



Town of Mammoth

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH
LOCATION: TOWN HALL 125 N. CLARK ST.
THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2024 AT 6pm**

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02(B), notice is hereby given to the members of Town Council and to the General Public that the Town Council will hold a Regular Town Council Meeting which is open to the public, on Thursday April 18, 2024 at the Town Hall located at 125 N. Clark St.

1. **Call to Order** – by Mayor Armenta at 6:02 PM
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Town Attorney Brad Miller started the meeting with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, indicating the formal start of the council meeting.
3. **Roll Call** – All Council Members and staff in attendance.
4. **Discuss recall elections and process for selecting someone to fill the vacated seat of Pete Gallegos on the Town Council. Information and discussion only.**

Discussion on the process for selecting a candidate to fill the vacant seat on the Town Council, including advertising the position and the selection process.

Appointment Process

The council discussed the legalities and logistics of the appointment process for filling the council vacancy, emphasizing the need for a timely decision.

The council agreed to advertise the vacancy and follow the traditional process of receiving letters of interest and conducting interviews.

A special session meeting will be scheduled for May 29th at 6:00 PM to review applications and potentially select a candidate.

June 20, 2024 at Town Council Meeting the decision of who is selected will be announced.

5. **Provide an update on the Library Extension Project. Previous contractor cannot be reached. A different contractor from Tucson has shown interest. I sent him pictures and he came to visit the site. I expect an proposal during the week of the 19th. Information discussion only.**

Debate over selecting a contractor for town projects, with a focus on supporting local businesses and ensuring fair bidding processes. Will submit ad in Miner for new contractor.

The council discussed reaching out to local contractors and ensuring that the selection process is transparent and fair.

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

6. **Motion to move forward with contract with Desierto Weed Control. Since the last Town Council Meeting, the price for the service changed. The cost per quarter is \$5,640.00, not \$1,660.00. The discount on the third quarter can still apply if the weeds look like they are getting under control. Discuss and make a decision to move forward with using this service with the increased cost.**

Discussion on the costs and logistics of weed control in the town, including the frequency of service and budget implications.

The council decided to review the areas needing service and consider adjusting the frequency and scope of weed control to align with budget constraints.

Motion: Councilman Barcelo **Second By** Vice Mayor Bustamante
Council Action: Passed _____ Defeated _____ Tabled _____ No Action X

7. **Provide update on budget process. Work has started with creating calendar and tasks needed to complete on a weekly basis. Meeting with various stakeholders will be scheduled and updates to the council will be provided. Information discussion only.**

Discussion about scheduling a budget study session with the council on May 16th, the same day as the council meeting. The possibility of rescheduling was considered but ultimately decided to keep on the same day.

8. CALL TO PUBLIC

A public body may make an open call to the public during a public meeting, subject to a three (3) minute limitation to allow individuals to address the public body on any issue within jurisdiction of the public body. At the conclusion of an open call to public, individual members may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the public body, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that the matter be placed on a future agenda. However, members of the public body shall not discuss or take action on matters raised during an open call to public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.

Public Safety Concerns

Residents expressed concerns about traffic safety, specifically requesting speed bumps on Catalina and McFarland to protect children playing in the area.

A discussion began about the procedure to install speedbumps and the different types. There was a request to add this topic to next council meeting to discuss cost (if it fits within the budget), type of speedbump and timeline to install.

Property Maintenance and Safety

Discussion on the need for better property maintenance in the town, including addressing issues with a specific property that is full of garbage and considered a fire hazard.

Community Engagement and Volunteerism

Encouragement for community involvement in neighborhood watch and volunteer cleanup committees. Discussion on the importance of community engagement for maintaining safety and cleanliness. Overgrowth of brush in some neighborhoods is a fire hazard.

Will be looking for volunteers.

Old school buildings should not be demolished. They can be repurposed. In case of major disaster, the old gym is a good place where the community can gather.

Fire Chief Michael Miranda thanked the council for use of the community center for training.

Discussion on the condition of roads affecting fire services, with complaints about the washboard condition of roads leading to the fire station and the need for proper maintenance. If not, these conditions could damage the fire truck and the repair bills will be sent to the town for payment.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

The items set forth below are considered to be routine matters and will be enacted by one (1) motion and one (1) roll call vote of the Town Council. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence of events.

A. Approval of staff recommendations and reports

1. **Town Clerk Report – Councilman Joe Brewer pulled the minutes.**
2. **Police Report**
3. **Public Works Report – Councilman Al Barcelo pulled the minutes.**
4. **Library**

B. Approval of Accounts Payable for Payment and YTD Budget Expenditures

1. **Accounts Payable Items, March, 2024**
2. **Review of Expenditure V. Budget Year to date Report**

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. **Minutes of the Special Meeting on March 27, 2024.**

10. Motion would be to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion By: Councilman Martinez **Second By:** Vice Mayor Bustamante
Council Action: Passed Defeated Tabled No Action

11. Council Comments

Employment and Personnel Issues

Debate over the police chief's authority and process in hiring officers, including a specific case where a council member questioned the hiring of an officer on the Brady list. The Chief said the new hire was not disciplined at other jobs.

There was request for notes about the Chief's discussion regarding the new hire. Chief said it did not warrant an investigation. He requested comments from council regarding this to stop.

Topic came up about the Town Council's authority to hire and fire personnel. Another councilman spoke up about not micromanaging hiring practices of department heads. As long as it is within budget, department heads should have autonomy. Autonomy with personnel decisions is written within contracts of department heads. Emphasis on the need for council to respect the established hiring processes and not overstep bounds.

It was mentioned that more patrolling on Highway 77 is needed.

Councilman said to generate revenue, he suggested clearing lot on west side of highway 77, and sell it to attract new businesses.

Council Meeting Procedures

Clarification and debate on council procedures regarding the pulling of items from the consent agenda, specifically related to public works and police reports.

Conclusion

Agreed to keep the budget study session on May 16th.

Acknowledgment of the budget availability for road repairs and the need to prioritize these.

Decisions made to accept reports and address individual concerns separately.

Next Arrangements

Advertise council vacancy in local paper and on social media.

Hold a special council meeting on May 29th to review candidate applications.

12. Adjourn

Councilman Martinez motioned to adjourn and Councilperson German, second the motion.

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of this notice was posted at the Mammoth Town Hall on April 30, 2024 by 5 p.m.



Hector Moreno, Town Clerk