

**MINUTES**  
**ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018**  
**10:00 AM**  
**ALTA COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**ALTA, UTAH**

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order. Mayor Harris Sondak and Council members Cliff Curry and Margaret Bourke were present. Elise Morgan and Sheridan Davis were absent.
2. Presentation by Trudy Jorgensen-Price: Salt Lake County Library

Ms. Jorgensen-Price updated the council on upcoming efforts to reach out to the citizens of Alta on the services available through the Salt Lake County Library system. Sarah Richards of ACE has graciously agreed to work with the library system to facilitate a survey to the citizens of Alta on library services. Ms. Jorgensen-Price also reviewed the mail-a-book program that is currently available to cardholders in Alta.

3. Update from Jake Brown: UDOT – 00:04:00

Jake Brown updated the council and the public on the following matters:

- The efforts this winter to make Highway 210 as safe as possible.
- Review of the paving project in Little Cottonwood Canyon this summer.
- Review of the ongoing maintenance projects in the canyon.
- Review of future signage, traffic calming devices and mid-block pedestrian crossings in and around the Town of Alta.

4. Presentation by Little Cottonwood Canyon EIS Study Team – 00:22:20

John Thomas updated the council and the public on the review process for the Comprehensive LCC Environmental Impact Study and the recent meetings/open courses on this matter. Mr. Thomas outlined some of the options they are looking at in the canyon such as park and rides, parking structure(s) at the mouth, additional trailhead parking lots, widened areas in the canyon with a possible third land and snow-sheds. Mr. Thomas also addressed traffic modifications and signage in and around Snowbird and Alta and the concept of autonomous vehicles.

Mr. Thomas reviewed the time table on this project, an open house April 10, and anticipated that their preferred alternative and draft EIS would be ready by spring 2019.

Mr. Thomas encouraged everyone to submit their comments on this matter by May 4, 2018 by going to the UDOT website: <https://www.udot.utah.gov/littlecottonwoodeis/>

5. Citizen Input – 00:32:55

Roger Bourke commented on the following matters:

- Complimented Jen Clancy and Sara Gibbs on a job well done putting on the annual Alta Gala.

- Complemented the Alta Ski Lift cat crew for keeping the mountain skiable under very trying conditions this year.
- Addressed what he felt was the real problems with the dog situation -a lot of dogs running loose and not picking up and disposing of dog waste. Roger also addressed a solution that might help with the dog waste – poop bag stations.
- Addressing the issue of compliance.
- Recommended the council form a commission to address the various issues related to dogs.

Mark Haik spoke to various reports submitted to the Town of Alta on change applications, points of diversion in Albion Basin and the reports related to “proof of benefit use”.

Jen Clancy reported on the Alta Gala and thanked the Alta Ski Lifts for their support. Ms. Clancy also reported on the following upcoming events: Alta’s Earth Day celebration events and the ski around with FOA. Ms. Clancy encouraged everyone to provide comments on the LLC EIS study that was reported on earlier in the meeting. Ms. Clancy encouraged who ever runs the summer program to continue to support environmental stewardship and education of the Albion Basin area.

6. Mayor’s Report: [00:45:37](#)

Mayor Sondak briefed the council on the following matters:

- The March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting on the proposed Albion Basin Botanical Area.
- The March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting with representatives from UFA.
- The two work sessions addressing revisions to the dog ordinance and the matters that were discussed.
- The March 20<sup>th</sup> UFA board meeting.
- The announced retirement of Rand Andrus, the Town’s liaison from UFA and discussion on who will replace Rand in that position.
- The March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Salt Lake City Watershed Management plan consultant on concerns of the Town of Alta – The Mayor expressed appreciation for their partnership.
- The March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting hosted by the town that responded to concerns of by Dr. Ken Libre about the way UFA was providing emergency transportation services by their ambulance versus backup fire engine, if needed. A solution was reached that seems acceptable to all that participated.
- The March 23<sup>rd</sup> Town of Alta budget committee meeting where the proposed 18/19 fiscal budgets were discussed – fire protection, health insurance costs, funding for severance and attorney’s costs among other topics.
- The March 27<sup>th</sup> summer program committee meeting where various aspects of the town’s operation of that program were discussed including ASL opening the Albion Grill bathrooms 24/7, the town charging for operating a shuttle into the Basin and the USFS’s willingness to allow the town to proactively close the summer road.
- The Alta Ski Lift Company’s application to the USFS to expand the ASL special use permit to operate the summer program in 2018, the status of that application and the going meetings and communications between the Mayor, staff and the ASL on this matter. It

was announced that there would be an open house on this proposal at the Albion Grill sponsored by the USFS – April 19, 2018.

- The Alta Planning Commission meeting held on March 27<sup>th</sup> where the proposed Albion Basin Overlay Zone was discussed.
- The orientation session held by the Zoo, Arts & Parks (ZAP) committee – the Mayor sits on this committee.
- The March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Little Cottonwood Canyon EIS study team to provide comments and express concerns from the town’s perspective.
- The open letter to the public from the Mayor and Marshal Morey explaining the complex issues managing Highway 210.
- The April 2nd dinner sponsored by Sheriff Rosie Rivera where the projected increases in Salt Lake County growth were reviewed and the implications of that growth – a link to be on the Town’s website for the Gardner Institute video.
- The April 3<sup>rd</sup> UFA budget committee meeting. There will be a substantial increase in the Town of Alta’s annual payment to UFA for the 18/19 fiscal year.
- The final road committee meeting held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The April 5<sup>th</sup> CWC meeting where US Congressional Representative Mia Love’s staff provided an update on related CWC legislation.
- The Alta Gala held on April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The public open houses on the LLC EIS study.
- The last day the UTA ran the ski bus service was April 7<sup>th</sup> and the Alta Resort Shuttle ended its service on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The last day of continuous operations for the ASL will be April 15<sup>th</sup>. The ASL will operate on weekends through May 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The Salt Lake County Election office will be placing a ballot drop off box inside the lobby of the Alta Post Office. It will be in place for the June 2018 primary election.

#### 7. Treasurer’s Report – 01:18:05

Marc Dippo provided a summary of the monthly treasurer’s report.

**Hearing no questions or comments, there was a motion by Cliff Curry to accept the treasurer’s report as submitted. There was a second by Margaret Bourke and the motion was carried.**

#### 8. Departmental Report: 01:19:11

Town Administrator’s Report: John Guldner updated the council on the following matters:

- The March 27<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting where the commission discussed and reviewed the boundaries of the proposed Albion Basin Protection Overlay Zone (ABPOZ) and how to treat the land inside that proposed zone including land owned by USFS and ASL
- The April 24<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting where they will address possible boundaries of the ABPOZ, waterway setbacks, non-conforming uses and other matters. The commission will also look at dark sky protections in the town.

- Update on the possible utility improvements in the Patsy Marley development area.
- Update on fiber installation and service to residential homes in the town.
- The need to replace the 2" water line to the Grizzly Gulch reservoir which because inadequately buried to depth, water is kept flowing to prevent freezing in winter.
- The ULCT Land Use Task Force committee meeting.

Assistant Town Administrator's Report: Chris Cawley updated the council on the following matters:

- The Town of Alta was not awarded the grant from WFRC to hire a consultant to review the proposed trails plan. This project does remain a priority project for the Town of Alta.
- Chris will be joining Maura Olivos at the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals conference to present on the proposed Alta trails plan. Chris reviewed the conference agenda.
- The recent CWC meeting and the upcoming meeting of the CWC on April 23<sup>rd</sup> where the commission will hopefully address the town's membership on the CWC board.

UFA Report – Rand Andrus reported on the recent opportunity for those that wanted to take the captain's test, the training for the wildland fire crews and the safety messages that have been provided to the public on the town's website.

With the upcoming retirement of Rand Andrus, the Town of Alta thanked Rand for his years of service to the Town of Alta and UFA.

Town Marshal's Report: Mike Morey updated the council on the following matters:

- The recent purchase of 800 MHz radio system. This purchase used monies set aside by the town council in the Capital Project Fund.
- The review that is taking place regarding Alta Central road closure procedures and notifications that are used in the Town of Alta and LCC. Mike Morey and Sarah McCloskey will be making a presentation to the council on this matter in an upcoming council meeting.
- Safety concerns over folks arriving in town before road closures and sleeping in their cars during avalanche control work.
- The enhanced law enforcement presence on the last day of the ski season.

9. Approval of the Town Council meeting minutes for the following dates: - 01:56:30

- March 8, 2018
- March 14, 2018 Work Session
- March 21, 2018 Work Session

**There was a motion by Cliff Curry to approve the minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup> and March 21, 2018 Town Council meetings with edits. There was a second by Margaret Bourke. The Mayor asked for comments on this motion.**

Margaret Bourke expressed her concern about the new format of the minutes that makes the document more concise. Ms. Bourke is concerned about the legislative history which the minutes have provided in the past and asked whether the recordings on the sound cloud, which can provide that history, are retained and maintained.

Chris Cawley commented that the town keeps the recording on not only the website but as a record in its shared drive. The town will retain and maintain the recordings of the meetings.

There was discussion on what is required to be memorized in minutes: records of all official actions taken by the governing body, a summary of what was discussed at the meeting and those present at the meeting. Given the amount of time staff is taking on the preparation of the minutes, the Mayor has recommended that staff move toward a more concise version of the minutes versus a more detailed transcription of the meeting knowing that an audio recording is available for each meeting.

**Hearing no further comments on the minutes of the meetings, the Mayor called for a vote on the motion and it was carried.**

02:02:40

The Mayor recognized Mike Maughan from the Alta Ski Lift Company who provided the council and public with an update and overview of the summer program operation for 2018. Mr. Maughan first explained the history of the Congressional Act that, in 2011, authorized ski areas to have summer operations. After watching the increase in summer activity in the Albion Basin over the years and considering and reviewing the options available to the ASL, ASL wrote a letter to the USFS to determine if the ASL could take over the operation of this program. ASL has been granted authority from the USFS in the form of an administrative change to the ASL SUP, to run a pilot Alta summer program. Mr. Maughan reviewed some of the ideas the ASL are considering related to the operation of the summer program.

- Access on summer road limited by available parking in the two parking lots in the basin.
- A fee of \$6.00 per car to drive into the basin, exempting campground users and property owners in the Basin.
- Possible booth hours - either 7 am – 9 pm or 8 am – 8 pm.
- Transportation options on weekends and holidays - a shuttle and/or the Sunnyside lift.
- 24/7 access to the Albion Grill ADA bathrooms.
- The operation of the Albion Grill.
- An enhanced host program including the Albion base and at the top of the lift.
- A proposed advisory committee to review current and future operations of the summer program.
- Free parking at the Albion base lot.
- Free access for bicyclists where applicable and free access for pedestrians on all trails.

The USFS gave verbal approval but it had to go to the Forest Supervisor for formal approval. The USFS will be having an open house to provide information regarding their decision on this matter.

Mr. Maughan expressed his desire to create a program that is sustainable and emphasized that the ASL is not interested in zip lines and coasters, not even mountain bikes, maybe hiking only. It is more interested in promoting eco-tourism.

10. Resolution 2018-R-2 – a resolution extending all temporary dog licenses until June 1, 2018 -  
02:18:58

The Mayor proposed that the council delay item #11 on the agenda – discussion on certain sections of the Town of Alta Animal Control Ordinance. The Mayor believes that holding another work session on this issue would be prudent.

The Mayor reviewed the proposed resolution before the council which would provide for the extension of all temporary licenses until June 1, 2018.

Margaret Bourke expressed concern that the resolution did not provide enough time to the council to address the revisions to the ordinance. Ms. Bourke recommended that the Mayor, who had set the original May 1 deadline, extend the deadline for temporary licenses which would provide the council more time to address the proposed revisions to ordinance.

Mr. Mrazik provided an opinion using a resolution as the instrument for addressing temporary licenses and suggested that extending the deadline would give the council time to address the proposed changes to the ordinance.

**After discussion on the final date for the extension of the temporary licenses, there was a motion by Cliff Curry to approve resolution 2018-R-2 extending all temporary dog licenses until August 1, 2018. There was a second by Margaret Bourke and the motion was carried.**

11. Discussion on certain sections of the Town of Alta Animal Control Ordinance – 02:25:40

The council agreed to table the discussion on this topic and instead schedule another work session on this matter which would provide for a discussion with all members of the council present.

The council agreed to tentatively set April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 4:00 pm as the date and time of the work session. Kate agreed to contact Elise Morgan and Sheridan Davis to confirm their availability.

12. New Business – 02:35:30

Harris Sondak asked staff to send the map prepared by Forsgren on the proposed Albion Basin overlay zone.

Harris Sondak brought up the 1993 resolution passed by the Town Council that addressed certain personnel policies regarding severance packages for the Town Administrator, Town Clerk and Town Marshal.

Mr. Mrazik recommended that letters be prepared for the three current employees holding these positions to make it clear that their severance benefits will be maintained. The Mayor, though, recommended that the council review whether this policy is something the town would want to provide for future employees.

Margaret Bourke addressed pursuing and providing glass recycling for the citizens in the town. Ms. Bourke researched this subject and would like the council to address this concept at the next council meeting.

13. Motion to adjourn – 02:35:25

**Hearing no further business before the town council, there was a motion by Cliff Curry to adjourn the meeting. There was a second by Margaret Bourke and the motion was carried.**

Passed and approved this 9th day of May 2018.

s/ Katherine S.W. Black  
Town Clerk