

HATCH TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 17, 2021

Town Board Present: Kurt Sawyer, Jon Spendlove, Tony Dinges & Melissa Poulsen

Staff: Jacie Torgersen, Dave Barnhurst & Kerry Barney

Public: Tony McGee

1. Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Eldredge was not feeling well and was not able to attend the meeting so Councilor Dinges conducted the meeting for the night. The meeting began at 7pm with Councilor Sawyer offering the opening prayer and Councilor Spendlove leading those present in the pledge.

2. Approval of January 20, 2021 Minutes

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the minutes and Councilor Poulsen seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

3. Review January Invoices, checks & financial report

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the expenditures and Councilor Poulsen seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

3.2 Extra Monthly Invoices

The town did get the invoice from Ensign Engineering for \$50,000 for the drainage plan. Jacie Torgersen will process that through CIB, which is where the town got funding from for the plan.

4. Public Hearings

5. Petitions, Remonstrations and Communications

5.1 Open & Public Meeting Training

Jacie Torgersen gave the council a short training on the open and public meetings act from the information found in the ULCT handbook. The council would like to each have their own book for reference. The Planning & Zoning commission also falls under the same requirements as the town because they are a governing body of the town.

5.2 CIB Priority List

Councilor Dinges led the council through a survey to see what the town's needs are and what they would like to list on the CIB Priority List. Councilor Sawyer would like to see the town do a little beautification project on the south end of town around the town sign. There is the v section out past Blackburn Propane. He would like to make it look nice around the sign with decorative rocks, maybe some trees and lighting like the little area as Panguitch has. The majority of tourists come from the south end and it would look nice to have that area aesthetically pleasing to welcome them.

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Another idea that Councilor Dinges has been looking into is solar powered stop signs/posts. The town has 12 stop signs. He would like to get some with banner attachments so that the town could hang up some small banners on them. He will check in to the cost for them. The council could not think of anything needed for the park at this time. The dump truck starts but does not dump right now. Lincoln Poulsen will come look at it this week when he has a chance.

The fire department could use more Personal Protective Equipment or turnouts.

The water department could use another water tank when the town starts to grow. The current tank is 200,000 gallons. If there were some new growth in the town then the town would need an additional water tank. A 300,000 tank was what the town had listed previously.

In the road department, the drainage issues need to be fixed on 100 E with sloping and a culvert. The corner next to David Barnhurst's also needs to be filled in and built up around the edges.

After further discussion, the council would like to list the following projects on the CIB list. For the one-year plan:

– Roads

*Drainage issues on 100 E

*Catch Basin for drainage above town

For the 2-5 year plan:

-Main Street Improvements

-Generator (High)

-Beautification (High)

-Water Tank (Medium)

Jacie Torgersen will get the list prepared and submitted to CIB.

5.3 Drainage Plan

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the drainage plan prepared by Ensign Engineering and Councilor Spendlove seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

5.4 Community Center Rental/Use

Paunsaugunt Cliffs has a lease agreement with the town for rental of office space and use of the building for their quarterly meetings. They have had a couple extra meetings. In the minutes, it states that they will pay \$25 for each meeting. They paid \$700 for their lease agreement and \$100 more for 4 meetings in July 2020. The council would like them to pay \$25 for each extra meeting that they have and then the lease agreement will be reviewed in June again.

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5.5 Monthly Transfer of Water Fees

Jacie Torgersen suggested that the town transfer the amount of money from the water rate raise that will start on March 1, 2021 to the PTIF Savings account. Right now, the only money deposited to the account is the interest that is earned each month. The town could take the money from the raise and deposit it to savings each month to build it up for future repairs and maintenance of the system. The council gave their approval to do so.

5.6 Desk Bids

Jacie Torgersen and Melissa Poulsen presented 3 bids to the council from Southern Utah Office, Costco and Walmart. Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve \$1,150 per desk for Jacie & Melissa and Councilor Poulsen seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

5.7 UMCA Training

Jacie Torgersen asked the town council how they feel about having a certified municipal clerk and wondered what she would get out of becoming certified. It would take 3 years for her to certify through the association. She attended the week long training 2 years ago and is considering attending again in March. The cost would be \$400 to the town; most of the training will be on zoom this year. The town council wanted to know what having a certified municipal clerk would do for the town and what would the benefits be. They asked Jacie Torgersen to ask the Municipal Clerks Association and let them know.

6. Ordinances

6.1 2021-02 Employee Compensation (council wages)

Councilor Poulsen motioned to approve Resolution 2021-01 setting the council wages, mayor and planning & zoning commission at \$50 monthly due to the raise in water rates and Councilor Sawyer seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

7. Report of Officers – boards – committees

7.1 Water Department – Water Usage

For January 2021, water usage was 429,000 gallons from well #4. On February 1st Dave Barnhurst was able to move the water usage over to well #5 which is up and running now.

7.1.b Chlorination Building Check Valve Repair

The check valve that Dave Barnhurst ordered was an inch short so it will not work. Southwest plumbing told him of a possible repair that he could do to fix that so he is going to try that and if not he will need to replace it with the exact one that is in there, which will be between \$800-\$1200.

7.1.c Winter Water Meter Readings

There was a letter sent to the town concerning an inaccurate water meter reading. During the winter months, the reading is estimated. Dave Barnhurst says if it is over 40 degrees and not snow on the ground he will read them, it so then he doesn't read them. He usually tries to estimate on the high end so that it will correct itself in the spring when he starts reading the meters again. Jacie Torgersen & Melissa Poulsen would like to have a policy in

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writing available in the office when customers have questions. David Barnhurst will write something up and have it available to present to the council next month.

7.1.d Levi Degarmo Water Connection

Levi Degarmo purchased property in Hatch in October. He never contacted the town to change the account to his name. Kerri Justus went and got his name and address from the county and sent him a water bill from the time he purchased the property. Melissa Poulsen is concerned about billing him because he has never signed an agreement yet concerning water service from the town. Kerry Barney said he had been in contact with him and had emailed him the paperwork to transfer the water to his name. He will need to either pay the monthly water bill or the re-connect fee. Jacie Torgersen did talk to him once when he called the town office. The town will send him a letter stating that he needs to assume the water meter and pay the monthly bill or pay the turn on fee when he gets ready to use his water. His water is currently "on" in the town's billing system but it is not on at the meter. If it becomes a problem, the town could put a lock on the meter.

7.2 Fire Department-

The fire department did respond to a page in town for a fire that had started on the porch from hot ashes. There was a good response from members responding to the fire. They did have a fire meeting and changed the batteries in the SCBA's and found some turn outs for new members.

7.3 Road Department-

Councilor Dinges did put a 25mph sign on the Proctor Road. He would like to get another one and put it in the other direction coming in to town.

7.4 Parks & Recreation-

7.4.a 2021 Celebration Dates

The Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 3, 2021 at 10AM. The council felt like it would be fine to hold the Easter Egg Hunt in person at the park this year. Councilor Poulsen will start getting supplies for the hunt. The Independence day celebration will be on Saturday, July 3rd this year and the pioneer day celebration will be on Saturday, July 24th.

7.5 Grants-

7.6 Planning & Zoning Commission

7.6.a Hatch Business Sign

Highway 89 is designated as a scenic byway so there cannot be any more billboards or advertisements put up along the highway. Kerry Barney is checking into the YESCO sign that is currently rented out by Mike Thieme. The town wouldn't be able to put up a new sign but they could use an existing sign to help businesses advertise if there was one available. Councilor Dinges thinks that if the town could put up a small sign about Hatch Businesses available that would be good. Councilor Sawyer suggested a ladder sign with the businesses listed below. Mr. Barney will check into it further and see what is available.

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8. Public Input

9. Unfinished or New Business

The next meeting will be held on March 17th.

10. Adjournment

Councilor Poulsen motioned to adjourn at 8:50 pm and Councilor Sawyer seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

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