

TONOPAH TOWN BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2016
Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Town Board Chairman Duane Downing called the meeting to order on November 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Tom Seley, Clerk Janet Hatch, and Board Members Don Kaminski and Jerry Elliston. Eleven others were in attendance. Chairman Downing led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town Board recessed to the Library Board of Trustees at 7:18 p.m. and reconvened as the Town Board at 7:26 p.m.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held October 12, 2016.

This item was tabled.

3. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the public workshop held October 14, 2016.

This item was tabled.

4. Presentation of "Outstanding Citizen Award" certificate and plaque to Dianne and Eugene Ryals.

This item was tabled.

5. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve Underground Explorers to explore, map, assess conditions, and photograph/video tunnels and artifacts located at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns explained that once the Town published the agenda along with the proposal from Underground Explorers, the Town received letters and e-mails from The Nevada Division of Minerals and the Department of Wildlife voicing their concerns about this proposal (see backup). Based on these letters, Underground Explorers decided not to attend the meeting to give their presentation.

Teri Slatauski of the Department of Wildlife stated that the Department had some serious concerns about visitors wanting to get into the tunnels, safety aspects and the safety of the bats at the Mining Park as they are very sensitive to disturbances. She added that there is a fungus that is killing bats along the east coast that could easily be brought into the tunnels on shoes and equipment. If the bat population dies, the number of insects will increase.

Tonopah resident Dirk Pearson stressed that he has seen a bat infected with the fungus and believes that the bat population has already decreased.

Tonopah resident Ed Tomany explained that he had been contacted by Mining Park staff about this matter. He stated that he has been in the tunnels many times and that he worked in the mining field for decades. He added that he has been involved with these issues before and that the reality is that the Board would give the group permission to do whatever they want to do. He emphasized that the tunnels are in very poor condition and pose a tremendous risk for anybody that may enter. He recommended the Board not allow anybody to enter the tunnels. Mr. Tomany stressed that it is very dangerous to enter the tunnels. He told the Board about a rescue mission he was on in the 80's when two people had gotten lost in the tunnels and they had to search for the one for almost two days before they found him. Mr. Tomany pointed out that if a team entered the tunnels with the Board's permission and got lost, rescuers would have to risk their lives when trying to rescue the person. Board member Jerry Elliston stressed that it is not an easy task to rescue someone from a mine shaft. Ed Tomany added that it is very expensive. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley noted that he believes there is already enough mapping on file for it to not be necessary to map the tunnels. Ed Tomany agreed.

Chairman Duane Downing stated that he cannot allow somebody to risk their life entering the mine shafts and tunnels as he does not see the benefit of it.

This item died for lack of motion.

6. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve a resolution of the Tonopah Town Board exempting residents within the Tonopah Taxing District who live within the district, but outside of a three (3) mile radius of the original courthouse located at the center of town, from Nye County Code 22.32.310 (J), as of November 30, 2016.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns stated that staff prepared the resolution to accommodate Tonopah resident Dirk Pearson who had asked at a previous Board meeting that the radius of four (4) miles be lowered so that his property would be exempt from the ordinance as well. She explained that staff changed the resolution to exempt everyone in a three (3) mile radius. Chairman Duane Downing stressed that this will not only benefit Mr. Pearson, but other property owners. He added that this will also put the resolution in line with another resolution (discharge of firearms) that is based on a three (3) mile radius.

Tonopah resident Dirk Pearson distributed maps to the Board members (see backup) showing his property and a 2.5-mile radius. Mr. Pearson stressed that his property is located about 2.9 miles from the old courthouse at the center of Town. He asked the Board to change the radius to 2.9 miles.

Duane Downing emphasized that he believes it is best for the Board to have the resolutions have the same radius. He pointed out that 98% of Mr. Pearson's property would be exempt even with the 3-mile radius. He noted that he thinks it is a reasonable accommodation. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley agreed.

Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski stated that she supports the opinion of Chairman Downing. She noted that she used to serve on the Board and believes it makes sense to have the same radius for the resolutions. She emphasized that the Board does not want to set precedence. Ms. Kaminski pointed out that other regulations supersede the Town Ordinance anyway.

Don Kaminski motioned to approve a resolution of the Tonopah Town Board exempting residents within the Tonopah Taxing District who live within the district, but outside of a three (3) mile radius of the original courthouse located at the center of town, from Nye County Code 22.32.310 (J), as of November 30, 2016. Tom Seley seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Discussion, deliberation and possible approval of agreement for legal representation to assist with updating the Nye County Code 22.28- Tonopah Water and Sewer Regulations.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns pointed out that the agreement was part of the backup. She explained that Attorney Steven Gross has helped Tonopah Public Utilities (TPU) in the past, especially in relation to West Kirkland Mining. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley noted that Mr. Gross was very cost-effective. Ms. Mulkerns stressed that TPU needs a legal opinion to ensure they are doing everything they are supposed to do. Chairman Duane Downing noted that getting legal counsel was cleared with the District Attorney's office (DA).

Tom Seley motioned to approve an agreement for legal representation to assist with updating the Nye County Code 22.28- Tonopah Water and Sewer Regulations with Porter Simon for up to \$10,000.00. Jerry Elliston seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to set the date, time and place for a public workshop to discuss and review proposed changes, additions and deletions to Nye County Code 22.28 Tonopah Water and Sewer Regulations.

Chris Mulkerns noted that the Board and staff need to have a workshop to discuss all possible changes. She suggested Thursday November 17, 2016 starting at 2:30 or 3:00 p.m. Chairman Duane Downing asked the other Board members whether that afternoon would fit their schedules. Board member Don Kaminski noted that he will not be in Town. The other Board members stated that November 17 would work for them. Tom Seley asked whether Attorney Steven Gross will be available by phone which Ms. Mulkerns confirmed.

Don Kaminski motioned to set the date, time and place to November 17, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the Tonopah Convention Center for a public workshop to discuss and review proposed changes, additions and deletions to Nye County Code 22.28 Tonopah Water and Sewer Regulations. Tom Seley seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Department Budget Reports

Tom Seley noted that he likes to see the amount of Mining Park donations and that he hopes these collections continue.

10. Town Board Member's/Department Manager's/Nye County Commissioner's Comments

Board members Jerry Elliston noted that he attended the Fire Department business meeting. He stated that it was interesting, very well organized and very well attended. Mr. Elliston summarized the meeting for the other Board members. He stressed that they communicate well and are doing a fantastic job. He pointed out that he does not see a

need for the Board to appoint a liaison to attend the meetings as they would communicate any needs or concerns with the Town.

Board member Don Kaminski stated that he and Mr. Elliston attended the Northern Nye County Hospital District workshop the previous Monday. He said that it was a very good experience and that he is very confident with the District Board members. Jerry Elliston added that the District's consultant is very knowledgeable. District Board member Roni Link noted that she is very pleased with the diversity of the Board members.

Clerk Janet Hatch explained that she attended the Nye County Nutrition Board of Trustees meeting in the morning. She noted that they were discussing how to save the senior centers in Beatty and Amargosa Valley. She pointed out that Nye County is receiving more compensation than any other county for congregate and homebound meals from the Division of Aging. Ms. Hatch stressed that it was voted to increase the grant funds that will go to Beatty as they are in bad shape. She added that the Tonopah Senior Center is in good shape as it has community and Town Board support, very generous donors and an active council.

Chairman Duane Downing congratulated Don Kaminski, Roni Link and Mike Sain for getting voted into the Town Board. He stressed that he is sorry to see Board members Tom Seley and Janet Hatch leaving. He thanked them for everything they've done. He asked when the next Open Meeting Law training will be held. Chris Mulkerns stated that it will take place in January of 2017.

Utility Manager Joe Westerlund stated that the security system at the New Firehouse was installed. The only thing missing is getting the feed to the office. He added that the combination for the door was changed. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley inquired whether the combination will be changed every time a member leaves. Chris Mulkerns explained that staff talked to Nye County staff about this matter and it will be taken care of.

Vice-Chairman Tom Seley noted that he heard that Tesla Motors announced that new models will have 1,000 miles for free. Chairman Duane Downing stated that he has talked to a lot of car owners who are charging their cars at the charging stations in Town. He pointed out that most models have free charging included but they cost \$140,000.00. the top tier models come with a lifetime of free charging. Mr. Downing emphasized that it was a great decision to have the charging stations in Tonopah as it is a win-win situation for everyone. Board member Don Kaminski added that once the tourist information kiosk is installed, the Town will benefit even more. Chairman Downing emphasized that the video surveillance system will give everybody peace of mind. Tonopah resident asked whether the blueprints for the kiosk were available yet. Utility Manager Joe Westerlund clarified that the Town wanted to get parking taken care of first and to have the infrastructure ready. Chris Mulkerns added that staff knows which kiosk to get, but is still comparing different buildings and vendors.

Utility Manager Joe Westerlund stated that a new generator was purchased for the Fire Department.

Mr. Westerlund explained that the remodeling of the Old Firehouse is continuing and coming along well.

Mr. Westerlund noted that volunteers at the rodeo grounds sign up to use Town equipment to drag the arena. He explained that this sometimes posed a problem as the equipment was needed elsewhere. He stated that the Town will order a drag that can be hooked up to a truck. Only volunteers will have access to it. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley stressed that he likes this solution.

Joe Westerlund said that staff looked into ordering playground equipment as the Board budgeted \$100,000.00 for the current fiscal year. He clarified that they found a company called "Game time" that gives 100% match in grant funds if one purchases so much equipment. Staff found two pieces of equipment for Joe Friel Sports Complex and Harvey Park. He noted that even though the old equipment is still in good shape, it is time for a change. He stressed that two swing sets will be left at Joe Friel and a 60' x 65' set will be installed with multiple slides etc. The equipment at Harvey Park will be replaced with a 56' x 28' piece. He stressed that there are over 60 functions on the set. Chris Mulkerns pointed out that the smaller set will hold up to 65 children and the larger one up to 95 children at one time. Chairman Duane Downing asked whether the Town can afford both sets with the budgeted amount. Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns clarified that if the Town spends \$75,000.00, it is eligible for the 100% match. The smaller set costs about \$45,000.00 and the larger set about \$95,000.00. She stressed that it will cost about \$20,000 to have the equipment installed. Chairman Downing suggested finding out whether this is an annual offer that the Town can use to replace all equipment in all parks. Joe Westerlund stressed that he hopes that Town can replace all equipment the following fiscal year so that the Town can shift its focus on other projects.

Board member Jerry Elliston asked whether the brush in the Sierra Vista area was taken care of. Joe Westerlund stated that the prison crew removed most of it and needs about another week to finish. Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski pointed out that there is a problem with snakes in that area. Joe Westerlund pointed out that this is Nye County property and the Town is asking the crew to clean their area.

Joe Westerlund pointed out that Shari Bombard is organizing the Sant Crawl to be held on December 10 from 3 to 6 p.m. Chris Mulkerns added that Ms. Bombard is also hosting an Adult Dinner and a Movie at the Mining Park on December 3 at 6:30 p.m. showing "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation". She noted that the ticket costs \$5.00 and gets you a 10% discount at most of the local restaurants. Ms. Mulkerns said that the next Kids Movie Night will be December 2 and the movie will be "The Polar Express". The movie starts at 6:00 p.m. and tickets are \$5.00.

Chris Mulkerns stated that she and Joe Westerlund will have a conference call with the Community Foundation of Western Nevada on November 18, 2016 at 2 p.m. to discuss the possibility of having a scholarship.

Ms. Mulkerns noted that she and Joe Westerlund will be attending the NACO (National Association of Counties) Conference November 15-17, 2016 in Pahrump. Joe Westerlund stated that this will be a good opportunity to get new contacts.

11. Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with Town's Management Representative regarding labor negotiation issues, and other personnel issues.

No action taken by the Board.

12. Closed meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with Town's Management Representative regarding labor negotiation issues, and other personnel issues.

No action taken by the Board.

13. Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on labor negotiations, issues and other personnel matters presented in the closed meeting.

No action taken by the Board.

14. Correspondence

Nye County BOCC Summary, November 1, 2016

Northern Nye County Hospital District Board of Trustees Workshop Agenda, November 7, 2016

NyE Communities Coalition Newsletter, November 2016

Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Agenda, November 8, 2016

Beatty Town Advisory Board Meeting Agenda, November 14, 2016

Nye County BOCC Meeting Agenda, November 14, 2016

Community Foundation of Western Nevada Statement, September 30, 2016

Convention Center Report, October 2016

15. Approval of vouchers for payment

The Board reviewed and signed the vouchers. Tom Seley motioned to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

16. Public Comment

Tonopah resident Roni Link noted that she volunteered at the Flu Shot Clinic a while ago and also participated in an EMR course a few months ago. She pointed out that over 60 people received the vaccination. She stressed that there will be an EMT course held at the end of November. She asked how the Town can help advertise this course. Chairman Duane Downing emphasized that this was already discussed. Chris Mulkerns added that it will be posted on the website, the Facebook page and on the reader board.

Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski stated that she is a member of the Museum Board and that the budget was finally released to the Tonopah and Pahrump museum. She explained that the budget is normally split 50/50 between the two museums. Pahrump will be receiving \$44,500.00 and Tonopah will be receiving \$45,000.00. She emphasized that this will only cover about half of the cost of the museum. Ms. Kaminski stressed that the museum might have to close. She noted that she will contact the comptroller to find out

how much tax was generated. Chairman Downing stated that if more than \$89,500.00 was generated through the tax, Ms. Kaminski needs to find out where the rest of the money went. Ms. Kaminski questioned what will happen if the museum has to shut down or can only be open a few days a week.

17. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Kat Galli, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:



Duane Downing, Chairman

Tom Seley, Vice-Chairman



Janet Hatch, Clerk

Don Kaminski, Member



Jerry Elliston, Member

TONOPAH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2016
Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Library Board of Trustees Chairman Tom Seley called the meeting to order on November 9, 2016 at 7:18 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Janet Hatch, Clerk Duane Downing and Board members Don Kaminski and Jerry Elliston. Eleven others were in attendance.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held October 12, 2016.

This item was tabled.

3. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to approve Library Maintenance Job Description.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns stated that there has not been a job description for this position on the Library side, but that this position has been in the budget for a few years. She stressed that staff feels like it is needed to have a Library Maintenance position. This position will be part-time for around 10 hours a week.

Duane Downing motioned to approve the Library Maintenance Job Description. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Library Budget Report

No questions or comments.

5. Library Board Member's/Department Manager's Comments

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns stated that the Historical Library is beautiful and the first meeting was already held there. She noted that staff had deliberated about holding a Board meeting at this location. The Board members agreed. She added that the Board needs to make a decision about the rental fees for the building during a future meeting.

Don Kaminski noted that he had talked to Acting Librarian Dianne Ryals who mentioned that the Astronomy Club wanted to donate a telescope to the Library. He explained that this could be connected to the screen in the Historical Library for kids to watch as part of a "star party". He added that Ms. Ryals will contact Clair Blackburn about this matter.

Tonopah resident Dirk Pearson mentioned that there are glasses one can use to see the stars in the middle of Town as these glasses take out the light from the streetlights.

Chairman Tom Seley stressed that the Historical Library looks very good. He noted that he is sad Ms. Ryals and her husband could not attend the meeting as they deserve praise for their volunteerism.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Approval of vouchers for payment

The Board reviewed and signed the vouchers. Duane Downing motioned to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.


8. Public Comment

None.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Kat Galli, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:

Tom Seley, Chairman

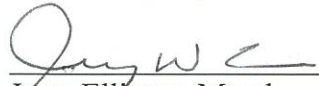


Janet Hatch, Vice-Chairman



Duane Downing, Clerk

Don Kaminski, Member



Jerry Elliston, Member