

TONOPAH TOWN BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 12, 2011

Tonopah Town Board Chairman Jon Zane called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Also present were Horace Carlyle, Javier Gonzalez, Glenn Hatch, and Duane Downing. There were ten other people in attendance.

1. Review and Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting Held on September 14, 2011.

Horace Carlyle made a motion to approve the summary from regular meeting held on September 14, 2011. Glenn Hatch seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1 (Duane Downing abstained).

Review and Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting Held on September 28, 2011.

Horace Carlyle made a motion to approve the minutes, in context, from regular meeting held on September 28, 2011. Glenn Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0-2 (Jon Zane and Javier Gonzales abstained).

2. Approval of 5/8ths of 1% Room Tax Grant funds to advertise and promote the Rotary Club of Tonopah's International Fundraiser.

Cindy Kaminski explained that the request is for \$1,000. The funds will go towards advertising the fundraiser. Dinner will be served, which the Elks will cater. There will be a comedian/magician and there will be areas with displays explaining what the Rotary does. She noted that this year Rotary is sending two incoming high school seniors to a weeklong leadership academy camp. Rotary also has international projects where they help a school in Ghana and a hospital in Mali.

Horace Carlyle made a motion to approve the 5/8ths of 1% Room Tax Grant funds to advertise and promote the Rotary Club of Tonopah's International Fundraiser dinner to be held on November 5, 2011 in the amount of \$1,000. Duane Downing seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to enter into a maintenance agreement with YESCO for the electronic reader board.

James Eason explained that he met with YESCO three weeks ago. Jon Zane noted that the proposals mention that YESCO will come up once a month to look at the board. He asked what was included in that. James Eason explained that the proposal for \$275.00 lists what is covered. The proposal for \$195.00 is just a basic proposal where they look at the sign and let the Town know what is wrong. He feels that the \$275.00 proposal is the better option. He explained that the work that has been done on the sign to date averages about \$200.00 per month. Duane

Downing explained that with the \$195.00 proposal, there is the monthly fee plus what it costs to fix the sign.

James Eason explained that there is still fluctuating power at the board. There is brand new wiring all the way from the transformer to the sign so this is an NV Energy issue.

Jon Zane asked about the travel. James Eason explained that travel is included in the proposals. He noted that the board is getting older and the Town will have to eventually replace the LED lights and replace the ballast. If the Town had replaced the AC unit it would have cost \$2,000. This is why the Town opted to go with a two-fan system with an indicator light. There is a primary fan and a backup fan. He explained that the loss of the AC unit caused the last outage because it fried the motherboard. Duane Downing asked if the computer is covered. James Eason explained that the computer is not covered but the Town is looking at an average of three to five years for a computer. He noted that every LED board is a little square and there are at least a hundred panels and they are \$40.00 per panel.

Horace Carlyle made a motion to approve proposal #2 for the amount of \$275.00 per month with YESCO for the electronic reader board repair and maintenance effective November 1, 2011. James Eason suggested the Board fund this out of Room Tax. Horace Carlyle amended his motion to pay the expense out of the Room Tax 5/8ths of 1% because it supports tourism. Javier Gonzalez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

The Board recessed to the Tonopah Library Board at 7:14 pm.

The Board returned at 7:23 pm.

4. Tonopah Department Budget Reports

Chris Mulkerns explained that the Board has the final budget report for FY 10/11. She noted that the Town received a final amount on the Consolidated Tax of \$25,760.00 and \$524.00 for the Gas Tax.

Horace Carlyle noted that there was a room tax contribution from National 9. Chris Mulkerns explained that they are current with the exception of penalties that they are working on. James Eason explained that Kim Lara from the Treasurer's Office has been very diligent in getting the money. He noted that the Town is only a few months away from looking at the budget for next year. He explained that the 20% decrease in property tax is not in the Town's control. The Town has to stay with that number as it comes from the Department of Taxation. He expects the property tax to stay low because of all the reassessments.

No action taken by the Board.

5. Tonopah Development Corporation Report

Joni Eastley explained that the TDC had applied for a Nevada Commission on Tourism grant for some brochures. TDC has received the grant and is processing the reimbursement. She noted that there will be an item on the Board of Commissioners agenda for Tuesday to ask for funding from the Nye County History Project. TDC is asking for funding to do a video called "The Last of the Gold Rush" that will be a central companion for Tonopah's brochures. She noted that the brochures are in production.

Joni Eastley explained that one of TDC's projects over the past two years has been the Town Clean-Up. They have identified a lot of collaborators on the Town Clean-Up project and have used the fact that nobody will have to declare these properties as a nuisance and no one will have to go before the Board of Commissioners as a hook to get private property owners involved. As TDC identifies properties it would like to target for clean up, they send a letter to the property owners. The Town is able to remove a nuisance, the property owner gets a clean property that is ready for sale or redevelopment and it helps the Town to look better. She explained that she was approached by a property owner in Town who has an abandoned building on Main Street in a highly visible area and he wants to become part of the program. She explained that the property owner who approached her wants the Town to feel free to take advantage of any of the materials from the building.

Javier Gonzalez asked what was going on with the HUD house. Joni Eastley explained that it has been frustrating. According to the law, in order for Nye County to sell property it has, it first has to obtain two appraisals on the property. The minimum bid for the property has to be for the higher of the two appraisals. She explained that TDC has to keep getting appraisals because they are only valid for a certain amount of time. She explained that the appraisals were coming in really low and they thought they would be able to sell it but when it came time to open the bids, there were no bids. She noted that this is the money TDC was going to use to keep the operation open and open the office back up. Cindy Kaminski explained that it is very expensive to get the appraisals because someone has to be brought in. Joni Eastley explained that using the money from the sale TDC has to reimburse Nye County for the amount of money they fronted for materials and supplies as well as the appraisals.

Horace Carlyle suggested that TDC get together with the Town Manager and see if they can agree on some type of funding to at least maintain a part-time office for TDC. He feels that it would be negligence if the Town cannot come up with some sort of proposal to support TDC, at least on a part-time basis.

No action taken by the Board.

6. Public Comment

Lauren Snyder and Ellie Snyder from CYAC – Community Youth Advisory Council explained that this is a youth and adult partnership. They help the community as much as possible and they are here to represent the organization and see what the Board is doing for the community.

No action taken by the Board.

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

Joni Eastley explained that the law for public meetings has changed and now requires two public comment periods: one at the beginning of every meeting and one at the end of every meeting. James Eason explained that he has spoken with Brian Kunzi regarding this issue. With the way the agendas are currently set up the Town is fine because the public is allowed to speak on every action item. He explained that some boards only had one public comment period and they would not allow the public to speak on action items.

Horace Carlyle asked if Mrs. Eastley had heard anything from NDOT regarding the Pocket Park. Joni Eastley explained that she called NDOT because she was informed that they would be making a decision on the project funding by the middle of September. When she did not hear anything she contacted NDOT. The individual responsible for the funding had retired and her responsibilities were divided up between five people. The department manager notified Mrs. Eastley that a decision would not be made until the end of October.

James Eason explained that there was a fire on University Avenue south of the swimming pool. There were two firemen injured and one was transported to Reno. The State Fire Marshall is coming down to investigate the fire. The other fireman injured is fine now. He explained that the support provided by Nye County was wonderful. They have arranged for volunteers of the fire fraternity to greet the injured individual in Reno. The fire did not spread to any other property.

James Eason explained that Maintenance is continuing to do updates to the pool. The Town will be getting the price for changing out the filter. Maintenance is working at installing the new winter covers.

James Eason explained that the Town will be proactive with the inventory. Staff will go through and see what needs to be removed. That item will be before the Board for approval. There will be requests from a couple of magazines on the next agenda for advertisements. There is a group of German bikers/reporters who will be at the Mining Park. They will write a piece and submit it to German magazines. The Town will be featured on the English Travel Channel.

James Eason explained that the Town has placed an item on the next BOCC agenda to start the process of transferring the Belvada from Treasurer Trust to the Town of Tonopah. If the draft resolution is approved on October 18, 2011, a letter will go out to the property owners and they will have 90 days to reply. If they fail to reply the property will become the Town's. The Town will have to pay the outstanding property tax, which is a little over \$3,000.00. There will be no penalties or transfer tax associated. He explained that the Town met with Aptus last week. They will start working with the State Historic Preservation Office to make sure everything that is done on the Belvada is in compliance.

James Eason explained that TPU's contract with Potable Diver's for tank repairs is completed. Mr. Westerlund has arranged for Jack Vanice to become the night watchman out at Rye Patch.

James Eason explained that there is an item on the October 18, 2011 BOCC agenda for the next agreement between Nye County and Solauro for an area out at the airport. The company is a toll mill for their own product. They have multiple locations and they will be setting up a site at the airport. They are a company out of Canada and they chose Tonopah because of its central locations. They are also looking to acquire one of the hangers at the airport. He noted that the company will be acquiring the land through a lease with the County. James Eason explained that there will be a potential job creation of one to ten for Tonopah. Tonopah will be the centralized location but the company also do work all over the West and can dispatch smaller mill units on trucks to other locations. Horace Carlyle asked what the potential water usage will be. James Eason noted that it will be 11 acre feet. Joe Westerlund explained that they are looking at creating ponds out there that they will fill at night so there should be not impact to those who live out there. James Eason explained that everything they do will have to be in compliance with NDEP.

Jon Zane asked about the fence around the closest hanger to the highway. Joni Eastley explained there was a problem with many unauthorized uses of the hanger. Individuals were parking personal property in the hanger. Nye County put a fence around the property to keep unauthorized users out of the building and to reduce the liability to the County.

James Eason explained that at the next meeting there will be a presentation by Joni Eastley and Chris Bramwell regarding a project Mr. Bramwell has put together for the Mining Park. It is an amphitheater layout. It works with the Mizpah area and the trestle. They Town is trying to create an amphitheater effect where the Nevada State Mining Championships can be hosted as well as star gazing, concerts if needed or any outdoor activity. The project has been discussed with SHPO but the Town wants to get the Board's approval before sending the drawings up to the State Historic Preservation Office. Joni Eastley explained that as part of the design, some of the wooden boxcars from the Thirties stored at the landfill will be incorporated.

Duane Downing noted that the Tonopah Volunteer Fire Department did a great job with the fire. They were able to contain it to just the structure itself. James Eason explained that Emergency Services assisted the Fire Department from a support standpoint. They handled the logistics allowing the Fire Department to just concentrate on the fighting the fire.

8. 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.

This item was tabled.

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

This item was tabled.

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

This item was tabled.

11. Closure of meeting pursuant to NRS 241.015(2)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation

This item was tabled.

12. Closed meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.015(2)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation

This item was tabled.

13. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision on conference with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation presented in the closed meeting

This item was tabled.

14. Correspondence

Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Minutes – 09/27/2011

SolarReserve Completes Financing for Advanced Technology Solar Power Project in Nevada – 09/28/2011

Department of Energy Extends Public Comment Period – 09/29/2011

Nye County Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda – 10/04/2011

Pahrump Town Board Meeting Agenda – 10/11/2011

Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Agenda – 10/11/2011

Nye County Airports – September 2011 Status Report – 10/11/2011

Beatty Town Advisory Board Workshop Agenda – 10/12/2011

Beatty Town Advisory Board Meeting Agenda – 10/12/2011

Nye County Animal Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda – 10/13/2011

15. Approval of Vouchers for Payment

The vouchers were reviewed and all were signed by Board members. Duane Downing made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Horace Carlyle seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

16. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

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October 12, 2011

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Minutes transcribed by:

Mariah Rivero

Approved:

Jon Zane, Chairman

Horace Carlyle, Vice Chairman

Javier Gonzalez, Clerk

Glenn Hatch, Member

Duane Downing, Member