



**TOWN OF MAMMOTH  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MAMMOTH TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**

These are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting held by the Mammoth Town Council on September 19, 2019 pursuant to the notice required by Law.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Dietz
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Vice Mayor Anaya
3. **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT MEMBERS**

Councilwoman Martinez  
Councilman Bustamante  
Mayor Dietz  
Vice Mayor Anaya  
Councilwoman Amparano  
Councilman Martinez

**PRESENT STAFF**

Attorney S Cooper  
Town Manager D Jones  
Town Recorder S Christiansen

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

Councilman Bustamante

**Motion to excuse Councilman Bustamante from this meeting**

**Motion by: Councilwoman Amparano Second by Councilman Martinez**

**Motion Passed Vote 5-0**

4. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- a. **Annie Martinez**-I have lived in Mammoth almost my whole life. I have spent years volunteering for the youth sports and volunteering with the School District and Community Schools. I am asking the Council one last time to address my issue. In addition to my volunteer time for the children of our community I also agreed to be a member of the Fiesta Committee. In Feb. 2018 this council appointed Sharon Christiansen and I to put together a committee and present a fiesta for the Town of Mammoth. The Town fronted the monies to get this fiesta started. However, at the conclusion of the fiesta once all debts were paid the fiesta only had about 500 to pay the town. At this point the town was owed just over 1000 dollars. This council agreed to waive all monies owing to the town and allow the fiesta committee to keep the 500 to begin the next fiesta, with the understanding that we would need to raise our own funds to continue. This was never Annie's Fiesta Club, and there are 3 others and it is not Sharon's Fiesta Club, or Gina's fiesta Club, It is the Town of Mammoth Fiesta Committee. With this in mind, I have brought this same complaint to this council twice and I am asking this Council one last time to have Don Jones stop dragging my name through the mud. This is defamation of character, slander, and libel. (Listed in Council Packet it is noted on Agenda Action Form concerning Little League request) it is noted next to My Name [Already owes town \$1000.00] by Don Jones who signed this form to be placed on the agenda. It does not state that Sharon or Gina or even the Fiesta Committee owes, it states that I owe. As a Business Professional and a member of the Town Council I am dedicated to conducting myself as an adult and to be respectful of others, I am demanding that same respect from this council and the Town Manager. If this council does not instruct Don Jones to cease and desist at once, my next request will be by an attorney. (Council has agreed to address this internal issue.)
- b. **Juan Ponce**- Concerning Water Rate Increase and Dispatching- I placed an agenda action form on 9-16-2019 and was not placed on the agenda, can you tell me why? (In looking at the packets, it was seen that the action item was approved for agenda and missed during compilation of the final agenda) (Council asked him to proceed with any comments he had intended.) I want to discuss the water rate increase. A few months ago you discussed, radio meters and how this would increase revenues because the old ones did not register the right usage. But, you're still reading those

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meters by hand. All training should have been done before they went in. Does anyone know what the cost of running the water and wastewater expenses are? (Council did not know at the time but stated that these figures could be discussed with Wendy Gort. Also stated was that the water rate study would be available by Oct 21, 2019 and would contain that information as well.) Every one of you sitting up there should know these numbers. You are going to be asking the public for a rate increase and I don't think this is right. Instead of raising rates maybe you need to cut costs in the administration and other areas of the town. There is probably a good reason why I see a private truck in the Public Works yard being worked on. A possible answer may be that they are using it to bring parts from Tucson. So, any of you can say you use your vehicle to pick up parts or something for the town and then you can have the town fix your vehicle. This is a liability to the town. You are serving us. Awhile back Al was asking for people to clean up their yards and make them look good, with trees and all, I will have to quit watering my trees and let them die. We like to water, we like to keep it green, and this is a passion for me. If you raise the rates this will be hard to swallow. Next is the ATT lease. (Council informed him that this item had already been voted on and was complete. No further discussion would be heard.) Now the Mammoth Fire District. We pay 1200 per year where is the other 1400 per year going. Also we pay 2700 per year for the relay tower and the town was going to help us with this. Last year we didn't charge the town at all. We have some money because we manage our money and it is in case of emergency comes up and we need to purchase a new truck or equipment. We are talking about 250,000 for a good used truck. Thank you. (Council urged him to attend the public hearing on Nov. 21,2019 to restate some of his concerns)

- c. **Rachel Womack-Aria Hospice Comfort Care-Aging in Place, There's no place like home.** Staying in your home is called Aging in Place...and we can help you. We understand that Home is Where the Heart Is and being at home is comfortable and secure. While not all of us will be able to remain at home as we age, Aria Hospice Comfort Care wants to do everything to help you. We offer palliative and hospice care with a full staff of registered nurses, doctors, social workers, certified nursing aides, chaplains and volunteers to help you remain in your home. You will never have to go it alone, we're here to help. (you can pick up a brochure in the Council Chambers or contact them directly at 1-520-547-7000 or check their website at [www.ariahospicecomfortcare.com](http://www.ariahospicecomfortcare.com))
- d. **Sharon Christiansen-Fiesta Committee**-Due to our staff have some health issues and the lack of participation from the town residents, we will be cancelling the Fiesta set for Oct. 19, 2019. We will present a statement of account and closing at the October Meeting, Thank you.
- e. **Tony Armenta**-The city of Safford put in the radio meters and everybody's water bills went up. The same thing is going to happen here. The system works real good.
- f. **(CLOSE CALL TO THE PUBLIC)**

## 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes was accidently skipped during this meeting and will be approved at the October Meeting.

## 6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

- a. **Councilwoman Martinez**-I would like to address something that has been bothering me. I have seen our town manager driving a town vehicle for personal usage on the weekends. I have passed him on a Sunday Morning and on a Saturday Night, there was nothing going on with the town, I checked. There was nothing urgent that required him to be in a town vehicle. What bothered me most was that he was driving 75 miles an hour. I know because I have a lead foot sometimes and I sped up to try and see who was driving so I could let the town manager know who it was and it was the town manager. I just wanted to bring this up because I don't know if you are aware or not but it does not matter if he is on town business or not if he is in a town vehicle the town is liable for any actions taken in that vehicle. If he is involved in an accident on his time it does not matter, he is not liable, and we are, because it is a town vehicle. There needs to be some rules and procedures concerning this. I would like to see this council put into place some type of log book for the town vehicles logging the driver, mileage and gas for each vehicle. I would like to know on a daily basis the mileage and gas used for each truck. While we are in the process of raising water rates to decrease deficits and you have someone using town resources for personal reasons, it is counter intuitive. It totally defeats the idea that we don't have money to do what is needed. We

need to get a handle on this for one to decrease our liability and two, so that we are not wasting money on things we should not be spending it on. (Councilwoman Amparano restated several comments already made concerning personal vehicle maintenance at the yard.)

b. Mayor Dietz stated that he would pursue this matter and discuss it with the town manager.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**a. Staff Recommendations and Reports**

- i. Town Clerk/Treasure Report
- ii. Public Works Report
- iii. Library Report
- iv. Planning and Zoning Report
- v. Town Managers Report

**b. Staff Reports**

- i. Police Report
- ii. Treasure Report

**c. Account Payable for Payment and Filing**

Staff Reports will be presented orally after the Consent Agenda has been voted.

**Motion is to Accept Consent Agenda and Accounts Payable for Payment and Filing, excluding Police Report and Treasure Report.**

**Motion to Accept Consent Agenda**

<b>Vote Roll Call</b>	<b>Councilwoman Martinez</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Vice-Mayor Anaya</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Councilwoman Amparano</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mayor Dietz</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Councilman Martinez</b>	<b>YES</b>		

**Motion Passed Vote 5-0**

**Police Report-Chief Lujan-gave statistical report for July and August 2019.** Officer Chase is back with us full time. Working on a grant to help with new officers, getting and keeping officers can only better the service and protection of our town. For many months we have been working with no 911 recordings, we also have no recordings when one of our officers makes a stop. These recording are so important and valuable to any response made by our officers. I have been in contact with County Attorney’s office and applied for RICO funding for recordings which will cost \$18,000 and they are willing to give \$17,000 which means it will only cost the town \$1,000. We still need approval from Pete Rios and the Board of Supervisors, but that should not be a problem. This will be great for our department, officers, and the public. These 911 recordings are so important when taking a case to court. They can show the fear or desperation of the person making the calls. The Impala is finally ready to go, we do not have the lights on yet. I spoke with the Chief of Kearney, and he has an officer who is on light duty that is going to help us mount those lights. Hopefully by next month this new police car will be on the road. This car has cost the town zero dollars. We also have a second Impala that we will start putting together soon.

Councilwoman Martinez-On Police Department-Chief Lujan you do not get enough thanks and I would personally on behalf of the town Thank you for all you do. All the grant work and wheeling/dealing you do to get the items and needs of the police department. Every time you give a report you blow us away with what you are able to accomplish on behalf of this town. Thank you so much, you are an asset to this town.

**Motion to Accept Police Report**

**Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez**

**Second by: Councilman Martinez**

**Motion Passed Vote 5-0**

**Treasure Report-Sharon Christiansen- Beginning Balance as of August 1, 2019 was \$569,861.05-We had total deposits of \$365,032.49 which included a one-time deposit of \$197,802.20 from HURF and the Expensed Amounts were \$ 140,200.39. Without including HURF this month was a gain of \$27,029.90 over expenditures. Ending Balance as of August 31, 2019 \$794,693.15**

**Motion to Accept Treasurers Report**

**Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez**

**Second by: Councilwoman Amparano**

**Motion Passed Vote 5-0**

**8. OLD BUSINESS**



Councilwoman Martinez Statement— we have some very talented people in Mammoth and I was very pleased with how many people wanted to run for this seat. Obviously we can only pick one. So, to those that do not get picked tonight, please don't let this deter you from running again in the future. We have some great people on the Council to run against but, diffidently put your hat in for the elections next August. Don't let this stop you from wanting to serve. One of the letters we received was from Terry Adams, at the last election he was next in votes for the seat that Gina Medina was elected to. I think it fitting that we look at putting him in that seat now as he was the people's next choice.

**Motion to appoint Terry Adams to the Vacant Council Seat**

**Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez      Second by:**

**Attorney-Council there is a motion on the floor with a first, if no second is voiced the motion dies and you may make a new motion. At 5 members, this is a quorum and needs a 3 vote minimum to be a majority vote and pass this motion.**

**Mayor Dietz asked if there is a second and hearing none declares the motion dead.**

**Attorney-now you are free to either nominate someone else or hear from one or more of the candidates before making that nomination.**

**Motion to seat Matthew Rash**

**Councilwoman Martinez points out the points in his letter of interest that would make him a good candidate for this seat.**

**Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez      Second by: Councilwoman Amparano**

<b>Roll call Vote: Councilwoman Martinez</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Council woman Amparano</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Councilman Martinez</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Vice Mayor Anaya</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Mayor Dietz</b>	<b>NO</b>		

**Motion Passed Vote 3-2 Congratulations to Matthew Rash**

- e. Consideration and Possible Direction to Staff to begin process to Annex 81 acre property into Mammoth Town Limits.**

**No Action Taken-Staff is directed to begin discussions on Annexation of Real Property and to also extend an Invitation to Present Materials and Information, at the Town Council Meeting in October 2019.**

- f. Consideration and Possible Direction to Staff to begin process of increasing Dispatching Services Agreement with Mammoth Fire District.**

**Town Manager recommends substantial increase because half (1/2) of dispatching services provided by Town are for Fire District calls.**

**Council Discussion:**

**Councilwoman Martinez- I have always been pro fire and pre police. Without these two services you're not going to have citizens, people won't move into the area without these services. I looked over the motion in our packets and I am sorry but I do not think paying 50% of dispatching wages for a volunteer fire department is right. My way of thinking is, if we did not have a volunteer fire department, we would have to outsource this service. Which would mean a higher cost to the town and you would still have to pay for dispatchers. I understand we have to cut cost but, I think it's wrong. How many dispatchers do you have?**

**Chief Lujan- six at 11.50 per hour.**

**Councilwoman Martinez-Do you have 24 hour dispatching?**

**Chief Lujan- Yes**

**Councilwoman Martinez-I am sorry to go from \$500 per month to tell them they have to paying thousands of dollars a month to cover dispatcher. It's just wrong they are volunteer workers, donating their time and donating their resources. They are putting their lives on the line just as much as the officers. I think to strap either one of these departments with unnecessary costs is wrong. I do not agree with this at all.**

**Councilman Martinez- Me either.**

**Councilwoman Amparano-We need both forces.**

**Councilwoman Martinez-were already paying dispatchers, it'[s already in the budget, it's not right.**

**Chief Lujan- I don't understand your anger with me. Yes, we do take fire calls to dispatch, but my dispatchers are not so busy that they can't handle the fire calls, I agree that the town needs the fire department as well.**

Vice Mayor Anaya- In case you don't know the fire department has a budget.  
Councilwoman Martinez- They want the fire to pay 50% of the dispatchers pay which is thousands of dollars. It says in the paperwork right here, "Fire Dept. pay 50% of all dispatching wages. The sum of \$500.00 a month does not pay for 1 dispatcher." (after some quick calculations) that around \$2007 a month.

Motion is not to raise amount but to decrease amount to \$250.00 per-month.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez                      Second by Councilwoman Amparano

(It is noted to the Council that this is not up for a motion but for consideration and discussion only) Motion and second are withdrawn.

Let it be known by order of the Mayor that this item will have NO ACTION TAKEN at this time and will not be revisited unless someone places it on another agenda.

g. Second Notice of Intention to Increase Certain Water and Wastewater Rates, Charges, and Fees.

This is a Notice to the Public

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held at a Regular Meeting of the Town of Mammoth Town Council to be held on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, 125 N Clark St Mammoth Arizona 85618, to hear and receive written comments by Mammoth citizens regarding the proposed increase to certain water and wastewater rates, charges and fees. After the public hearing, Council will consider an increase to certain water and wastewater Rates, charges and fees. Effective date January 1, 2020. A copy of the documents supporting the increase to certain water and wastewater rates will be available in the office of the Town Clerk commencing on or before October 21, 2019.

10. Possible Executive Session – NONE

11. Adjourn

Motion is to Adjourn meeting at 8:22PM

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez    Second by: Councilwoman Amparano

Motion Passed Vote 5-0

I certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of the Town of Mammoth Council Meeting held September 19, 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.

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Don Jones, Town Manager