center – Officer Pierson has been certified as part of the K-9 Unit and asked the Council for permission to use the Heritage Center afterhours training his dog. A motion was made by Mike Burbidge to approve Officer Pierson the use of the HC for training purposes. Second by Shilo Richards – Motion carried.

ADJOURN

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

Approved this 8th Day of May 2014
Marie H. Niemann