



**TOWN OF MAMMOTH
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE MAMMOTH TOWN COUNCIL
MARCH 24, 2022**

These are the Minutes of a Special Meeting held by the Mammoth Town Council
On March 24, 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 Masked and adhering to Social Distancing Measures.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – This meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM Mayor Armenta
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** John Schempf
3. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT MEMBERS

Mayor Armenta
Vice Mayor Bustamante
Councilwoman Martinez
Councilman Martinez
Councilman Dietz

PRESENT STAFF

Attorney S Cooper
Town Manager, J. Schempf
A. Sanchez

ABSENT MEMBERS

Councilman Brewer
Councilman Ponce-Excused

Mayor Armenta stated Councilman Ponce did, prior to the meeting, notify the Mayor and Town Manager that he was unable to attend the meeting and was excused.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

A public body may make an open call to the public during a public meeting subject to a three-minute limitation to allow individuals to address the public body on any issue within the jurisdiction of the public body. At the conclusion of the call to the public individual members of the public body may respond to criticism made by those who address the public body. They may ask staff to review a matter or have the matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the public body shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public.

Manuel Sanchez addressed allegations against the Public Works staff. He stated that the statements that were made at the last council meeting that staff was up Tiger Mine Road hiding were untrue. Also, three staff that was at the cemetery when a council member drove up they took off this was also untrue. There are never three staff in one vehicle.

Mr. Sanchez stated that the staff was offended at the false statements. He also stated that he observed council members acting inappropriately. Councilwoman Martinez stated that when residents contact council members regarding issues with staff the council has the responsibility to address those concerns. After a verbal altercation he was asked to leave and escorted out by Chief Mueller.

Dennis Oswald, 713 Tiger Drive in Mammoth. He stated that he is concerned about people driving in his neighborhood with no drivers license and no insurance on ATV's. They are running stop signed and almost causing accidents. He stated that he upset because he had to pay to file charges with the court to get a restraining order and he was charged \$480 for copies of police call logs. He stated he was very happy about the recent arrests.

Councilwoman Martinez asked if he could view the files and take pictures. Chief Mueller stated that the documents must be redacted. Ms. Sanchez explained that he could provide a zip drive and he could get as much information as needed for \$25. The fee he was charged was for copies.

Vice Mayor Bustamante stated that the neighborhood watch is trying to set up a meeting and there is more signage needed. Also, the Lion's Clubs cash box was robbed. He also stated that the water fountain at the south end that needs to be repaired. Also, a BBQ has rusted and fell over and a cement table is turned over which also need to be repaired.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Staff Recommendations and Reports**
 - 1. Town Managers Report**
 - 2. Police Report**
 - 3. Public Works Report**
 - 4. Library Report**
 - 5. Planning and Zoning Report**

- B. Approval of Accounts Payable for Payment and Filing**
 - 1. Accounts Payable for February**

- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - 1. Special Meeting of February 3, 2022**
 - 2. Special Meeting of February 24, 2022**

Motion to approve the consent agenda with the exception of the accounts payable for February and the meeting minutes for February 24th.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

Councilwoman Martinez asked why there are numerous charges for animal control services on the accounts payable report when we have an IGA with Pinal County Animal Control. Ms. Sanchez explained that there is an IGA with the County in which the town pays \$2,000 per year so they bill up to that point for services after which the town will no longer be billed. This is for all call during business hours. However, after hours calls are billed at an after-hours rate and are not included in the flat rate because they have to pay overtime to call out an Animal Control Officer.

Councilwoman Martinez asked what Dooley Enterprises charge for \$12,129.59 and McKelson and Ray for \$2,480.00. Staff stated they would inquire.

Motion to approve the accounts payable for February with the exception of the charges for Dooley Enterprises for \$,12129.59 and McKelson and Ray for \$2,480.00.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

Councilwoman Martinez asked to pull the minutes for February 24th to remove Councilman Adams name from the minutes and on item 9A which was vote for the dispatch contract she had Councilman Ponce as abstaining from the vote and Councilman Brewer as a no vote. Staff stated they would research and make the corrections.

Motion to approve the Minutes for February 24th with the following changes:

Remove Councilman Adams name from the minutes and on item 9A dispatch contract double check the votes for Councilman Ponce as abstaining from the vote and Councilman Brewer as a no vote.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

Staff will make the corrections and include amended minutes in next agenda packet.

Town Manager, John Schempf stated that he did not include his Town Manger report because he would like to provide it orally to the council. He stated that the wastewater ponds have been inspected by ADEQ and everything is good. There were some minor items that need to be repaired withing 30 days. Also six people picked up packets for council positions, four current council members and Al Barcelo and Sussanne (Irene) German. They are not candidates until they are returned complete. The water project will concentrate on the North end of town with the exception of the booster station across from the meat market. We are also going to run a line up from Main Street up to the business district to provide fire protection and increase the size of the water line. He also recommended replacing the line in 5th street because it is the worst street in town and in dire need of repaving. There is a housing assistance flyer for a county program to assist with housing and utilities. He also explained that there are some personnel changes; Sharon Christensen is planning to step down as the Librarian due to health concerns and the Lead Dispatcher Laura Medina submitted her two-week notice. He also explained that there are approximately 20 applications for the clerk position, but none of them are completely qualified. He suggested that the council set up a committee made up of the Mayor, Vice Mayor, Ms. Sanchez and himself to review the applications and choose a few for the council to review and we will set up interviews. The council agreed. He explained that Ms. Sanchez has agreed to train. He also stated that he spoke to a member of the Tamayo Family, and he believes that they will be able to use a portion of the area. He reviewed the minutes and cannot find where that area was dedicated. However, he believes it can be worked out. He stated, at the contract for the helicopter service has been signed and he was able to get them to reduce the number of households for nonresident water services, so it reduced the number of households from 508 to 464 for a total of \$3,248.00. Each household will be issued one card for

everyone living in that home. He also mentioned that the police vehicle grant is moving along and will be ready soon. Vice Mayor Bustamante explained that the grant was part of earmarked funds by the legislature as part of the American Rescue Plan.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of 80 Hours of Severance Pay for Dispatch Staff

Motion to approve 80 Hours of Severance Pay for Dispatch Staff as follows:

Laura Medina, Alondra Medina, Crystal Sanchez, Alicia Zazueta and Sena Acuna

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

B. Review and Discussion of the Revised Version of the Dispatch Contract with Pinal County Sheriff's Office

The mayor asked if Legal Counsel had reviewed the contract and Mr. Cooper stated that he had reviewed the contract. Councilwoman Martinez asked if this was a one- or three-year contract. Ms. Sanchez explained that it is a one-year contract with an option to renew in case the situation changed we would have the opportunity to have the cost reduced. Councilwoman Martinez asked if it could be a three-year contract with a review each year for changes in cost if the town's situation changes. Ms. Sanchez also expressed concern about the review being in August which would not allow for the town to budget for any increases in cost. Staff stated that they would contact the Sheriff's office and clarify the terms. Ms. Sanchez explained that the council has already approved the contract, staff is just working out the terms as directed by council.

Council agreed that items C, D and E have already been discussed so the council can move on to item F.

C. Review and Discussion of the Status of Town Clerk Applications

D. Update and Discussion of the Status of the Memorial for Corporal Ross

E. Update and Discussion of the Status of the Air Medical Contract

F. Update on Congressional Direct Spending Grant for Patrol Vehicles

Ms. Sanchez asked the council if they would like her to continue to handle the Congressional Direct Spending Grant. The council and town manager agreed that she should continue to see the project to completion.

G. Discussion and Possible Approval to Terminate Mammoth Mask Mandate

Mayor Armenta stated that the Circle K and Dollar Store asked that the mask mandate be lifted. The Mr. Schempf, Town Manger stated that the Town of Mammoth has the second lowest COVID transmission rate in the county. Councilwoman Martinez stated that it is a good idea to do away with the mask mandate and change it to masks are recommended, but mandated.

Motion to remove the mask mandate and post signs that masks are recommended.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Possible Approval Consulting Contract with Angela Sanchez at a rate of \$30 per hour**

Motion to approve Consulting Contract with Angela Sanchez at a rate of \$30 per hour to be retro to March 1, 2022

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

Staff directed Ms. Sanchez to take point on Patrol Vehicle Grant.

- B. Discussion and Possible Approval to Reimburse Full-Time Town Employees for Medical Insurance Premiums at a cost to be determined by the Council**

Ms. Sanchez explained that staff member stated that the town has been reimbursing employees for insurance premiums paid by employees to outside insurance carriers. Councilwoman Martinez stated that the only thing the council approved was to budget for \$200 per employee per payday for insurance provided by the town not by outside carriers. Unfortunately, the town was unable to find affordable insurance for the employees and sometimes the council approves things that do not work out. The council has never approved to pay for outside insurance and should not do so now considering the towns financial situation.

Motion to deny the paying insurance premiums for town employees

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

- C. Discussion and approval for the council to select two days in June 2022 for summer youth program and select a location and time for the 2022 National Night Out.**

Martinez stated that Darian Mathews asked for the town to choose two days in June for the Summer Program to use the community center and for the National Night Out. The council decided on June 7th and 30th at 5PM for the Summer Program and have National Night Out at the Community Center. Councilwoman Martinez asked about vouchers for the pool to be given to those who came out to support local law enforcement.

Motion to set the two dates for Summer Program as June 7th and 30th at the Community Center and provide vouchers for the pool to residents who attend and hold the NNO at the Community Center.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

- D. Discussion and Possible Approval to Pursue a Bus Service on a Regular Basis for Town Residents (Oro Valley, Catalina, etc.)**

Vice Mayor Bustamante stated that he felt a bus service in Mammoth is very important and should be considered to assist residents who need to go to doctors appointments and for shopping. He stated that it should at least go to Oro Valley. He also stated that there is federal funding available for such transportation projects. Councilman Dietz stated that this is a good service for the residents. Mayor Armenta stated that there is a van that takes residents and Councilwoman Martinez confirmed.

Motion to direct staff to pursue funding sources for grant funding for a bus service for town residents to Oro Valley/Catalina areas

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

- E. Discussion and Consideration of 2022 elected Council members term of Office. Staff is recommending the three (3) elected Councilmembers who receive the most votes serve a four (4) year term of office and elected one (1) councilmember who receives least amount of votes and is elected to office serve a two (2) year term of office.**

Discussion according to the League of Arizona Cities and Towns the following Council seats are up for election:

Annie Martinez.

Ernest Bustamante.

Juan Ponce since he was appointed to serve as councilmember.

Joe Dietz since he was appointed to serve as councilmember.

The voters will also decide whether to directly elect a Mayor for a two (2) year term of office beginning in the 2024 election cycle. In order to ensure all future council elections will have three (3) council seats and the office of mayor up for election every two (2) years, staff is recommending the Town Council adopt the staff recommendation of for the 2022 Council election that the three (3) elected Councilmembers who receive the most votes serve a four (4) year term of office and elected one (1) councilmember who receives least amount of votes and is elected to office serve a two (2) year term of office.

Mr. Schempf stated that the item is incorrectly worded and asked the council to table in order to be corrected. The attorney stated that all other towns elect the mayor for a two-year term so that at any election cycle there would be two new seats and the mayor. Councilwoman Martinez suggested to wait to see the results regarding the mayor at the election and if necessary, it could be brought back in at the next election cycle.

Motion to table.

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

Mayor Armenta stated that there was someone in an RV at the park and should not be allowed to do so for the safety of the children in the community. She stated she asked Sargent Green to speak to them and let them know they cannot camp at the park. Mayor Armenta directed staff to add an item to the next agenda for an employee of the month program. Councilwoman Martinez asked that the flags be lowered in honor of former Councilman Romo who passed away. She also asked that each item on the agenda have an action form in the future.

8. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:32PM

Motion by: Councilwoman Martinez

Seconded by: Councilman Martinez

Motion Passed- 5-0

Meet adjourn at 8:32 PM

I certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of the Town of Mammoth Council Meeting held March 24, 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.

John Schempf, Interim Town Clerk