

Tropic Town Council Meeting

Minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting
Held Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Tropic Town Heritage Center
Video Conferencing “Zoom”

PRESENT: Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff **BOARD MEMBERS:** Lisa Johnson, Gene Anderson, Marie Pollock and Michael Ahlstrom. Marie Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk & Dayne Shakespear – Tropic Town Treasurer.

OTHERS: Travis LeFevre, Todd & Linda Niemann, Joey Shakespeare

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff

PRAYER: Michael Ahlstrom

PLEDGE: Lisa Johnson

VISION STATEMENT: Marie Pollock

APPROVAL OF MINTUES: A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to approve the minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting held February 20, 2020. Second by Lisa Johnson. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to approve the agenda. Second by Lisa Johnson. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

THE COMMUNITY

Community Food Bank: Council Member Gene Anderson has arranged for the Utah Food Bank to begin providing services once a month for the Bryce Valley and surrounding communities; the first delivery will be on Thursday, April 16 at the Heritage Center parking lot from 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m. with boxes of prepackaged produce, packaged and frozen items will be available.

Electronic Meeting Resolution: Due the current COVID-19 pandemic and for potential emergency situations, an executive order relaxing some of the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act was issued to allow for more electronic meetings, when circumstances may require. Sample resolutions were received from other municipalities making a draft for the Council’s review. Mayor asked that David Church be contacted for a sample from the ULCT; will review and adopt in May.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Travis LeFevre: The planning commission reviewed a building permit for a porch addition to an existing home; all was found to be in order and recommended it to the Council for approval. A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to approve a building permit. Second by Lisa Johnson. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

Todd & Linda Niemann: Application for a Bed & Breakfast business license was reviewed, recommending approval to the Council contingent that verification was received from Sharon Kay that she was contacted regarding the operation of a B&B.

Marie reported she spoke with Sharon and acknowledges it, but was not willing to sign the form. A motion was made by Gene Anderson to approve a B&B business license. Second by Mike Ahlstrom. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

Joey Shakespeare: The recent sell of the Bryce Canyon Livery B&B did not include the “Family Suite”; which Mr. Shakespeare would like to use as a nightly rental, but it cannot be used as a “Vacation Rental”. The option to use it as a B&B was discussed, which proposes a couple of concerns. One concern is there are two single-family dwellings on two separate parcels of property and the definition of “premises” in the B&B ordinance is being interpreted differently. After much discussion and verification with the County Recorder’s office, the Commission recommends the application for approval contingent that there was a property line adjustment made combining both properties and recorded at the County in Joey’s name.

Following up with County Recorder Les Barker, it was reported the property line adjustment, making the two parcels one has been done and recorded in Joey’s name. As to the issue regarding the “premises” definition, the Planning Commission asked that a more detailed requirement in regards to the owners/mangers living onsite within the B&B establishment be made. Marie reported an amendment has been drafted, but due to the current regulations of public meetings a Commission meeting was not held and it has not been reviewed and recommended to the Council for approval; hoping to have it reviewed in May and ready for the Council’s approval.

FINANCIAL WARRANTS

Review of the Town’s financial activity was previously sent out to each department heads and reviewed; all was found to be in order. A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to approve the warrants – Second by Gene Anderson Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

CULINARY/SEWER

Jones and DeMille are prepared to begin advertising the sewer lagoon project; bids will be accepted April 17th through May 14th, 2020.

Brett reported a meter will be installed at spring creek to measure gallonage, assisting Sunrise Engineering in the Towns’ culinary water usage.

ROADS/STREETS

Main Street Banners: The Garfield County Tourism Co-op Marketing Funding was received. Working with Design West, the “Mule Days” is finished and ready to be displayed; hoping the event is not cancelled due to COVID-19. In reviewing other designs for the Welcome and Founder’s Day banners, Council Member Marie Pollock proposed combining the two; a sample of the proposed banner was reviewed and approved.

In preparation of road repairs, Mayor Brinkerhoff and Council Member Gene Anderson will inventory Town streets.

PARK/SCOUT HOUSE

Placement of “Town Park” signage was discussed; the current location along Main Street is not visible to travelers. It was agreed to place them on the East side of Main Street rather on the West side – being there is less signage congestion.

Restoration of the scout house is moving forward. A grant of \$25,000 was received from the Utah Heritage Highway 89 Alliance. Kelly and Dayne Shakespear are spearheading the committee as well as doing the renovations. Part of the project will include re-landscaping and better location of the sprinkling system, keeping the water away from the building.

HERITAGE CENTER

Bids are continuing to be sought to enclose the office area; changes in cleaning facility is going well.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Com Net has reached out to the Town asking for approval to extend an existing 50ft tower to 70ft; an additional 20 feet. Mayor Brinkerhoff and the Council expressed concerns; reporting many in the community were not happy with the Verizon Tower that was installed.

Comment asking about the status of a Fire District was made; no update was available. Council member Marie Pollock, Liaison for the fire department, is not aware of the proposal to create a fire district, which would be funded by taxes and have a separate committee, much like the cemetery district. Marie Pollock will follow up with Fire Chief Ron Harris.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Discussed a few lingering cases of dogs running at large; Council felt the enforcement of the dog ordinance and penalties have contributed to the fewer dogs being seen in Town.

EMPLOYEE REPORT

N/R

MAYOR'S REPORT

N/R

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Gene Anderson to adjourn – Second by Marie Pollock. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

Approved this 14th day of May 2020
Marie H Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk