

Tropic Town Council Meeting

Minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting
Held September 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Tropic Town Heritage Center

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

OTHERS: Mavis Strebel, Kent Johnson, LaRee Bybee, Lacey Jensen, BV Student Council, Megan Brinkerhoff, David Robert, Levi Holm and Danny Shakespear.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor WaLon Brinkerhoff

PRAYER: Michael Ahlstrom

PLEDGE: Elaina Purcell

VISION STATEMENT: LaRee Bybee

APPROVAL OF MINTUES: A motion was made by Marie Pollock to approve the minutes of the Tropic Town Board Meeting held August 13, 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 Marie Pollock. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.

THE COMMUNITY

Mavis Strebel has experienced low water pressure at her home located on 405 East Bryce Way. Mayor and Council explained the fluctuation in pressure was due to the construction of the new sewer lagoon; accessing water from the fire hydrant for dust control. Danny Shakespear expressed frustration, asking if something could be done to alleviate the use of the fire hydrant. Mayor and Council will follow up with Brett as well as the contractors.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Business License: Levi Holm purchased the home of Kevin and Kay Shakespear, located at 41 West Bryce Way and submitted a business license application for a vacation rental. Planning Commission has reviewed the application and upon confirmation of passing a building inspection and acknowledgment from neighbors the application was recommended to the Town Council for approval.

In reviewing the application, Mayor Brinkerhoff reported changes to acquiring a business license are being made and will be implemented this next year; proper use of business, confirmation of paid taxes, etc. Mayor and Council addressed the incident that occurred at the Bryce Canyon Livery B&B; that it was misused and cause concern for neighbors. Levi stated it was a family reunion; questioning the shutdown of his family’s business if a family reunion was held. Responding, Mayor Brinkerhoff and Council expressed the 100 plus family members violated the B&B ordinance, as well as the noise, traffic, parking and zoning issues. Gene reminded Levi that a business license is a conditional use and will be revoked. Mayor and Council gave the second warning for the misuse of a business; the 1st warning was given the night of the incident.

Discussion continued addressing the issue of delinquent water/sewer payments; monthly statements are ignored. A certified letter was sent giving notification of a shut-off if payment wasn't received. Levi reported he never received a letter and stated the B&B is Landon's name. Upon clarification of who manages which business, a re-vote was taken and a copy of the letter was given to Levi asking him to forward it to Landon. The motion was made by Gene Anderson to approve a vacation rental business license for Levi Holm – Second by Mike Ahlstrom - Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained.

Storage Shed: Damon & Megan Brinkerhoff submitted a building permit application for a 10 x 20 storage shed; no water/sewer, but will be installing electricity eventually, which will require an inspection. A plot map was not available at planning commission meeting, but the Commission would be willing to review the plot map prior to town board if they wanted to have it approved in September. It was reported that Travis, Kent and Dennis had reviewed the plot plan and found everything to be in compliance. A motion was made by Gene Anderson to approve the placement of a pre-built shed – Second by Mike Ahlstrom. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained.

EMPLOYEE REPORT

Mayor Brinkerhoff and Town Council reviewed the Town's Employee Goal listing and their progress. Town Clerk Marie Niemann reported due to Covid-19 the Utah Business Association & Certified Municipal Clerk conferences were delayed, hoping to complete the needed credits to complete her certification in 2021; State Records Certification is completed and renewed yearly. Deadlines for agendas/minutes/notices, etc. to be reviewed, approved and posted has been met. Marie has also been working with Council member Marie Pollock and Lisa Johnson on community events, reporting on the Fall/Halloween activity being planned with the PTA.

Elaina LeFevre Purcell was recently hired to replace Dayne Shakespear as the Town Treasurer. Elaina discussed with the Council methods she would like to implement for tracking/ reporting work-flows and archiving files.

Follow up will be made with Brett, who was not in attendance. Kent Johnson was hired part-time to assist Brett with miscellaneous jobs when needed; Kent will also be assigned animal control.

ANIMAL CONTROL

There have been a couple dog issues; the killing of a goat and turkey was reported.

FINANCIAL/WARRANTS

Copies of the town financial activities were previously emailed to Mayor Brinkerhoff and each Council member to review. Council found all to be in order. A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to approve the warrants – Second by Lisa Johnson. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained.

CULINARY/SEWER

There are a number of residents that question the accuracy of the Town's water meters and utility billing. Elaina reported those concerned had their meters re-read and a review of billing entries, everything was in check. Buffalo Sage B&B discovered the cause of their overage in one of their guest bathrooms and has been shut off. It has been the practice of the Town to adjust a water bill when the leak has been resolved. A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to reduce the water overage charge by 50% and allowing them to make payments * Second by Marie Pollock. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained.

Other meter readings being debated are Clint Pierson and Danny Shakespear; both deny using water and have requested new meters. It was reported that their previous month reading and the following month reading were both normal. Danny requested a 6-year reading history, which Elaina will follow up with; noting his reoccurring overages happen in July. The motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to replace their meters and to adjust Clint Pierson's water overage of 50%. Second by Marie Pollock - Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained.

ROADS/STREETS

Arrangements have been made to use the Garfield County Inmates for Main Street cleaning; they've schedule Tuesday, September 15th. Council discussed the shoulder road damage located on 300 East during the foundation work of the McDowell modular home. It was asked that repairs be made using cold mix.

Mayor Brinkerhoff will follow up with Brett to place speed limit signs need to be posted on 1250 North and on 900 North.

PARKS/RECREATION

Trees need to be trimmed at the baseball field/complex.

HERITAGE CENTER

Discussion commenced with Lisa questioning the purchase of wall carpet, rugs and storage closet; it was understood the carpeting & rugs were ordered and was to be picked up. Also discussed, the storage closet to hold the tables/chairs and keep the upper level closed off when the conference center is in use. Fencing for the heritage center is another item needing to be finished; it's been an uncompleted project for many years – discussed using vinyl rather than wood. Elaina will follow up with Dayne on the status of the carpeting/rugs along with the fencing project he and Kelly were to finish; she will also follow up with Travis LeFevre on the storage closet.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fireman/EMT Dinner: The annual fire/EMT dinner will be held on September 22 at 6:30 at Bryce Canyon City fire house. A motion was made by Marie Pollock to support their annual dinner, splitting the cost with Bryce Canyon City – Second by Mike Ahlstrom - Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained. The Mayor and Council are also welcome to attend.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No Report

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mike Ahlstrom to adjourn – Second by Lisa Johnson. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting "aye". Mayor abstained.

Approved this 8th day of October 2020
Marie H Niemann – Tropic Town Clerk