

MINUTES
ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 10, 2008
10:00 AM
ALTA COMMUNITY CENTER
ALTA, UAH

Paul Moxley, Mayor Pro Tempore, called the meeting to order. Mayor Tom Pollard was excused.

The following members of the Town Council were present: Paul Moxley, Steve Gilman, Dave Richards and Cliff Curry.

Mayor's Report

Paul Moxley announced that the Town Council meeting will be abbreviated due to various vacations planned not only by staff but by the Mayor. He also announced that there will be no treasurer's report today.

Paul welcomed Clarie Runge, the new Assistant Town Administrator. She hails from Maryland and we are very happy to have her with the Town of Alta.

We do not know when the Albion Campground will be open and the Albion Basin road will be open within 24 hours of the application of the dust retardant. The retardant will be going down on Friday, July 18th.

Departmental Reports:

Paul Moxley stated again that there would be no treasurer's report or Town Administrator's report due to vacations.

Marshal's Report: Mike Morey gave his monthly report which is attached for the record.

Mike gave an update on the progress on the yearly maintenance on the Albion Basin road. WRR will be applying the dust retardant on Friday the 18th of July. It must dry for 24 hours at which time the summer road will be open to the public. Mike reported that the Forest Service is committed to open the Albion Basin Campground if not the same weekend shortly thereafter.

Mike reported that he and the Mayor attended the monthly Conference of Mayor's meeting where all the police chiefs from the valley engaged in a discussion about cooperation during emergency situations, the sharing of resources and the ongoing problems with overcrowding in the Salt Lake County Jail.

Mike also mentioned that the Summer Booth opened over the 4th of July weekend even though the road was not open.

Paul Moxley asked Sara Gibbs for an overview of the Wildflower Festival which will be held starting Saturday July 19th. The Festival will be staged out of the lower Albion Parking Lot. There will be various wildflower walks and for those than cannot participate in the walks, there will be van assisted excursions to wildflower sights. There will be live music on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m..

Kate Black announced that Alta Airport Shuttle was awarded the bid for the free Albion Basin shuttle service this summer. That service will start the weekend of the 19th of July and run on the weekends and holidays through the summer.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF JUNE 12, 2008 MINUTES OF THE ALTA TOWN COUNCIL

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Cliff Curry to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2008 Town Council meeting as submitted. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried with all members of the Town Council present except of Mayor Tom Pollard. He was excused from this meeting.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THREE YEAR MUNICIPAL LEASE WITH ZIONS FIRST NATIONAL BANK ON THE 2009 TOYOTA.

Paul Moxley explained that by law, municipalities can only participate in municipal leases when purchasing vehicles. The three year lease is with Zions First National Bank. The bank is requiring the review and approval of the Town Council as well as a review by legal counsel. The first payment on the lease has been approved and is part of the fiscal budget for the Town of Alta. The interest rate on the lease is 4.17%. The agenda for this meeting, as required by the lease documents, has been duly posted and the press has been notified.

The resolution attached to the lease documents was read into the record by Paul Moxley, Mayor Pro Tempore.

There was a motion by Steve Gilman to approve the three year lease agreement with Zions First National Bank for the 2009 Toyota. There was a second by Dave Richards. The Mayor Pro Tempore opened the floor for discussion on this matter.

Steve Gilman asked why the Town was not buying it outright. The Mayor made a decision based on our financial situation to pay for this vehicle over three years. The Town may prepay on the lease without penalty. It was also explained that municipalities may take advantage of the State of Utah procurements policies which the Town did in this case.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Paul Moxley called for a vote on the motion.

Dave Richards – aye

Cliff Curry – aye

Paul Moxley – aye

Steven Gilman – aye

Tom Pollard – absent

The vote was unanimous and the motion was carried.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE CONTENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR LONG RANGE PLANNING STUDY

Kate Black explained that over the last six months or so there has been discussion in Council meetings about putting together an RFP to hire a planning company to address various needs within the community of Alta. CDBG funds (approximately \$20,000) were approved to pay for this study in whole or in part depending on the final cost of the study. Staff would like to have input from the Town Council on what they would like to see the RFP address: i.e. recycling, garbage, parking, community center. The Alta Planning Commission has also expressed an interest in taking part in this discussion.

One of the questions that immediately came up was what area inside our community will be included in the Planning Study: i.e. just of base facilities zone area or the entire Town of Alta. A few members of the Council wanted to see the entire area of the Town addressed especially as it relates to a future location for a garbage or recycling center.

Steve Gilman stated that he has always wanted the study to include a possible garbage and recycling facility for the residents and would like every aspect of that service from funding to location reviewed as part of this study.

Dave Richards reiterated the need to address recycling and garbage service as well as a possible new Community gathering place/Community Center. He would also like the study to address the Town's infrastructure as it relates to future demands on our water and sewer systems.

Paul Moxley mentioned with the increase of gas prices, he wanted to address the impact of public transportation on the community. He also mentioned the "red snake" and could that problem be addressed in this study.

Steven Gilman wanted to evaluate our options if the army takes away our ability to use military weapons to control avalanches.

Parking problems in the Town was also discussed but it was felt that this could be addressed as part of the public transportation issues discussion.

Cliff felt the study should focus on our central business district and should tie into how the ski resort operates in the present and with any expansion of the ski lifts in the future. Cliff would also like to focus on the pedestrian experience in Alta which is not good.

Paul Moxley also commented that we should look back over prior minutes and discussions in Council meetings for suggestions.

Marc Dippo had a question as to whether we should let the Planning Commission make their recommendations first and then forward them to the Town Council.

Kate reminded the Council that the larger the scope of the RFP the more money we will spend on the study. As a result we might have to narrow the scope of the RFP along with the area that we want included in this study.

Dave Richards recommended that the study take into account the surrounding areas of the Town but it should focus on the central business district. As part of the requirements of this study we would ask that the planners to hold community wide meetings to allow all members of the community to give their input on their visions for Alta.

Staff anticipates that the final RFP would be in place no later than the end of the summer so the company we hire could review Alta in the summer as well as the winter. We want the Town to work towards becoming more economically viable during the summer months as well.

Dave would like to see the planning company to work together and have frank discussions with the Alta Ski Lift Company as they relate to the Lift's long range plans and visions for their ski area and this community.

The Council was reminded that a lot of information and studies have been completed and are available that can be used and incorporated into the this Planning Study such as our General Plan, past Community Center studies, road studies and all the data and maps created from our GIS software.

Steve Gilman recommended that staff put together a preliminary draft RFP by the next Town Council meeting so the Town Council and the Planning Commission can comment on its contents.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mark Haik suggested that before the Town advertises for this Planning Study that they get a lot more specific or clear as to what the Town wants them to look at and study. He also would recommend that the Town look at past public comments from past studies that were commissioned by the Town and incorporate those comments into the RFP. He also mentioned that there were comments received from the public when the Town was reviewing its General Plan. They should also be reviewed.

Haik also commented that the Town needs to look at how the base facilities properties intersect Highway 210 along with how the infrastructure intersects the main highway. He also thought the Town should consider any future annexations that might take place.

Onno Wieringa believes that the Town Council has to work very closely with the Planning Commission on this project. He also mentioned that he had forwarded a list of all the resort planning companies that the lifts had researched on to Laura.

Onno asked that the Town look into the parking situation in and around the Town Park. People are driving their cars into the park and driving on the vegetation. Mike Morey will look into clarifying this situation through better signage.

Charles Livsey commented that the economic viability of the Town is not as strong as it could be and the RFP could be focused on insuring the Town's long term economic viability. He also thanked the Alta Ski Lifts for their contributions to the community of Alta.

Mark Haik also commented that in terms of long term viability and long term capital investment of the Town, they need to take into account the perceived political risk and he perceives that there is a lot of political risk in the Town of Alta. If the Town can reduce that political risk, they will be more successful in attracting capital reinvestment and investment in the Town.

Hearing no further business before the Town Council there was a motion by Steve Gilman to adjourn the July meeting of the Town Council. There was a second by Cliff curry and the motion was carried.

The July 10, 2008 Town Council minutes were approved on the _____ day of _____, 2008.

Katherine S.W. Black
Town Clerk