

Motion is to Approve Ordinance 2021-07 Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$2.251 per \$100 of Assessed Value.

Motion by Councilman Ponce

Second by Councilman Martinez

Roll Call Vote

Councilman Bustamante YES
Councilman Adams NO
Councilman Ponce YES
Mayor Armenta (by Phone) YES

Councilman Martinez YES
Councilman Brewer YES
Vice Mayor Martinez YES

Motion Passed VOTE 6-1

8D NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action to Approve an IGA with Pinal County for Animal Control Service for a Period of 3 Years.

A. Sanchez Town Clerk-this is the idea that we've been working on with Pinal County for quite some time, we actually were able to secure an agreement with Pinal County. If we approve it today, then they'll take this agreement to the Board of Supervisors, it'll be in August, and then it'll be effective on September 1. So this agreement provides us services through animal control for a flat fee of \$2,000 per year. Not only did we get all of the services that we had in the last IGA that had expired, but they also added two clinics per year, they also added sweeps, so they'll be doing two full sweeps a year where they'll bring a team of like three of their animal control officers come down and they'll spend an entire week sweeping the town, so, you asked for the clinic, the vaccination clinics and license clinics back, so they added that into the agreement. So the \$2,000 will cover anything that happens Monday through Friday, eight to five during regular business hours. And then after that, if there's an emergency after hours, then we pay the emergency rate because they have to pay overtime if someone's get gets called out after hours. So the agreements really good. As a matter of fact, some somebody from the county asked me how we got such a good agreement. So we're really, really happy with it. They are working with us, they're working with all of the towns to make sure that everyone has services especially now that it's so hot, and they want to make sure that animals are properly cared for. So this is a great opportunity for us as far as stray dogs are concerned. Those issues that we're having with animals at large. The last count I had was that they picked up I believe 11 animals. And of those 11 only two were returned to the owners. They still haven't been able to find the one that came after Councilman Bustamante. So, but they're making regular stops through the town right now. And they're going to continue. They're preparing for this IGA and already coming into town anytime we call them. We're working with the police department as well. So we budgeted \$2,000 in the in the police department budget and an additional \$2,000 for afterhours overtime. We don't foresee that's going to happen. We had a call the other day for animal control. And they were able to talk to them and they explained that they were complaining about a stray dog, we were able to talk to them explain the situation. And it was like eight o'clock at night. We called animal control the next morning, they came out went out spoke to them, located the animal loaded up and took it back to Florence. So the police department is working very well with us and the dispatch to make sure that we handle these calls so that we don't have very many emergencies.

Motion is to Approve an IGA with Pinal County for Animal Control Service for a Period of 3 Years.

Motion by Councilman Adams

Second by Councilman Ponce

Motion Passed VOTE 7-0

8E NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the US Housing and Urban Development Community Planning and Development Programs Cooperation and Coordination Agreement between Pinal County and the Town of Mammoth.

J. Schempf Town Manager-If you recall, a meeting or two ago, we authorize the Mayor to sign a letter back to the county that says yes, we want to join with them for the next three years. This is the official ratification of that agreement. And as I explain then, and I just double check again, yesterday, I was on a call with CAG. They're not getting any funding at all to speak of, they get \$120,000 they have to split between six towns. So, we're doing okay. It's nice to be able to pick and choose. I don't know how long it'll last. I mean, maybe the next go around in a couple of years. It'll flip the other way. But right now, we're getting more of our money out of the county than we would if we went with CAG. I'd recommend agreeing to this.

Motion is to Approve the US Housing and Urban Development Community Planning and Development Programs Cooperation and Coordination Agreement between Pinal County and the Town of Mammoth.

Motion by Councilman Martinez
Motion Passed VOTE 7-0

Second by Councilman Adams

Vice Mayor Martinez- And so we're going to go back and take the rest of the agenda in the order that is on here.

5. Presentation and Q&A for Chad Crockett of Bowman Engineering Corporation Inc. on the Town Water Project.

Okay, thank you. I'm Chad Crockett. I am the principal engineer in charge for the family water project. And John asked me to do a brief project overview for the council today. So I just have a few things to go over just to give you a little idea of who Bowman is. Talk about the project, the grant, what it all entails, to make sure everyone understands what the town has. We'll talk a little bit about the design status where we're at. And then the last item was the wells. I know that that's a hot topic among the residents and the council.

So just a little bit about Bowman. We've been around for over 25 years. We have Over 750 employees. We are a publicly traded engineering company. We have 32 offices nationwide. And in Arizona we have five. So we're in Tucson, Tempe, Glendale, Mesa and Safford. So, I am in the Safford office, that's where I spend most of my time. So as a firm we do about every type of engineering you could want. We have a lot of resources nationwide. I am a civil engineer and I focus on water, wastewater and municipal infrastructure. So I'm native Arizona, I grew up here, rural Arizona and Safford. I've done projects in different parts of the state, but I enjoy working more in the rural communities. My specialty is water systems, troubleshooting systems that may be not quite sure exactly how they operate. And so I was excited to get this project. On the team, we have three other members, Carson Taylor, who's also in my office, who will help with engineering. Bob Krallinger is actually in our Virginia office. And he heads the water and wastewater team nationally, so he will help with quality control. And then Jonathan Nolan is our survey manager out of Safford. So he covers southeast Arizona.

Now, to go over the project that the town was awarded. So it's a USDA funded project, and its scope is based on a preliminary engineering report that NCS did. And this was about a year ago, year and a half ago when they did that study. And so the scope that was outlined, called for about 27,000 feet of pipe replacement. It also called for improvements to the wellhead. Supervisory control and data acquisition, which is a SCADA, is what we call it. So that's how the system is controlled. It'll allow the operator to see what's going on in the system remotely. So if the pumps are on and the tanks empty, if the pumps don't start when they should have, that all is there.

The next thing that was on there was emergency generators. I know you have power outages like we're worried about and so that's a big, big thing that is necessary, especially when you have a booster station that controls half your town's water and wells too. So we're looking at different sources to possibly get a generator from a different funding agency. So we're still trying to figure out what would be best use for the money in this project. So worst case scenario, you would have one, hopefully, two generators, that would be trailer mounted, you could leave the generator at the booster station, if that's where you have most of your problems. Hopefully, after this, this project, it's not a problem as much as it is now. Then if we had multiple you could move the generator from one well to the other. Ideally, you would have three generators, ground set, dedicated for each of the wells and the booster station. So, the booster station is part of the project, we're still trying to figure out what is happening, from what I can tell it's a control issue, how it's seen. If the tank needs water, not, the pumps themselves, are sized properly to put the water to the tank, it's just making sure that they talk with the tank, so they come on at the right time. It appears that most of your problems happen after a power surge or a glitch in the power, they don't reset to automatic. And so that's something we're working on and plan on including with the SCADA system that would be integrated into it. Also, there would be an alarm, so that if the pumps, the power went off, and the pumps didn't restart, the operator would get a notification that something is not right. If the tank levels drop to a certain level, they would be notified that your tank is low. So, the plan would be that you would have a main computer system that controls it, that would likely be at the town hall, and then it would be set up to where it could notify operators or people within it via their cell phone.

So this is the grant that the town got, broken down by dollars. So, the Grant that you received, the way the funding was split up is \$5.5 million was for construction. And then you have another half \$500 Thousand for contingency. And then there's \$1.5 million, which was set aside for administrative services, getting the grant interest, things like that. This includes part of getting government funds, legal needs, right of way permitting, and engineering. So, all of

those things take up the rest. So, we have \$6 million for construction. Part of the problem with a grant like this, is what do we do? People can come with a list of things they want to do, but with \$6 million, unfortunately, we're not going to be able to do everything. So what are the priorities? How do we prioritize things? These are the priorities that we've identified, one of them being pressures in your pipes, right now you have a lot of breaks, and the majority of them are in areas where you have really high pressures. So, if we could reduce the pressures, we could eliminate a lot of breaks, and possibly extend the life of the pipe. While it will need to be replaced in the future, if we can eliminate those breaks, it could help from a maintenance point of view.

The next is, the tanks and the booster, they kind of go hand in hand. So, I know there's been many times where the tank runs out of water because the booster station didn't kick on. So that's where we get into the controls, do we want to replace the pumps, or do we want to replace the control system? That was another high priority.

The next one pipe breaks. So, replace piping, do we need to reconfigure the pipe pallet serve, so we can eliminate those. The last two are valves, I know there's been times where the pipe breaks but, in order to shut down the water, they have to turn off one valve that they know works, which turns off water to a large portion of the town. That's not how it should be. Ideally, it's block by block, you should be able to isolate a leak, very closely to a valve and not affect as many people. And so we're looking at that.

The last one is hydrants, looking through a lot of the hydrant spacing, some of it can be redone, which would allow for better access to hydrants. Rather than having one hydrant at a dead end, we could move that farther up the road so that it can serve more homes. There's also some hydrants that are fed by pipes that are less than six inches in diameter, which is not up to code. And so the idea would be to redo the piping so that they're served by a minimum of a six inch pipe. And I'm on Safford's volunteer fire department, so I know how critical it is when you get to a fire, that you have water, so we don't want the department to go to a fire and open a hydrant and not have anything.

As far as the design goes, these are the things that we've done so far. So, we did the aerial survey of the entire town that gave us locations that also gave us elevations, which is what we really needed. We went around and we put a pressure gauge on every hydrant, which told us where you're experiencing higher pressures or lower pressures.

We're able to identify what tank is serving what part of town. There's some interesting parts, we found, which, through this project, we'll be able to eliminate those high pressures by redoing piping, and by adding pressure reducing stations. We've identified locations where pressure reducing stations are warranted and are going to improve the system. Also, they're going to help people from having problems with their side of the line because of high pressures, too. We have done ground penetrating radar to locate utilities underground. And the next step there is to have potholing done, where they'll come out with a backtrak and dig up where the pipes are, some we don't know where they're going to or how they're connecting. So we can clear up some of the confusion. Because we know how much we have to spend, we don't want to over design. So, as we come up with these areas, we know the priorities that we need, which are the booster station, we need pressure reducing valves, and so we're kind of backing into it. We have this much money, so we create a cost estimate as we're designing. So we can plan, if we have this much money, that means we can replace this many feet of pipe, we can replace this many hydrants. We make sure that the most important things are addressed with the money we have.

The last topic is a hot topic, which is wells. And so just to talk about how they're governed. So, all drinking water, public drinking water cisterns are governed by the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act. And there's two different regulations. So there's the primary regulations, which are mandatory, and are health threatening. And then there's the secondary regulations, which are non-health threatening, and which are considered aesthetic. So, the way I look at that is if you, you have a car and you got a big dent in the door, it's still safe to drive it, there's just a dent in it. It may not be as aesthetic as you want it to be. So, that would be what we'd call a secondary problem. But if you had a car and there was a big crack in your frame, that would be considered a primary problem where that's going to cause harm. So, looking at the wells that the town currently operates, Well #4 and Well #5, which are on the northern part of town, currently, they meet all of the primary health regulations. But there's two secondary regulations that they're outside of the normal limits, one being sulfate and the other being total dissolved solids. So total dissolved solids are what you consider hardness, so it can affect taste. So when you turn on your faucet at home, and then turn it off, and there's the ring around the Chrome on the faucet, that's from the hardness, the taste is going to come from the sulfate, so that can cause salty tasting water, or a bad taste. That's what they classify as an aesthetic problem. So, drinking the water is not going to kill you. But you may not want to drink enough water because you don't like the taste.

Well #1 and Well #2, which are in the southern part of town, these ones were kind of the opposite and are not currently being used. The last one that was brought up is the Clark Well, which is the one by the river that was given to the town, or the town bought many years ago. I did some research, for any Well that's drilled, there should be a record of it with the State Department of Water Resources. This one was like that. It was drilled in 1965. For the industrial Sand and Gravel operation. It has an eight inch casing, which will limit the size of pump you could put on it. The main things for the Clark Well, is that it doesn't meet drinking water standards for well construction. So a

well, for drinking water, it has to have a sanitary seal. And what that means is the first 20 feet of that well casing has grout, between the casing and the dirt 20 feet deep. Also, the casing has to stick up a minimum of a foot above the ground sort of pipe before the pump is on. It has to have a six foot slab around it. So, while we don't know if it's quality water or not. The problem is, you can't just take a well that's been used for irrigation and start using it for municipal water. The other thing to keep in mind, with a well like this is, it may be good water, when you first turn it on and taste it, you may not taste anything bad compared to what you're drinking. But that doesn't mean there's nothing bad in it. Also, when we do well quality tests, for new source, it's pretty standard that you're going to pump that well for a few days, if it's been stagnant. You want to make sure that the water you're going to test is the actual water you're going to drink, not just the water that's in the pipe. So, there are some challenges with the water here. You could use the well for whatever you really want to other than a drinking the water system.

So, as far as hydrant spacing the standards, 500 feet, so 500 foot spacing between hydrants and commercial areas it can be closer, depending on what you have. The other part of the problem is we won't put a hydrant where we don't already have a main we can connect to. So, it's all gonna depend on where we can get water from. A hydrant near Dollar General, right now the water is on the other side of the road. We haven't looked into that in much detail to see if we can bore a line under the highway. The problem with that is, if we want to cross the highway, ADOT typically will not let you open cut it. So you have to bore under it, which the price goes from \$100 a foot to \$1,500 to \$2,000 per foot. I mean, anything's possible. I think what would be good is, if I could provide a map and you could show me suggestions that you would want to add.

I mean, we're still really early on in this process. But what we would need to know is if there are areas that you want us to definitely concentrate on, or any other problems. That's what we need to know. We've got information from Bill at Public Works and from those in the water department, who have told us some issues, and we've had a list of hydrants that we know are broken. We've been able to identify pressure areas that are really high. But if there are other things, we are definitely open. And we're in the stage of the game where that knowledge is going to help us because in the end, this is going to be your system.

****Note-It was suggested that they also speak to Fire Chief Ponce concerning hydrants****

We're working on being able to accommodate new hydrants in the future. It just depends on where you want to put them. The whole issue, the challenge with the grant is we only have so much funding. So there may be parts of town where we're not even in, a large part of town where there is no construction, other than maybe they put in a valve or they replaced the hydrant. So, everything we do will be set up so that in the future, if we do need another hydrant or things like that, it will be there. So it can be extended or added on to in the future. So we definitely don't want to design you in a corner where you have to redo something.

****Question: And did I hear you correctly, we're not using Well #1 or #2? That the only wells that we're using are the ones on the north part of town?*****

Yes, Well #4 and #5. And those wells, they could be treated to lower the sulfide and hardness. So that is an option. Wells #1 & 2, they're just not being utilized right now, they don't meet those standards for drinking water. Wells, #1 and #2 are on the South side of town. And they can be treated, but it's going to be expensive. I don't know that I put a lot of money into treating those. If you were going to treat wells, I would do the ones you have for taste. The way you could do that, to save money as you treat, you treat one to a high level to where it eliminates the majority of it, and then you blend it with the other one. And so basically, you're diluting that contaminate to a level that is acceptable.

****Note there is a question concerning the scale that is present in our home water lines and whether or not we would be looking at a new source for water supply****

Yeah, so that's calcium carbonate. So it's like a Tums. But, that's what it is. It's hard water.

If I'm directed to do so, I can, but that's not necessarily in scope right now to look for a new source. We have not tested any wells for capacity or more contaminants, all we've done is we've been given the information that's been done in the past as far as well capacity and quality. But, the only real thing that's in our scope for as far as wells go, is, Well #5 is in a floodplain. So it's required to be protected. So we're going to have to do improvements to that. So if there is a flood, it's not going to take out the electricity, or the chlorination or the disinfection to the well. And then the other thing would be controls, towers, how it turns on and functions with the booster station and with the tanks. That's kind of the extent of what our project entails.

And it sounds like another great project would be a new source development, trying to find a new source where to put a well, from my experience, if you find a spot to put one, you're going to be better off to just drill a new Well, next to the Well you like, because the standards for construction are so much different. To retro fit one, you're going to have an old casing and old well, and put a lot of money into it and still have an old casing an old well that now just has a sanitary seal around it. So in my opinion, if you are going to go for a new Well, it would be, find a spot and let's drill a new one next to it.

****Question: When do you think, are you on schedule? When do you perceive you're part of this project being finished as far as engineering and design?*****

So, what we're seeing right now is we should still be able to go to Bid the first part of next year. Right now we're kind of at the cusp of really getting into design in areas, what exactly we're going to do. We have the 30% designs about done. And with that what I'm saying is, we took costs of construction, which have been hard to estimate recently, and how much money we have and what we can do for that price. And so we're trying to balance that to see, the things that I know you need. You need the pressure reducing stations, and you need your pumps and your wells and your tanks to work together. And then after that, we were trying to see how many feet of pipe we can put in. We know that there are sections of pipe that's bad. So how many how much of that can we put in? Okay, if we can put in two miles of pipe here, and we'd like to put in three? Well, that third mile, is that more important than putting in eight more fire hydrants, and putting valves throughout this part of the community. So that this is the type of project I like. I've done this lots of times, you're trying to figure out, okay, we know we can't have the world here. But, with what money we have, what can we fix that's going to give us the biggest benefit.

****Question: Concerning the replacement of Asbestos Pipes that already exist in the Town and the possible replacement of those.*****

So, I'm glad you brought that up. Asbestos Cement Pipe is not dangerous to drink out of. Asbestos cement pipe, they call it transite pipe, there are still millions of miles of it throughout the state and throughout the country. Asbestos is harmful when it's in fibers form. So, if you take an Asbestos Cement Pipe and you have a pipe break, then you have to cut it, and it's dry, that's when it's dangerous. Water moving through it is not harmful. There's been no studies showing that drinking water from Asbestos Cement Pipe causes any type of cancer. However, there's been lots of studies where people in the piping industry have had problems because they cut through the pipe when removing it, they didn't have the proper protection gear, it was dry, and they use a dry saw. As soon as it's cut, those fibers go in the air, and that's what gets in your lungs. So, yes, we will replace the Asbestos Cement Pipe in some areas. I don't know that we'll get it all. I don't know that the town knows where all of it is, that is part of another issue.

Vice Mayor Martinez-Thank you very much for coming out. I appreciate you making the long drive from Stafford and giving us an update. It is important that we are all on the same page. So, thank you very much for making the trip.

****Council Thanked Mr. Crockett for the presentation and update, and for the long drive he made to come to the Meeting.*****

CLOSE PRESENTATION BY CHAD CROCKETT FROM BOWMAN ENGINEERING

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Staff Recommendations and Reports (Copies of all Reports can be found on the Agenda page of the website for this meeting)**
 - 1. Town Clerk/Treasurer**
 - 2. Town Manager**
 - 3. Police**
 - 4. Public Works**
 - 5. Library**
 - 6. Planning and Zoning**
- B. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE For Payment and Filing for June 2021**
- C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**
 - 1. Special Meeting of June 4, 2021**
 - 2. Special Meeting of June 16, 2021**
 - 3. Special Meeting of June 30, 2021**

**Motion to Accept Consent Agenda as stated.
Motion by Councilman Martinez**

Second by Councilman Brewer

Motion Passed VOTE 7-0

7. **OLD BUSINESS** A. ****Moved to Beginning by Council****

B. **Consideration and Possible Approval to Accept Finalized Objective Expectation and Goal for the Police Department and for the Evaluation of Chief of Police in 6 months as Set By Council.**

Motion to Accept Finalized Objective Expectation and Goal for the Police Department and for the Evaluation of Chief of Police in 6 months as Set by Council.

Motion by Councilman Brewer

Second by Councilman Bustamante

Motion Passed VOTE 7-0

8 **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Consideration and Possible Approval to Direct Staff to plan and organize a Town Wide Community Clean-up and Determine Budget**

J. Schempf Town Manager-I'll kick this off, Staff has spent quite a bit of time on this. We have some really good ideas. We asked the guys and the people that are going to be doing it, and we got even more ideas, which is good. They did suggest we were going to try and do it in August but, the suggestion was to put it off until September, and hopefully the weather's a little bit cooler. The other thing we've decided is that, we're going to develop a windshield surveys, is what they call them. So literally, the police and the public works are going to drive around specific, mapped out blocks. If they see an issue, a big issue, they are going to know the address, one if there's no address on it, which leads to another subject, which I'll talk about in a minute. But they can draw on the map. Okay, so the third house in from the corner of these two streets. So, this is going to give us an idea of the scope of the problem. So, the real bad ones, we're going to turn over to zoning so they can be concentrated on. But, it will help plan where we put our efforts at the town cleanup. So that was step one, and that's going to happen here in the next couple of weeks. The next step is to actually do the town cleanup. And today we got some really interesting good news, we found out that the waste management owes us two dumpsters a year, free, for town cleanup. I know we haven't used them in years. So, I'm going to go back and get at least four. And I think I can talk them into that because the last thing we want to do is get everybody excited, and then wind up not being able to get rid of it. But we're going to put it all down in the gravel yard. That's what we're gonna stage everything. And I'll turn it over to the Clerk because she's got other ideas. .

A Sanchez Town Clerk-Okay, so I gave everyone a handout. We're tentatively calling this The Mammoth Volunteer Community Cleanup. So we're looking at September 13, through the 18th, tentatively, for the cleanup, it's going to run a week. What we thought was that we would assign two or three Public Works people to wherever we decide to have the roll-offs at, and they're going to organize the site, as stuff comes in. They will do this throughout the week, for a whole week, then on Saturday, we wanted to try to form some kind of volunteer committee. We would go out and people come with their trucks, and we'd go out and try to pick up and help out people who couldn't, because they don't have a truck. That's our biggest problem here, I think that we have a lot of people who don't have transportation to get that stuff to the site. It does us no good to have empty roll-offs. So we're hoping that the council will be able to help organize and help get volunteers to do this. I actually, when I was with the county, we did something similar to this in Dudleyville. And it was amazing. The first year, it was a struggle, because people didn't understand and they weren't prepared, and they didn't know what they needed to do. And we didn't know what we needed to do. So, by the second year, by the third year, it was amazing. It was something that everyone looked forward to all year long. So, it helped clean the area up and get rid of a lot of the issues that they had. We think that it's going to be positive, it's going to take a little while. But I called and found out that it was going to cost us \$900 for this roll-off. And John actually saved us not only \$900, but even more. He said, I think I remember in our contract somewhere that we were supposed to get a roll-off and he went back and found it. So, I mean, kudos to him. That's what's going to make this and not only is it going to save us \$900 but, with this we can actually have two community cleanups a year rather than just one. That's really going to help us address our issues, help people get their property cleaned up. The thing is our property values are dropping, they're dropping daily, yearly, because the town is in such disarray. So, we really need to take it on. I spoke to CRM of America, they're going to bring a roll off, and it's going to cost about \$400. They're gonna bring it out, drop it off for free, pick it up for free, but we have to pay for the disposal fee for the tires. So, that's \$80 per ton, which is around \$400. And then hazardous waste, Heritage Environmental is going to come, actually they're not going to come out. They said that if

we had enough, they would send someone out and pick it up, they would work with us. And that's at 25 cents per pound, or 75 cents per pound, depending on what those hazardous materials are, batteries, oil, chemicals, latex paint, things like that. I think we've got our bases covered. We're going to try to stay away from picking up weeds and brush for this community cleanup. We have an issue out at the landfill, we have a lot of stuff out there that we need to get rid of. Because of the ban on burning, we have not been able to do anything with it. So we don't want to make that problem worse, while we're trying to solve another problem. So we're gonna stay away from weeds and brush. I'm trying to focus on the general waste, the tires, and hazardous materials. So we're asking that the council assist us in organizing a volunteer committee. Public Works will be staffing drop off site, the police department said they would assist with traffic control. Our administration staff, we're going to prepare flyers, post it in the newspaper and coordinate with residents who need assistance. Zoning is going to help by identifying the worst of the worst, and start sending out letters, and getting on them so that they feel a need and a sense of urgency. We want everyone to take advantage of this as a community. Does anyone have any questions? Do you have any ideas? Because, we're very open to anything you guys can help us with? We want this to be a success.

****Question: There was a discussion concerning the use of Volunteers and the Liability that may have on the Town of Mammoth****

S. Cooper Attorney- Council Members, there's a couple things that we could do on that. One is, obviously we will chat with our insurance carrier to make sure that we get coverage for it. We can also prepare some type of waivers and have people that volunteer sign that they agree they're not going to file suit against the town. That's not to say that a lawsuit or claim couldn't happen. And really just making sure that they're doing things that aren't involving a lot of use of hazardous equipment or machinery or that they're basically doing something that's kind of dangerous, like if they're, you know, they decided they wanted to try to lift up and throw in a dumpster or refrigerator. You know, there's just so many things that can go wrong with the weight of that. And so I think we can do that by making sure that we have people that are competent, there to help oversee volunteers, and make sure they're not going to harm themselves.

****Question-Concerning Weeds and Brush. Do we have an area that we can allow residents to dump weeds and brush and the town can do controlled burns****

****Answer-We do have an area for this, but with the burning ban it is filled to capacity and will require some time to fully address this problem. With some bans being lifted we should be able to begin that process soon****

J. Schempf Town Manager-Vehicles, we're going to also attack the abandoned vehicle issues. We're just going to require that if you're going to keep that pile of junk, it's got to be registered. And that causes a lot of us old car freaks to say, well do I want to spend the money, it's only 50 bucks, 50 bucks this year and 50 bucks next year. And you start making some smart decisions. Okay, maybe I don't need 14 projects in my retirement.

Now the other thing I wanted to mention is that I was in another community where this is well established. But it was amazing to me that the whole community turned out, it was a party. And the volunteers, they did sign the waivers just, as our attorney mentioned, but they were a big help because they were bringing their own cars and in trailers and trucks and, and helping those that couldn't. And in the town, this particular town did not have water department, they didn't have any public works. So the town really couldn't do much. We did have one truck and a trailer. And for the first hour they went around to people who would call in. So that might be something we can look at, you know, we'll start a call list. Encourage those people without cars and trucks to call in and ask for help. We're still working out the kinks, but we are excited about and so is virtually everybody that we've talked to. But the first impression a lot of people have is we are a poor town. If we could get a lot of this stuff picked up, it's going to help and then we're going to attack the derelict buildings. You know, we plan on this being a long term deal, but I think, if the people get excited about it, we're going to make some progress and people are going to think twice about throwing something out in their yard. That's our hope.

Councilman Bustamante-Like I've said before, these properties are not owned by 14 year olds, they're not owned by 17 year olds, there not owned by 6 year olds. These old derelict buildings, are owned by adults. They knew what they were getting into when they purchased the property. And it's like anything else, you got to take it in small steps, but at some point in time, you get to the point where you got to do something and you must begin the condemnation process. We are within our rights to act to alleviate the problem, you know, but the cleanup is a good start. That's gonna be the biggest challenge.

A Sanchez Town Clerk-The only thing I want to mention was, you asked about vehicles. The police department, they ordered a whole stack of red tags, where they're going to start red tagging all of those, many vehicles that are sitting on the side of the road, and those that are not registered are going to get a red tag. It's going to be moved to a new area off the street, someplace where it's not causing problems. And the only other thing was, when we did the community cleanups in Dudleyville, one of the thing that really helped us get volunteers was that we had a big luncheon afterwards. So, all the while everybody was out of working and cleaning up and taking things to the site. They had a committee who was preparing food, and afterwards, everybody came and sat down and they all sat together, and we provided everybody lunch. But, I think more importantly, what we got from that was, we got ideas about how we can make this better next time, what can we do better? How can we every year make this better? And it was positive, it was a positive environment? So I mean, we can consider, you know, doing something like that and it will help us get some volunteers. I think it's a step forward for the town.

Vice Mayor Martinez-Do you think you could find money in your budget to get hotdogs and hamburgers and the council could cook for the volunteers?

A Sanchez Town Clerk-Remember we set \$5,000 aside in the planning and zoning budget for community property cleanup? We did prioritize that money for community cleanups and to clean up property. So this would be part of that. So yes, we do have it in the budget for that.

Motion to Direct Staff to Direct Staff to plan and organize a Town Wide Community Clean-up and Determine Budget

Motion by Councilman Bustamante
Motion Passed VOTE 7-0

Second by Councilman Brewer

****Note to Minutes-Mayor Armenta had to Leave the Meeting at this time 8:20PM****

B. Consideration and Possible Approval to Direct Staff to Plan and Organize Annual Employee Appreciation Incentives/Events and Determine Budget

A Sanchez Town Clerk-Yeah, this was suggested by the Mayor. She wanted us to have Employee Appreciation Day and have it at the pool. And we thought, well, if we have it at the pool, then that means part of our employees, who are the full staff of lifeguards, wouldn't be able to participate. So, we thought maybe we could kind of work this together with the cleanup. And maybe we do an employee appreciation after the cleanup for all the employees. Because they're going to have to come in on a Saturday to help out and we're hoping they'll agree to do that. I think that Employee Appreciation is important. We are working to make this a better place for employees, trying to get the salaries to where they need to be, making sure they have insurance and retirement. But, in order to have a good workforce, they need to feel like they're important and they're valued. And it was the Mayor's idea that maybe we could do something like this once a year, to show that for our employees. So I mean, we haven't set a budget. We just thought maybe we could get an idea. We do have a little money. So if the Council is willing to do something like this, then we'll be happy to organize it and prepare for it.

J Schempf Town Manager- One of the things that bothered me last year was that I was hit with, everybody gets a turkey, and then it was Christmas time, when everybody gets that \$100 gift certificate. And those are great ideas and so is this employee appreciation. That's why we've got to put it in here as a budget item. I want to look at the whole year, and what events we want to add and for how much. So we can kind of get a better handle on the costs rather than piecemeal it. We've talked to some of the employees and quite frankly, they're not excited about coming in on the weekend. So maybe, you know, if it was a late afternoon succession when their already here, then that might work, too. So, we felt that, as you just said Vice Mayor, and as the Clerk said, it is an important subject. I personally would like to see it get a little bit organized, and we will get it researched. Then we can come back to you with a, "this is what we can propose." We can fine tune it at that point.

Question: How many employees do you have?

Answer: We have 32 employees, both full and part time.

Note: Some ideas were passed around concerning discount passes to a waterpark or arcade type business that would include their families as well.

Motion to Direct Staff to Plan and Organize Annual Employee Appreciation Incentives/Events and Determine Budget

**Motion by Councilman Martinez
Motion Passed Vote 6-0**

Second by Councilman Bustamante

C. Discussion and Possible Action to Direct Staff to take action to Stop the Use of Glyphosate (Round Up) in the Town Weed Control

****Note-Those who do the Town Weed Control are available in chambers for questions****

Weed Control for the Town of Mammoth "Manuel and Fred"

So, I'm looking at the EPA website. I've been doing this since 1987. I took over my company in July of 2014, the previous owner started in 1987. And did it for more than 40 years. With no problems at all. And I've seen people do odd things. If you do things like that, no matter what, you're going to miss treat something. We mix it at one ounce per gallon. So the amount of active ingredient, glyphosate, we'd like to see, is .4 of the one ounce. So in one gallon of water, 122 ounces, we have not even one half of glyphosate. Glyphosate does not volatilize, it doesn't leach, so it cannot get into the groundwater. Also, if we're spraying for example, along the highway, and somebody is following us, they cannot breathe it in. The only way that they can get contact, is to actually go touch. And at the rate that we're mixing it up, they have to touch it a whole lot. But, as far as alternatives, for example 2,4-D weed be gone. That is a seriously dangerous chemical. They came across 24D when they were making Agent Orange. But those products do leach and it stays active for a long, long time. If you spray it near a rosebush, or something like that, you could possibly kill the rose bush. I know that everybody's freaked out with the commercials and stuff but, glyphosate is the safest herbicides. I personally think when there's weeds and stuff in the cracks of the road, looks abandoned. Fred and I, when we started doing the town, the highway was part of the areas we did. Since then we switched to Lower Mammoth. But since we already had the highway clean, we continued to do that voluntary, because it took a long time to get it all cleaned. For example, you can see the guardrail all the way through the town. Coming like from San Manuel or even coming down from the junctions. If there's a deer on the side of the road, you couldn't see it and had no time to react. Here, we take a little bit of Pride in this, both sides of the road are nice and clear and if there is a dog, or a God Forbid a child, you would have time to react. But, as far as alternatives go, roundup is the absolute safest one. Second of all, health concerns. Nobody's around us when we're spraying. Nobody's following us around, it's not a float around type of chemical. So as far as somebody getting contacted, I have no problem saying that you really have no health risks for the general public. But like I said, I've been doing this since 1987. I have no health issue.

J Schempf Town Manager-You are licensed by the State?

Answer-Yes the Department of Agriculture.

J. Schempf Town Manager-And if if somebody you're doing something wrong, you could lose your license?

Answer-Oh, yes, sir. Absolutely.

Vice Mayor Martinez- How long does it take once you spray, before it dry and safe for somebody to touch?

Answer-In this weather about 30 seconds? In the winter? Maybe one minute. So it dries fairly quickly. Once it's dried, the plant has absorbed the majority of the liquid. There's trace amounts on the actual plant.

Vice Mayor Martinez-We have no we have a lot of people that walk their animals on the sidewalk.

Answer-We ran into a situation before with dogs and we've seen dogs licking them and stuff like that, again, we're mixing it up at one ounce per gallon. So a dog would have to eat so much that they would get sick just from eating the vegetation more than from the actual herbicides. They have no effect on living plants, all it does is kill the germinating seeds. Okay, cleanup is the same product as long to kill the plants. But it doesn't prevent anything. So, we spray, to kill the plants that are there, and then also to prevent nearly all seed growth. Starting in January of 2016, for example, the Miners Memorial there was weeds so tall you couldn't see the benches. And now, we noticed that there's lots of people that stop and have lunch there and take breaks. And we take a little bit of Pride in that. We continue to do the highway because we didn't want it to look good. And it took us a little while. It cost us a couple of days of work and our time, but we live in Mammoth. And I agree with making it look nicer, I don't think people should come here and say this is just a poor town. Anybody else have any questions? If you want to look at this information, you go to the epa.com. I understand Mr. Brewer's comments, but they change their recommendations concerning Glyphosate. But we have to take continuing education, between the two of us, we have almost 400 hours of continuing education.

Councilman Brewer- When I submitted this, I just wanted to create a discussion. That's what I want, to show all the people, and let them know what we use. This agenda item is not my words.

Vice Mayor Martinez-Councilman Brewer is stating that when he turned in the agenda item it was only to discuss the use, not stop the use, of Round Up. However, thank you very much. And I want to say, it means a lot for you to come in and for doing a service for the town and doing it for free. So, I appreciate you continuing to keep the highway looking nice, and continuing to keeping it nice. It's not just a matter of keeping it looking nice, but it also helps our officers and our citizens if they get pulled over along the highways, and they're not pulling over on curbs that are full of dry brush that can catch fire. So, thank you for going out of your way, I appreciate it.

Councilman Bustamante- I think Councilman Brewer had a question that this be a discussion, issue item. And that correct me if I'm wrong. That it be reflected in the minutes that this is not only for a discussion, but clarification.

Vice Mayor Martinez-I was actually going to get the agenda item right now. And, it actually just said for discussion. So, I was going to ask for a motion to direct staff to take no action on this item because it was for discussion only.

Motion is to Take No Action

Motion by: Councilman Martinez
Motion Passed VOTE 6-0

Second by: Councilman Adams

8. NEW BUSINESS ITEM D & E **Moved To Beginning by Council**

9. Mayor and Council Comments

Councilman Bustamante-I'll just say quickly that we need the infrastructure bill, and I keep talking about, at some point in time, we got to cross the road on Highway 77, being a major road. You know a lot of traffic and with the recovery, what have you, we have to start asking for infrastructure. Whether we go underneath or over the top of 77, we're gonna have to address that issue one of these days. This massive part two or Part Three bill in Washington needs to be moved. And I'll be calling people, but it sure could be helpful if the Senate Republicans would move and get some of these dollars to the communities that need them. It's good for everybody, in rural areas and in the city. And another thing they're talking about from Phoenix to Tucson, expanding Amtrak, all this is done with federal dollars.

Vice Mayor Martinez-Thank you, anybody else. I just want to say a big kudos. And thank you to all of the Council for getting the budget approved, getting all of that passed, getting everything situated with that, we think that by the time we come back here at this time next year, we'll be in a lot better position. And maybe we can do a lot more for the citizens. I want to thank both of you for working so hard to get the funding and get the budget, put on track and do your work on the animal control thing. Thank you something that we've been working on for over two years. So thank you for all of your hard work. It's really appreciated. And just please keep the Mayor in your thoughts and in your prayers, she has been in a lot of pain and is having major issues. So please just keep her in your thoughts. Or go by there, if you can do something for her or Tony, Tony's got health issues too. So just, if you have a chance to swing by and check on them, and it would mean the world to her

10. Adjourn

Motion is to adjourn meeting at 8:46 PM

Motion by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed Vote 6-0

Second by: Councilman Adams

I certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of the Town of Mammoth Council Meeting held July 15, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.

Angela Sanchez, Town Clerk