

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL
HELD MARCH 18, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE
SARATOGA TOWN HALL

Mayor John Zeiger called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Councilman Steve Wilcoxson, Councilwoman Susan Howe, and Councilwoman Judy Welton. Councilman Mike McWain was absent from the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Councilwoman Howe made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2014 meeting as presented. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Councilwoman Welton read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$102,435.44; Payroll and FICA for 3/10/14 in the amount of \$59,008.38; and manual checks in the amount of \$397.58, for a total of \$161,841.40.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$161,841.40. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Councilwoman Welton made a motion to go into executive session at 6:02 p.m. to discuss personnel and matters of litigation in accordance with W.S. 16-4-405(a) (ii) and (iii). Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Town Attorney Tom Thompson, Police Chief Thomas Knickerbocker and Chuck Bartlett attended the executive session.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:49 p.m. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to seal the minutes from the executive session. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Zeiger reported there was no action taken.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk Suzie Cox reported that the WAM-JPIC Board of Directors Election information was in the council packets for the council's review. The information includes resumes of those seeking positions on the WAM-JPIC board. It will be on the April 1st agenda for council action.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

Town Hall: Mayor Zeiger read Resolution 2014-03 the Specific Purpose Tax lease renewal for the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget and appropriation of funds.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to Resolution 2014-03 the Specific Purpose Tax lease renewal for the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget and appropriation of funds. Councilwoman Welton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Cox provided the council with Ordinance 823 - an ordinance to amend the 2013/2014 budget for council review. The amendments are to replace the Expenditures for the Saratoga River Walk Project Fund. The fund line items had been remove from the budget 2012-2013 budget and she added that she had been unaware of the removal until it was noticed when expenditures needed to be entered to pay for the installation of the bridge and the river walk fund was not there. It has since been reactivated and the amendment is being made as per the auditors. The 911 Funds are also being amended because of an over expenditure in the 911 Funds. The ordinance will come back to the council on the April 1st meeting.

Fire Department: No report.

Police Department: Chief Tom Knickerbocker requested permission to advertise for a part-time dispatcher. Currently Kathy Wachsmuth, Dispatch Supervisor, covers vacation/sick leave at time and a/half. A part-time dispatcher would cost less than paying overtime for someone to cover the shift.

Councilwoman Howe made a motion to allow Chief Knickerbocker to advertise for a part time dispatcher. Seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson the motion carried unanimously.

Chief Knickerbocker reported that his first TIPS training will be on March 31, 2014 with a full class and he is anticipating two more classes will be scheduled.

Chief Knickerbocker reported that the stolen vehicles have been recovered and one of the individuals is in custody, they are searching for one that has been identified and the other one has yet to be identified.

Recreation Department: Recreation Director Lisa Burton reported that the Utah Jazz Program is underway with fifty-eight Saratoga kindergartners through fifth graders signed up and for the next six weeks they will be playing games and practicing with Encampment kids.

Department of Public Works:

- Street Department: Chuck Bartlett reported that the street crew has been working at the dog pound, trimming trees on Veterans Island, installing signs, and snow plowing.
- Water & Sewer: Chuck Bartlett reported that the water/sewer crew repaired a leaking service by the post office and W. G. Dale will be here on Wednesday to work on the VFD's at the water wells.

Chuck Bartlett reported that Brandan Mistelske has passed his Level I Water Certification.

- Weed and Pest: Chuck Bartlett reported that the Mosquito Grant has been submitted
- Hot Pool: No report
- REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Airport Board: Milo Hunter addressed the council and explained that he is working on his Eagle Scout Badge and would like to build a new sign for the Saratoga Airport. He presented a drawing to show the design of the sign and noted that it would be a sheet metal sign that will hang on the fence at the entrance to the airport. It cannot be a free standing sign in front of the fence because he would have to obtain permission from the highway department. The sign will be a 4' by 5' sheet metal sign in a wood frame. The design will be laser cut into the sheet metal and power coated by the high school tech club. His purpose in making the sign as his community service project is to make the entrance to the airport more attractive and appealing to visitors. He will design the sign to fit in with other specialty signs that have been placed around town.

Mr. Hunter had presented his project to the airport board at their previous meeting and had received approval and a recommendation to take the project to the council for final approval. The airport board indicated that the cost of materials could come out of the airport budget, which was also approved by the council.

Mayor Zeiger asked Chuck Bartlett if there were any concerns about the sign. Mr. Bartlett indicated that a sign permit would need to be filled out.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to allow Milo Hunter to build and install a new airport sign with the cost of materials coming from the airport budget. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The council thanked Mr. Hunter for his presentation and extended their appreciation for choosing this project to make the airport entrance more welcoming.

Mayor Zeiger read a letter requesting reappointment to the Airport Board by Lance Grubb whose term had expired.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to appoint Lance Grubb to the Airport Board. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The next airport board meeting will be April 9, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the town hall.

Community Center Joint Powers Board: Councilwoman Welton reported that the Community Center Board had met on the 17th and reviewed and discussed the joint agreement between the Community Center Joint Powers Board and the Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The new Community Center Director, Joe Elder, is doing a great job of transitioning into the position and making plans for events and activities.

The next meeting will be held April 21, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board:

The next meeting will be held April 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill Board:

The next meeting will be held April 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Saratoga.

Medical Board: no report

Planning Commission: The next Planning Commission meeting will be April 8, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Commission: The next meeting will be in April 7, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Community Garden Board: Mayor Zeiger read a letter of interest to fill the vacancy on the Community Garden Board from Christy Smith. The letter indicated that Ms. Smith wanted to work toward expanding the community garden through outreach and education to increase the membership of the gardeners.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to appoint Christy Smith to the Community Garden Board. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Board member Cindy Bloomquist reported that the board's last meeting was great and the board was excited to move forward with the garden.

The next meeting will be in April but the date is yet to be determined.

South Central Emergency Services Board: No report

Items from the Public: Tasha Worthington addressed the council indicating her disappointment that the council did not advertise the airport board seat because the term was up and a reappointment was made rather than advertising as a vacancy. She stated that she knew of others that might be interested in serving on that board and wondered if it was advertised or noted anywhere that there was a vacancy.

Clerk Suzie Cox stated that it had not been advertised and that she had contacted Mr. Grubb to let him know his term was almost up and asked if he would be interested in being reappointed, and if so if he would send in a letter of interest to the Mayor and Council. He indicated that he would submit a letter of interest and that letter had been received.

Mayor Zeiger stated that it had always been the practice of the governing body to reappoint an individual if they were interested in reappointment.

Mrs. Worthington indicated that she believes it is unfair for someone to hold a board position for fifteen or twenty years when someone younger might be interested in serving on the boards and the vacancies should be advertised.

Mrs. Worthington then asked why the Council couldn't put the Executive Sessions after Public Comment so that when someone is there for specific reasons they don't have to wait through the council's executive session. She stated that it didn't seem like the council did anything after coming out of executive session to warrant making everybody wait

through the hour or so for the rest of the meeting. She stated that the voters and the public would appreciate it and maybe it should be put on the ballot as well.

(Clerk's note: Setting of an Executive Session is determined by the need for the council to share information or discuss personnel or matter of litigation. Many times matters must be discussed prior to any action being taken at the regular meeting. It may seem like no action is taken following the executive session because there can be no action taken in an executive session. When necessary action can be taken as a result of the discussion conducted during that executive session)

Glee Johnson stated that she had a question for Mrs. Cox. She stated that at one (council) meeting they (the public) had talked about the town's investment funds. She stated that in the minutes the clerk had added clerk's notes. Taken from the January 21st minutes – *(Clerk's note: The water and sewer department operates as an enterprise fund and as such it is intended to be self supporting. It is the practice of the town to invest and maintain for sustainability any excess funds not used for the operation, maintenance and repair of the water and waste water departments. We guard our investments with care and due diligence. At the present time the operation, repair and maintenance of an aging system have made investing somewhat challenging and our revenues are used to repair and or replace problem sewer lines and faulty water lines.)*

The question put to Clerk Cox was that she (Mrs. Johnson) understood from the clerk's note that there is no money in the investment funds.

Clerk Cox answered, no, that is not correct. What was said was that no new investments had been made because everything has been going into the operation, maintenance and repairs of the aging system this year.

Mrs. Johnson then stated that reading through the audit it is noted that there are funds at the State Treasurer's office. "Are those the investment funds?" "The WyoStar Funds?"

Clerk Cox responded by telling Mrs. Johnson that she was more than welcome to come into the office and look over which ever investment funds she wanted, but that she, Clerk Cox, was not going to answer the question at that moment without looking at the audit.

Mrs. Johnson continued to question the WyoStar funds and the \$807,741 dollars deposited with the State Treasurer.

Mayor Zeiger responded that he would not comment at this time until he could refer to the audit.

Mrs. Johnson stated she had questioned the investment funds before and didn't feel that she had gotten an answer. She then asked if the council was going to do a report with the council about the audit or if that was something she wasn't going to hear more about.

Mayor Zeiger responded that he was not sure if he understood what her question was and she stated that they had the disclosure about the audit, and they were able to get a copy of it, and the auditor came and made his comments, but the council has never made much of a comment about the audit.

Mayor Zeiger stated that obviously he couldn't speak for anyone except himself but after the auditor came and reported to the council he felt comfortable about it and it didn't seem to him that more discussion was needed. He didn't know how the other felt but it was up to them if they wanted more discussion. Having no response from the rest of the council there was no further comment.

Mrs. Johnson then stated that since the audit is a public record she came in and got a copy of it, which she paid for the copies, and she felt like since it was hers she could do what she wanted with it. After reviewing the information she then took the audit over to the Saratoga Sun which she did not feel was wrong since she had paid for the copy.

BUSINESS: Nothing was brought to the council.

Adjournment: Being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilwoman Welton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson and the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Saratoga Town Council will be held April 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

Mayor John Zeiger

ATTEST:

Suzie Cox, Clerk