

TONOPAH TOWN BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 11, 2016
Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Town Board Chairman Duane Downing called the meeting to order on May 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Tom Seley, Clerk Janet Hatch and Board member Don Kaminski. Doug Farinholt was present after 7:15 p.m. Twenty-six others were in attendance. Chairman Downing led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The items were taken out of order to accommodate petitioners from out of Town.

The Town Board recessed to the Library Board of Trustees at 7:39 p.m. and reconvened as the Town Board at 7:51 p.m.

1. Public Comment

Allen Metscher, Central Nevada Museum, noted that he wanted to give a follow-up on the room tax grant the Museum received from the Town for the production of an advertising video. He stated that the video has been completed and posted on the Museum's Facebook page and website. It can also be viewed on YouTube. He stressed that Sidney Martinez of Travel Nevada was very helpful in advertising the video. Mr. Metscher provided the project completion report and a CD with the video to Deputy Town Clerk Kat Galli.

Fire Chief Robert Elliott explained that he had a meeting with EMS providers locally as they are trying to increase the force in Tonopah. He pointed out that there are a lot of responders who have a bad taste with Nye County Emergency Management. He stressed that they need to look into training opportunities and fostering relationships and volunteers. He stated that he has ideas on how to help and move forward.

Chairman Duane Downing pointed out that the Board cannot take action as this is not an agenda item. He asked Mr. Elliott if he had thought about putting this on an agenda. Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns suggested having a workshop with Mr. Elliott and any volunteers. She added that she has a letter from Mr. Elliott that she would like the Board to have. Mr. Elliott pointed out that Tonopah cannot continue relying on outsiders coming in all the time.

Volunteer Firefighter Matthew Kirkland stated that the ambulance service is dead in Tonopah and that volunteers have a bad taste with Nye County. He added that the situation is disheartening. He noted that the volunteers and Nye County need to work together to make the situation better. Mr. Kirkland pointed out that without "Lifeguard International" EMS would be a sinking ship. He asked the Town Board to write a letter to Vance Payne, Emergency Management for Nye County, to ask what their plan is for Tonopah to be supported in the North. He noted that he does not see a plan, but sees Tonopah failing. He added that Esmeralda County is not going to cover Tonopah.

2. Review and approval of minutes. in context. from the regular meeting held April 27, 2016.

This item was tabled.

7. Discussion. deliberation and possible action to approve or deny request from Tonopah Apartments for abatement of penalty assessments.

J. Michael Schaefer introduced himself and noted that he has been in business with Tonopah Apartments for the last 25 years. He had sold the property in 2012 and got it back in September of 2015 when he hired Nieves Reyes as the manager.

Mr. Schaefer stated that for the last 25 years bills have been sent to his corporation in Las Vegas. He added that he had told Tonopah Public Utilities (TPU) they can deal with Mr. Reyes. He did not know they were going to send bills to him. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley asked whether this was under the previous account that was closed when Mr. Schaefer sold the business which Mr. Schaefer affirmed.

Mr. Schaefer stated that he was at the TPU office to rectify the situation and nobody was there. Mr. Seley pointed out that Mr. Schaefer was at the wrong building.

Chairman Duane Downing pointed out that the application for Tonopah Apartments lists a P.O. Box in Tonopah. Mr. Schaefer stated that it would have been nice to have TPU call him and ask where he wanted the bill sent.

Mr. Schaefer argued the TPU late fees and claimed that other utility companies do not charge as much as TPU. He added that he thinks a 10% late fee is too high.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns explained that the TPU policy is in the ordinance and clearly states that TPU does not put liens against the property. The bill is owed by who turns the water on in their name. She added that the penalties are laid out in the ordinance and TPU staff does not have authority to waive fees. Ms. Mulkerns noted that staff has done some research and quite a few utilities charge higher late fees larger than TPU does.

Ms. Mulkerns stated that Account Supervisor Becky Braska had talked to Mr. Schaefer while Mr. Reyes was in the office. She emphasized that staff has no way of knowing who quit or leaves. Mr. Schaefer asked if the co-applicant would ever get a bill. Ms. Braska clarified that the co-applicant is notified if the account is in danger of being shut off.

Board member Don Kaminski pointed out that Mr. Schaefer had approached the Town Board before about the late fees.

Clerk Janet Hatch stressed that TPU staff has been in compliance and that the accumulated late fees are on Mr. Schaefer as he has let his manager deal with the account for over seven months.

Tom Seley motioned to deny the request from Tonopah Apartments for abatement of penalty assessments. Janet Hatch seconded. Janet Hatch stated that she sees the compliance of staff and does not see any credible reason for Mr. Schaefer to not pay. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$3,000.00 from Central Nevada Racing Association to advertise and promote the Tonopah Speedway.

Central Nevada Racing Association Vice-President Gary Davis and President Lee Ketten introduced themselves. Mr. Davis noted that the Association would like to request \$3,000 to augment their advertising funds. Chairman Duane Downing pointed out that the Speedway has a new event this year with the kid's racing. Mr. Davis stated that they are hoping to have good interest. Mr. Ketten added that they have a lot of interest from people from out of town and that they have lots of big events lined up. Mr. Davis stressed that they estimate to have had 500 people from out of town during last year's season. Mr. Ketten noted that they have two multiple day events where people have to stay in town with about 20 cars from out of State.

Janet Hatch motioned to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$3,000.00 for Central Nevada Racing Association to advertise and promote the Tonopah Speedway. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$2,269.77 from Jim Butler Days Committee to advertise and promote the Jim Butler Days events.

Jim Butler Days Committee member Tiffany Grigory stated that the Committee is asking for \$2,269.77. Board member Don Kaminski pointed out how many events are being advertised with this money. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley thanked Ms. Grigory for her for detailed report and very good backup. Ms. Grigory explained that the Committee will provide all additional receipts when the event is over. Mr. Kaminski noted that the Committee is buying locally. Chairman Duane Downing emphasized that the total project cost is way higher than what the Committee is asking for. Ms. Grigory stated that the Committee covers the cost themselves.

Tom Seley motioned to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$2,269.77 for Jim Butler Days Committee to advertise and promote the Jim Butler Days events. Doug Farinholt seconded. Duane Downing asked why the Committee does not sell garters anymore. Committee members Lisa Westerlund and Patty Winters explained that they do not sell. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$2,486.68 from Nevada State Mining Championships to advertise and promote their annual events scheduled to be held during Jim Butler Days.

Joni Eastley noted that she submitted the request on behalf of Bob Perchetti, the chairman of the event.

Bob Perchetti noted that Jim Butler Days are in their 46th year as they were started in 1970. He added that he used to have a bottle show when he was the Director of the Tonopah Convention Center which was attended by over 1,100 people. He explained that he has lived in Tonopah all his life and wanted a celebration like at the turn of the century. Mr. Perchetti gave a brief history of Jim Butler Days and the State Mining Championships.

Mr. Perchetti stated that the request is for the cost of T-shirts and advertising for the State Mining Championships. Joni Eastley stressed that they use local vendors. Mr. Perchetti noted that the Grand Marshal is former Town Manager James Eason and the King and Queen are John and Susan Terras.

Tom Seley motioned to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$2,486.68 for Nevada State Mining Championships to advertise and promote their annual events scheduled to be held during Jim Butler Days. Doug Farinholt seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$5,000.00 from Nevada State Mining Championships for advertising expenses related to the production of a video chronicling the history of mining competitions in Nye County.

Bob Perchetti stated that he has wanted to have a video produced for years as the State Mining Championships are one of the big events over Jim Butler Days. Joni Eastley added that the video will be produced by Ted Faye of Goldcreek Films. She noted that the video will be like the videos produced for the Tonopah Historic Mining Park and the Central Nevada Museum. The video will be released to Travel Nevada, the Mining Park, and the Museum. She added that the video will hopefully increase participation in the event.

Board member Don Kaminski asked whether the video will be available for people to purchase on CD. Ms. Eastley stated that she would like to consider that for the future.

Janet Hatch motioned to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Nevada State Mining Championships for advertising expenses related to the production of a video chronicling the history of mining competitions in Nye County. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Joni Eastley stated that she and Mr. Perchetti are hoping to have an enclosed play area, like a giant sand box, for the children. She noted that Carl Harris agreed to donate sand.

She would move small ore carts and shovels into the area for kids to practice mucking. Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns said that she feels like it is an awesome idea but staff needs to talk about the location. Utility Manager Joe Westerlund added that staff needs to include the Tonopah Historic Mining Park Foundation in the decision. Ms. Mulkerns inquired whether the sand box would be permanent which Ms. Eastley affirmed.

8. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to direct staff to work with SolarReserve on a proposal to begin providing site tours utilizing the Tonopah Historic Mining Park as a starting and ending point and a Town employee as a guide.

Vice-Chairman Tom Seley recused himself and left the meeting while this item was discussed.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns explained that Mary Grikas of SolarReserve had contacted Town staff at the beginning of year to have the Town buy their van and run tours of the solar project. Town staff told them the Town cannot take that liability. Solar Reserve came back in March with a new proposal. It is vetted with POOL/PACT. She added that they hope to have the agreement and waiver by the next Board meeting. Ms. Mulkerns stated that a SolarReserve employee would drive the van and a Town employee would be the tour guide. She stressed that the logistics are not worked out yet. SolarReserve has about 75 people interested right now who are looking to take a tour.

Don Kaminski asked whether the tours will be free of charge. Ms. Mulkerns clarified that the Town would charge the same fees as are charged at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park (THMP). Proceeds would come to the Town. Ms. Mulkerns pointed out that it is Solar Reserve's goal to advertise Tonopah.

Chris Mulkerns explained that visitors would watch a video at the THMP first and then drive out to the solar plant. The tour guide would be trained to give information about the plant. The tour would drive around inside with a photo opportunity to get out of the van. On the way back the tour guide would tell them about all the other things to do in Tonopah. The Town is looking into putting together a coupon package for businesses in Town. She pointed out that if the tours get back at lunch time or late in the afternoon, people have to eat or stay in Tonopah.

Don Kaminski inquired whether there would be any liability for the Town. Ms. Mulkerns clarified that POOL/PACT signed off on the proposal. She pointed out that the Town always has an extra person working at the Mining Park in the summertime so the Town would not have to hire a new person to give tours at the solar plant.

Janet Hatch motioned to direct staff to work with SolarReserve on a proposal to begin providing site tours utilizing the Tonopah Historic Mining Park as a starting and ending point and a Tonopah Town employee as a guide. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 4-0. 1 abstention.

9. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to review and update the 2012 Nye County Comprehensive economic Development Strategy Document: direct staff to provide amendments to Nye County prior to May 31st deadline.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns noted that she did not get comments about the document but from herself, Utility Manager Joe Westerlund, and Deputy Town Clerk Kat Galli. She stated that she would like to discuss this with Assistant County Manager Joni Eastley. The Board members agreed.

10. Department Budget Reports

Chairman Duane Downing inquired where the Town is standing on the room tax fund. Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns explained that the Board usually spends about \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year. This year, it will be about double. Deputy Town Clerk Kat Galli stressed that the Town will be reimbursed from the Nevada Division of Tourism for over \$14,000 for grants that the Town knows were approved.

Board member Doug Farinholt asked how the funding for the Tonopah Senior Center is going to affect the Town's budget in the future. Chris Mulkerns explained that the Board agreed to fund the same amount as in the current fiscal year. She stressed that their expenses are not anywhere near the expense they thought they were going to have. She pointed out that they understand that this funding is not an ongoing thing. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley added that the Senior Center has been very responsible in their spending. Clerk Janet Hatch noted that she is a Senior Council member and emphasized that they are not counting on long term funds. They are working on bringing in funds and just finished a fundraiser the day before. They raised about \$2,500 with a raffle and will continue doing projects. She added that they have been receiving very generous donations.

Joni Eastley stated that the Senior Thrift Shop is outstanding. Ms. Hatch explained that they are taking in about \$4,500 a month which is about double what they used to bring in.

11. Town Board Member's/Department Manager's/Nye County Commissioner's Comments

Clerk Janet Hatch noted that she saw the operational permit for West Kirkland Mining in the newspaper. Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns explained that this is regarding the air quality permit. Vice-Chairman Tom Seley added that this is needed for construction. Ms. Mulkerns stated that the public has until June 6, 2016 to comment. She clarified that they have not contacted TPU again regarding water for their project.

Janet Hatch pointed out that Horace Carlyle had requested at the last Board meeting that the Town Board review the Hospital District Funding. Chairman Duane Downing explained that the taxing district was formed by Nye County, not the Town. He added that the Town let the County know that the Town supported the taxing district as it was a reduction in money for the Town. Assistant County Manager Joni Eastley emphasized that this matter is part of the County government and has nothing to do with the Town.

Joni Eastley stated that she had received an e-mail from Commissioner Lorinda Wichman that Ms. Wichman had received an opinion from the Legislative Counsel Bureau. They support Nye County's position that they can fund a facility that does not have a hospital in Nye County. Renown Health Medical Group does have a hospital in Reno that they can refer patients to. Doug Farinholt added that the term "hospital" is what confused people.

Janet Hatch inquired about the progress on the review of the Town Ordinance regarding the water and sewer regulations. Chris Mulkerns explained that Susan Dudley has been helping with this matter. TPU just received drafts that she, Joe Westerlund and Becky Braska will be reviewing and then present them to the Board.

Board member Don Kaminski asked whether the Town has heard anything about assisting the Central Nevada Museum which Chris Mulkerns denied. Joni Eastley explained that Pam Webster is the County Manager and Comptroller right now. She is working on the final budget for Nye County. Ms. Eastley pointed out that she had not heard anything about eliminations of the Museum or Cooperative Extension. She added that she will know more the following Tuesday. Chris Mulkerns emphasized that the town would need to know changes before the budget hearing on May 25, 2016.

Don Kaminski inquired about the 2007 Sales Tax funding for the Sheriff and Fire Department. Chris Mulkerns explained that she looked up the funds earlier that day and there is money in those, but not the expected amounts. She needs to talk to Auditor Dan McArthur to find out why it is not the full amount. She added that the Board of County Commissioner (BOCC) item regarding the language in the Sales Tax Act was pulled from the agenda. Joni Eastley clarified that this was due to the District Attorney not being present at the BOCC meeting. Ms. Mulkerns noted that she had asked Pam Webster about what language is being proposed and whether she could have a meeting or discussion with her regarding the matter.

Chris Mulkerns stated that the Sandy Miller Academy visited the Tonopah Historic Mining Park earlier that day with over 150 people. She pointed out that the park collected about \$322 in gate fees and over \$850 in gift shop sales.

Ms. Mulkerns noted that work at the concession stand at Joe Friel Sports Complex is almost finished. Mr. Westerlund has talked to Tonopah High School Athletic Director Steve Stringer about the possibility of hosting a tournament in Tonopah. The Town might have to do some more upgrades to accommodate a tournament.

Chris Mulkerns reminded the Board that the Public Hearing for the budget will be at the next meeting.

Ms. Mulkerns pointed out that the pool is currently being filled with water.

Chris Mulkerns explained that the reader board is still down. The damage is not covered under the maintenance agreement and will cost over \$3,500. Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski asked what the reader board is missing inside that this happens regularly. Ms.

Mulkerns stated that she had asked Yesco the same question. Ms. Kaminski stressed that if this was normal during power outages, Las Vegas would have the same problem with their boards. Ms. Mulkerns emphasized that staff will argue this matter. Joe Westerlund suggested having a local electric contractor look at the equipment.

Ms. Mulkerns noted that the painting at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park is almost completed and will be finished the following day.

Chris Mulkerns stressed that staff will have the crew get the train ready for Jim Butler Days. Chairman Duane Downing asked whether staff had picked up the barricades for the street dance already. Ms. Mulkerns explained that staff will start working on that the following week.

Ms. Mulkerns pointed out that staff provided a letter to the Nye County Finance Department for Chairman Downing to sign to alleviate late fees of certain vendors. A similar letter was signed in January of 2016. This letter is adding additional vendors to the list.

Chris Mulkerns stated that the removal of the playground equipment at Liberty Park will take place the following week and the new equipment will be installed.

Chairman Duane Downing noted that he has received a lot of complaints about Hoss Disposal. He added that their service "has gone to garbage", they are missing routes and not making any attempt at trying to get caught up. Chris Mulkerns stated that staff informed them about complaints the office had received. She has talked to Stefanie, the new office person, when she came to Tonopah to interview a new driver. Stefanie had told Ms. Mulkerns that they are trying to fix the problem and are changing the late fees of \$15 a month back to the percentage they had before.

12. Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with Town's Management Representative regarding labor negotiation issues, and other personnel issues.

No action taken by the Board.

13. Closed meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with Town's Management Representative regarding labor negotiation issues, and other personnel issues.

No action taken by the Board.

14. Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on labor negotiations, issues and other personnel matters presented in the closed meeting.

No action taken by the Board.

15. Correspondence

Nye County BOCC Meeting Agenda, April 29, 2016
Room Tax Report for the Month of March 2016, Collected April 2016
Nye County BOCC Meeting Agenda, May 3, 2016
Nye County BOCC Meeting Summary, April 19, 2016
Town Collections April 2016
E-mail from Danelle Shamrell re: increase in insurance cost, May 2, 2016
Beatty Town Advisory Board Meeting Agenda, May 9, 2016
State of Nevada, Bureau of Air Pollution Control, re: Permit Issuance for WKM,
May 5, 2016
Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Agenda, May 10, 2016
Convention Center Report for April 2016
Online Article posted by Lonnie Wong: Colusa Residents “Blindsided” After Area’s
Only Hospital Closes, April 1, 2016
Letter to Dave Fanning re: speed limit on the rodeo grounds/corral area, May 10, 2016
and e-mail from Dave Fanning, May 11, 2016
E-mail from Joy Belonga re: Community Forum, May 10, 2016
Statement from Community Foundation of Western Nevada, May 4, 2016
Senior Tax Assistance Rebate Program Information and Application, May 2016
Nye County Debt Management Commission Teleconference Agenda, May 24, 2016

16. Approval of Vouchers for Payment

The Board reviewed and signed the vouchers. Janet Hatch motioned to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Tom Seley seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

17. Public Comment

Tonopah resident Joni Eastley stated that there are plenty of times when she drives around Town looking at something and thinking “somebody ought to do something about that”. She pointed out that somebody must have been thinking the same thing and then made arrangements to take the trailer on Main Street down and clean up an eyesore that has been plaguing this community and the revitalization of the downtown area for years and years. Chairman Duane Downing stressed that it must have been at least 30 years. Ms. Eastley emphasized that she values nothing more than personal initiative and somebody putting themselves out there to make things better for the people they live with. She thanked the Gallis and the volunteers who helped them. The Board members agreed. She added that she believes the Board needs to do something to recognize all of them. Duane Downing noted that this was one of the best clean up jobs he has seen. It was extremely fast.

Cindy Kaminski commended Clerk Janet Hatch in her comments to Mr. Schaefer. She stressed that Mr. Schaefer has come to the Board many times and that it is known that utility bills are due every month.

18. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Kat Galli, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:



Duane Downing, Chairman



Tom Seley, Vice-Chairman



Janet Hatch, Clerk

Doug Farinholt, Member



Don Kaminski, Member

TONOPAH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 11, 2016
Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Library Board of Trustees Chairman Tom Seley called the meeting to order on May 11, 2016 at 7:39 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Janet Hatch, Clerk Duane Downing, and Board members Don Kaminski and Doug Farinholt. Twenty-six others were in attendance.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes, in Context, from the Regular Meeting Held April 27, 2016.

Janet Hatch motioned to approve the minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held April 27, 2016. Doug Farinholt seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 4-0. 1 abstention.

3. Library Budget Report

Janet Hatch noted that the budget report is looking good.

4. Library Board Member's/Department Manager's Comments

Utility Manager Joe Westerlund explained that Mammoth Mechanical Inc. (MMI) gave staff a quote for the vents for a gable roof. He clarified that the Library has a different roof. Mr. Westerlund noted that Rick from MMI recommends eight vents up on the roof. Mr. Westerlund added that staff is looking into whether there is still warranty on the roof which staff does not believe it is as the roof was built in 2000. Joe Westerlund recommended going back to the original quote including the roof vents. Staff and Board members discussed different possibilities. Chairman Tom Seley pointed out that this upgrade will lower the heating and cooling cost of the Library. Mr. Westerlund will discuss this matter with MMI.

Tom Seley stated that he had talked to Acting Librarian Dianne Ryals about the putting up a sun dial on the Historic Library building. He talked to Tonopah resident Stretch Baker about the project. Mr. Baker would like to get a sketch of what the Board and staff wants done. Mr. Baker and Mr. Seley discussed the possibility of having this be an Eagle Scout Project.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Approval of Vouchers for Payment

The Board reviewed and signed the vouchers. Duane Downing motioned to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Janet Hatch seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Public Comment

None.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Kat Galli, Deputy Town Clerk

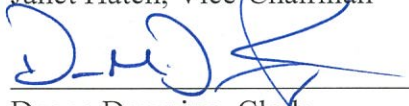
Approved:



Tom Seley, Chairman



Janet Hatch, Vice-Chairman



Duane Downing, Clerk

Doug Farinholt, Member



Don Kaminski, Member