



**TOWN OF MAMMOTH
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL PHONE MEETING
OF THE MAMMOTH TOWN COUNCIL
February 3, 2022**

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Mammoth Town Council
on February 3, 2022, pursuant to the notice required by Law.**

Due to the COVID-19 Virus and our efforts to slow the spread, and to keep all members and attendees safe in this time of crisis. We require that all those in attendance are adhering to Social Distancing Measures.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER – This meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Mayor Armenta**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-John Schempf**
- 3. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT MEMBERS

Mayor Armenta
Vice Mayor Bustamante (by phone)
Councilwoman Martinez
Councilman Martinez
Councilman Brewer
Councilman Ponce
Councilman Dietz

PRESENT STAFF

Attorney S. Cooper (by phone)
Town Manager, J. Schempf
Town Clerk, A. Sanchez

ABSENT MEMBERS

Councilwoman Martinez asked to move item 4A to the end of the agenda and begin with item 5A the mayor agreed to move item 4A to the end of the agenda.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss and Approve Job Description for Town Clerk and Authorize Staff to Proceed with Advertising for New Town Clerk**

The town clerk explained that staff wants to move forward on hiring a new town clerk. As a result, staff was requesting the council review and approve the updated job description. The Mayor Armenta stated she felt the job description was too detailed. John Schempf, town manager explained that he hopes to find a clerk who can eventually take over the town manager's duties. The town clerk explained that management is concerned that long term the town will not be able to afford to keep both a town clerk and town manager. John Schempf, town manager explained that he is committed to seeing the water project to fruition. The town clerk stated that they planned to advertise with Indeed, newspaper, League of Cities, town website, flyers in local agencies and post offices. The salary will be based on experience. Councilman Ponce stated he feels the job description is too detailed.

Handicapped individuals with special accessibility needs may contact the ADA Coordinator for the Town of Mammoth at (520) 487-2331 (V/TDD)

Motion to approve the job description as provide and proceed with advertising for a new town clerk.

Motion by Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by Councilman Martinez

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brewer-YES

Councilwoman Martinez-Yes

Councilman Dietz-YES

Councilman Martinez-YES

Councilman Ponce-ABSTAIN

Vice Mayor Bustamante-YES

Mayor Armenta-YES

Motion Passed Vote: 6-1

B. Appointment of Interim Town Clerk until new Town Clerk is appointed.

It was suggested that John Schempf be appointed as interim town clerk until the new town can be appointed so he can receive and sign documents.

Motion to appointment of Interim Town Clerk until new Town Clerk is appointed.

Motion by Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed Vote: 7-0

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discuss and Approve Contract for Dispatch Services with Pinal County Sheriff's Department or Town of Kearny

Wallis Kinney, Chief of Police from the Town of Kearny responded to questions regarding the contract provided by the Town of Kearny for dispatch services.

Councilman Brewer asked about the cost of the contract \$3,333.33 per month or \$40,000 per year? Chief Kinney confirmed. The clerk stated that Kearny had reduced the fee from \$45,000 to \$40,000. Chief Kinney stated that he did test connectivity and he was able to get a signal, was able to hear and be heard from Mammoth to Kearny. He also stated they have experience as they dispatch for the Towns of Hayden, Winkelman and San Manuel Fire.

Councilman Brewer also asked about dispatching for the Mammoth Fire Department. Councilwoman Martinez asked if he could hear Pinal County on their radio frequency. Chief Kinney explained that Pinal County Sheriff's office (PCSO) is on an 800 frequency and Kearny is not. He stated that Kearny has purchased the equipment to go to an 800 frequency but that is a two-year project so they will be eventually, but not presently.

Councilwoman Martinez asked what additional costs would be associated with the contract. Chief Kinney stated that there would be some connectivity cost for programing and a new antenna to boost the power, but that the cost for the Town of Kearny would be more than Mammoth. He was not able to get that cost before the meeting. He also stated he believes the Town's current equipment would be able to be used at this time. He asked for an officer to travel to Kearny to check the connectivity. He stated that when the San Manuel Fire transitioned to Kearny it was approximately \$7,000. Councilman Ponce asked if there were any issues with dispatching San Manuel Fire. Chief Kinney stated there were no issue.

Chief Mueller asked Chief Kinney if he were in his position who would he choose for officer safety? Chief Kinney stated that is why they purchased the 800 frequency because they have better coverage. Chief Mueller asked if they would be on the PCSO frequency. Chief Kinney explained that they will have their own talk group. Chief Mueller explained that it is important to be on the channel with PCSO because they can respond more quickly.

Councilman Brewer explained that it took over an hour for PCSO to respond in the past. Mayor Armenta asked how many officers Kearny has currently. Chief Kinney stated they have six officers and 5 dispatchers. They currently have two consoles to run two dispatchers at a time, but they are using one now because they do not have enough traffic to need two yet.

Sheriff Lamb from the Pinal County Sheriff's office stated that he is trying to help. The date of the contract will kick in when the Town is ready. He spoke with Chief Mueller regarding a list of things need to proceed with the transition such as the IT portion for connectivity and the RMS system. Sheriff Lamb stated that there is a cost associated with the radios system which are approximately \$800 each. He stated that they just received an inoperability grant that could possibly be used to help offset some of the cost. There is an additional cost above the dispatch cost and this is associated with the radios which is a hard cost each year.

Mayor Armenta asked how much the yearly radio cost for the encrypted service and the Sheriff stated that Casa Grande's cost is approximately \$37,000 per year and Mammoth would be less. Chief Kinney stated that they have a contract for the encrypted service for Kearny which is approximately \$2,000 per month for better coverage. Sheriff Lamb stated that PCSO has 97% coverage with the new system. Chief Mueller stated that there was equipment cost discussed in prior meetings. The clerk explained that it was presented as a one-time cost not a monthly cost which is currently being discussed. She also stated that this would increase the cost of \$37,000 originally discussed, plus the \$24,000 for radios to \$61,000 per year.

Chief Kinney stated that they are currently paying this cost and Mammoth would be added and would pay a portion of that cost, but we must have the compatible radios to be on the system. Chief Mueller stated we do not. Sheriff Lamb stated that he spoke with Chief Mueller to find out from IT if the UHF radios, Mammoth currently has will be able to get them on the system. Councilman Ponce asked if a Home Land Security grant would pay for the radios.

The Sheriff explained that the town could do that on their own and yes it would cover this. He also stated that we must purchase hand held radios and a replace the radios in all of the cars. John Schempf, Town Manger stated that we have accounted for the cost of the radios in the cars in the grant for the new vehicles. Sheriff Lamb explained that as soon as we go live, we must have the radios and PCSO would monitor the channel. He stated that he wants to help and offer a possible solution. He also explained that the town's dispatchers would be offered a position with Pinal County but they would have to drive to Florence.

Chief Kinney explained that the Town of Kearny did a lease purchase for their radios from Motorola and paid \$120,000 on a lease purchase for seven years. Councilwoman Martinez asked if these costs could be broken up into payments. Sheriff Lamb stated that the \$37,000 must be paid on July 1st when the budget year begins, but the other costs could be broken up into a month-to-month basis. Councilwoman Martinez asked if the call volume goes down will the cost go down? Sheriff Lamb stated that the fees can be reevaluated later if there is a need to do so.

Chief Mueller stated that he was able to get an option on a five-year lease for the radios for \$9,487.57 per year for five years. This would cover all of the radios less the two that were budgeted in the grant for the vehicles. The town clerk asked if PCSO can modify the contract to one year, but standard is three years. The amount of time PCSO comes to Mammoth to respond to calls is increasing. The clerk asked about the cost of disconnecting.

Sheriff Lamb stated that is a small cost to disconnect from the system. The clerk also asked about lending the town equipment until the town can purchase. Sheriff Lamb stated he did not know if there were radios available but he would go back and find out what they have in the way of radios and let Chief Mueller know.

Councilwoman Martinez asked if a call comes into Mammoth, PCSO will be able to hear it? Sheriff Lamb stated that yes, they will see it through the RMS system which is a per cost user that will be an additional cost for the town. Councilman Ponce asked about using the repeater. Chief Kinney stated that the tower can be used but is staticky and 800 frequency is the best way to go.

The mayor asked if we should decide today? The clerk suggested that the council not make a decision today because there are a lot of unknown information. Councilwoman Martinez asked Sheriff Lamb about miscellaneous fees listed in the contract and he said he would have to ask. He stated the town would also have to pay to get on Spillman. He said they would have to go back and get some hard cost to help the council make a decision.

Motion to table to the next meeting to get information on the cost from both Kearny and PCSO.

Motion by Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by Mayor Armenta

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Brewer-NO

Councilwoman Martinez-YES

Councilman Dietz-YES

Councilman Martinez-YES

Councilman Ponce-NO

Vice Mayor Bustamante-YES

Mayor Armenta-YES

Motion Passed Vote: 5-2

6. Adjourn

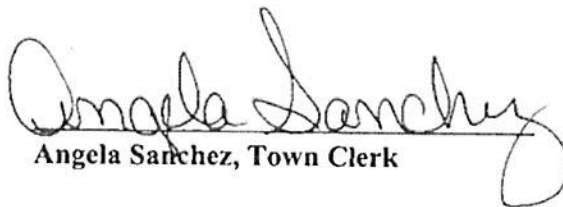
Motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:18 PM.

Motion by Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed Vote:

I certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of the Town of Mammoth Council Meeting held on February 3, 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.


Angela Sanchez, Town Clerk