

TONOPAH TOWN BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2017
Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Town Board Chairman Duane Downing called the meeting to order on August 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Don Kaminski, Clerk Jerry Elliston, and Board Members Roni Link and Mike Sain. Thirty-four others were in attendance. Rosa Esquibel of Hoss Disposal was present on the phone for item 7. Chairman Duane Downing led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The items were taken out of order.

The Town Board recessed to the Library Board of Trustees at 7:46 p.m. and reconvened as the Town Board at 8:07 p.m.

1. Public Comment

Tonopah resident Horace Carlyle noted that he would like to tell the Town Board what to do about Hoss Disposal (item 7). He stated that he has been a resident of Tonopah since 2005 and that Hoss Disposal was reliable most of the time. He pointed out that there have been interruptions since the ownership change. He asked the Board to continue having professional trash collection so that there will not be any health hazards. He emphasized that Hoss Disposal is the lowest operator and the Town cannot get another one for that price.

Tonopah resident Bonnie Brown stated that she is speaking for Lorenzo Villalobos. She stressed that at the time they moved him onto her lot, they had no idea of the arbitrary date that the Town Board decided for the placement of trailers. She emphasized that Mr. Villalobos is blind and disabled and that he does not mind bringing his home up to par. She pointed out that his lease states that there will be no garbage or inoperable vehicles on the lot. Ms. Brown noted that she would like the Board to make an exception for Mr. Villalobos. Chairman Duane Downing explained to Ms. Brown that the Town Board cannot take action during public comment. Ms. Brown stated that Tonopah Public Utilities (TPU) will turn Mr. Villalobos water off on August 17th. Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns noted that TPU can postpone this date if an agenda item is submitted to the Town.

Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski noted that the green lightbulbs available for residents are to support "operation Greenlight" started by Walmart to welcome home the veterans. Changing lights at the house is showing one's support for veterans. Ms. Kaminski pointed out that Tonopah residents Rich and Terra Douglass purchased the lightbulbs to be distributed for free. She added that the free lightbulbs are also available at the Town Office.

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

None.

3. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held July 26, 2017.

This item was tabled.

7. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to review the franchise agreement with Hoss Disposal and possible remedies going forward based on the continued lack of consistent service.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns stated that she and Utility Manager Joe Westerlund had a phone conversation with Rosa Esquibel of Hoss Disposal and suggested she give the Board and public in attendance an update on the Trash service in Tonopah before the Board makes a decision.

Chairman Duane Downing emphasized that the item was placed on the agenda due to the overwhelming amounts of complaints the Town Office received about the lack of service from Hoss Disposal. This item is meant to evaluate if the situation can be rectified.

Rosa Esquibel stated that she understands that the service has been lacking. She noted that people who have called the office, have been given a \$5 credit on their account. She stressed that she was not aware of the problems until she filled in at the office. Ms. Esquibel stated that she hired all new office staff as the former staff did not inform her or her brother, Hoss Disposal owner Miguel Esquibel, of the problems.

Ms. Esquibel stressed that they sent an additional worker to Tonopah to catch all customers up and that a new driver is being trained. She stated that the major issues might have stemmed from the last driver. Hoss hired a new driver, established a new route and is hoping to get Tonopah back on track. She added that the driver training the new driver has a good opinion about the new driver.

Board Member Roni Link asked if a new truck was sent to Tonopah. Ms. Esquibel clarified that the truck is new to Tonopah, but not new. Ms. Link emphasized that a lot of customers were told that their trash was not picked up as the truck was broke down. Ms. Esquibel noted that she heard that customers were told the truck was broke down but saw it driving around Town. Ms. Link asked if the driver has set hours. Ms. Esquibel clarified that the driver has anywhere between 4 a.m. and 10 p.m. to pick up trash, especially during the summer when it gets very hot during the day. Therefore, customers are asked to put their trash cans outside the night before the scheduled pick-up. Ms. Link asked if the drivers are allowed to use the trash truck for personal reasons. Ms. Esquibel explained that their policies do not prohibit this and that they have allowed it on two occasions.

Vice-Chairman Don Kaminski asked if Hoss only has one truck for Tonopah which Ms. Esquibel confirmed. She clarified that they only send an additional truck if there is construction trash. Chairman Duane Downing pointed out that he knows of some commercial customers who were fined as their dumpsters did not have lids. Ms. Esquibel suggested these customers call the office so a lid can be provided.

Mr. Downing suggested giving all customers the \$5 credit whether they call or not as Hoss is aware that customers did not receive the trash service they paid for. Ms. Esquibel stated that they will issue a \$5 credit for all customers.

Public comments were made by Tonopah residents Lorenzo Villalobos and Pam Heemstra.

Chairman Downing asked Ms. Esquibel what timeframe Hoss Disposal is asking for to fix the issues. Ms. Esquibel stated that she would suggest giving them two months to see how things have improved. She added that she understands they failed. She stressed that she is working in the office with the new employees now so that she can help. Chairman Downing noted that he feels two months is a reasonable timeframe. The public in attendance asked for only one month. Chairman Downing suggested reevaluating the situation at the meeting to be held on September 27th.

Tonopah resident Joeii Thibodeaux suggested having the driver make a list of all missing dumpster lids instead of the customers having to call it in. She added that she appreciates the \$5 credit but believes it is an insult as it cost way more to drive one's trash to the dump. Ms. Esquibel clarified that most customers complained about two weeks of lacking service and were therefore issued a \$5 credit as this is the cost for two weeks.

Tonopah resident Deb Cobb noted that she has called in two or three times about the driver going through their trash. She added that the trash that was not picked up over the last few weeks was blown all over Town and that she believes Hoss should be fined for that.

Tonopah resident Cindy Downing asked how long she is supposed to wait if her trash is not picked up on the scheduled date. Ms. Esquibel noted that if they call the office, they will get a one-time ticket for additional pick-up. Clerk Jerry Elliston noted that if the driver misses a whole area, he should know that he still needs to pick up those streets without everyone having to call it in.

Chairman Duane Downing pointed out that most of those in attendance who were scheduled for a Monday or Wednesday pickup were still not picked up when they left to attend the meeting. He emphasized that this is why the residents of Tonopah are frustrated. Ms. Esquibel stated that she will have to take different measures as she was told by her drivers that they were out picking up trash and getting customers caught up.

Additional public comments were made by Tonopah residents Judy Wilson and Janet Jorgenson.

Tonopah resident Alice Stubbs stressed that there have been issues with the trash pickup for more than a year and a half. She added that she has been threatened in the past by Hoss Disposal's office staff to be charged extra fees and to drive her trash to the dump. She emphasized that this is not good business and that she does not understand how a company can ethically or morally take money from customers and not give the service. She noted that the residents of Tonopah should start a class action lawsuit to have Hoss Disposal pay everyone back. She stressed that Tonopah deserves better and that Hoss owes the residents. Ms. Stubbs noted that if this is how Hoss does business, then she thinks the Town should not do business with them anymore.

Chairman Duane Downing stated that he will ask staff to put this matter back on the agenda for the September 27th meeting. He stressed that he has no issues with reviewing the agreement or putting it out to bid, but wants to make sure the Board does everything possible first to rectify the situation. He emphasized that checks into other companies showed that everyone would be paying three to four times more than what they are paying now. He added that this is Hoss Disposal's last chance.

This item was tabled.

4. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to contribute funds to help purchase fireworks for the Annual 4 R Kids 4th of July Fireworks Display held at Joe Friel Sports Complex.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns explained that she was asked to place this item on the agenda as 4 R Kids has to fundraise every year to put on the fireworks held during the 4th of July celebrations. 4 R Kids member Dana Friel added that the fireworks display costs \$6,700 if purchased in advance. Ms. Mulkerns noted that the Town was asked to contribute to the fireworks so that it can continue to be good or maybe grow. Ms. Friel clarified that the fireworks are paid for through donations by community members and businesses. Clerk Jerry Elliston asked what fund this expense would come out of. Ms. Mulkerns suggested Town Administration. Mr. Elliston asked if the Town has the money to pay for this expense which Ms. Mulkerns confirmed.

Chairman Duane Downing suggested fund matching. Jerry Elliston agreed but suggested having a cap. Ms. Friel pointed out that 4 R Kids has not received enough money in donations every year and has had to use money from their savings account.

Mr. Downing suggested a cap at \$7,500 with a review every year. He added that he would like the 4th of July events to be bigger. Ms. Friel emphasized that the organization does not have enough volunteers anymore. Don Kaminski noted that the fireworks might attract more visitors to come to Tonopah.

Don Kaminski motioned to contribute matching funds up to \$7,500.00 to purchase fireworks for the Annual 4 R Kids 4th of July Fireworks Display held at Joe Friel Sports Complex. Jerry Elliston seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve or deny the request from Central Nevada Grange Rodeo Club for a reduction of the water bill for June and July 2017.

Mike Newton stated that the water bill and power bill at the arena is paid by the rodeo club per Use & Maintenance Agreement. He noted that the club has more participants now and that they want to host more events. He clarified that there is a broken pipe at the arena that is leaking underground. The club has to shut the water off after each use.

Deputy Town Clerk Kat Galli clarified that users only get billed the difference between the actual bill and the minimum bill which is still paid by the Town. She pointed out that one of the bills for the Rodeo Club had to be corrected.

Mr. Newton explained that there was a misunderstanding on what was fixed at the arena. He was under the impression that there was no leak anymore and therefore the water was not shut-off anymore and the club received a high bill. He added that he spoke with Joe Westerlund who told him that the arena will be dug up to find the leak and repair it. He emphasized that the club does not mind paying the bill, but would like to pay an average bill. Mr. Westerlund clarified that the valve has been changed out already and that it could be a 1,000-foot dig to find the leak as no water has been surfacing.

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Duane Downing asked what the normal bill would be for the rodeo grounds. Kat Galli explained that the average for 2016 was about \$60.00 a month. She stressed that the only reason May of 2017 was high was that the prior months were averaged as TPU's equipment was out and actual reads could not be conducted. Therefore, she only placed June and July on the agenda to be discussed. Chris Mulkerns asked how much the bills were for June and July of 2016. Ms. Galli clarified that the average for the whole year was \$59.47. Clerk Jerry Elliston asked Mr. Newton if he would agree to pay the annual average for 2016 which Mr. Newton agreed to.

Mr. Westerlund stated that TPU will fix everything after the Trail Challenge this weekend. He added that he hopes to have the least amount of interruption for users of the arena. Tonopah resident Deb Cobb noted that it was discussed before that a meter will be put in so that the arena is separate from the corrals. Mr. Westerlund noted that they will add the meter.

Don Kaminski motioned to leave May's water bill as it is and reduce the water bill for June and July to \$59.47 a month, and the Town will get the water leaks fixed. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to authorize the request of 5/8ths Room Tax Grant Funds in the amount of \$900.00 from Derek Eason & Kade Bunker to advertise and promote "Battle Born Basketball".

Derek Eason clarified that when they placed the item on the agenda, they were hoping that the Board could sponsor their jerseys. He stressed that they found another way to pay for those and would like to ask the Board for a donation for their team instead. Board Member Mike Sain asked how much money they are asking for. Mr. Eason noted that any donation would be appreciated. Board Member Roni Link asked if they had a schedule yet. Kade Bunker explained that they are still waiting for the schedule and are hoping to be able to host a tournament in Tonopah.

Administrative Manager Chris Mulkerns clarified that room tax money is meant for an event hosted in Tonopah and to attract people to stay in Tonopah. She explained that the Town can only grant them room tax funds if there is a specific event to be held in Tonopah.

Duane Downing asked if the Town had money in the Town Administration fund to sponsor the team. Ms. Mulkerns explained that such an expense was never budgeted for. Mr. Downing suggested to Mr. Eason and Mr. Bunker to talk to Town staff to figure out how the Town can help them. Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski added that they should contact local businesses to ask them for donations.

This item was tabled.

8. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve the use of Joe Friel Sports Complex for the Fall 2017 Grange Youth Soccer.

Shari Bombard explained that this is the third year of soccer. It has been very successful in the past. They would host practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays so they do not interfere with the Co-Ed Softball practices.

Kat Galli pointed out that she needs a few decisions from the Board in order to complete the Use and Maintenance Agreement. She noted that the agreement is for August 15th through November 3, 2017. She added that she needs a decision on whether the Board wants to charge for the usage of the fields. Jerry Elliston asked if the Town charged the group last year which Ms. Galli denied. She pointed out that a new section of the Use and Maintenance Agreement that she already discussed with Ms. Bombard is that the Town will charge for replacement of all locks and keys from now on. She added that the Board needs to make a decision as to how high they want to set the liability insurance requirement.

Duane Downing suggested that the Town does not charge for the usage and requiring \$1 million liability insurance.

Jerry Elliston motioned to approve the use of the Joe Friel Sports Complex for Fall 2017 Grange Youth Soccer from August 15th to November 3rd at no charge with a minimum of \$1 million liability insurance. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve the purchase of a camera to take professional photos for tourism, print, and social media.

Tourism/Events Coordinator Shari Bombard noted that it is very difficult to get high quality photographs. She is currently using her iPhone to take pictures to be used for brochures or advertising. She emphasized that the quality is oftentimes not good enough for what is needed and that she cannot take nighttime pictures of stars.

Ms. Bombard explained that she did some research about cameras. She also received a top of the line recommendation by Sydney Martinez of TravelNevada. Ms. Bombard showed the Board the Annual Tourism Guide with the cover picture by Ms. Martinez. She noted that it is difficult to find a camera suitable for star photography.

Duane Downing stated that one should not scrimp on camera or lenses. He stressed that if you want good quality pictures, you need to spend money. He recommended looking into Nikon cameras.

Jerry Elliston asked what fund the money would come from. Chris Mulkerns clarified that the camera could be paid for out of capital projects. Mr. Elliston suggested approving a certain \$ value. Mr. Downing proposed approving a cost of up to \$5,000. Mike Sain noted that one does not need to spend that much money. Mr. Downing stressed that Ms. Bombard needs to make sure to buy additional lenses and all the necessary accessories. Mr. Elliston recommended not buying from Amazon, but from a professional camera store as they can tell you what you need.

Don Kaminski motioned to approve up to \$5,000.00 for the purchase of a camera and peripherals to take professional photos for tourism, print, and social media. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 4-1.

10. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve applying for multiple Tourism Marketing Grants through TravelNevada and to approve grant matching expenditure.

Kat Galli explained that this item is the usual request so that staff can apply for grants through TravelNevada. She noted that the grant award will take place in December of 2017. She stressed that she knows she is asking for a lot of money, but the amount listed in the backup is the expenditure if the Board decides to move forward with all advertising efforts and the Town does not receive any grant funding. She emphasized that the Town has been awarded all grant requests so far. Ms. Galli explained the different applications as listed in the backup. She pointed out that she would like to have half page ads in the Nevada Magazine twice a year to advertise the biggest events in Town such as Jim Butler Days, the summer rodeo, and the Starry Nights Arts Festival. She explained that the half page ads stand out more to readers. She noted that the website has not been redesigned in eight years so it is necessary to make it more user and mobile friendly.

Ms. Galli noted that she made a list of the room tax grant expenditures she expects for the fiscal year and stressed that the Town will stay within what they will collect. She added that staff is planning projects accordingly so that there will not be a large project every year.

Jerry Elliston motioned to approve up to \$24,720 to apply for multiple Tourism Marketing Grants through TravelNevada and to approve grant matching expenditures. Don Kaminski seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to consider three (3) items proposed by Ford AV after discussions during the initial training given for the new equipment installed at the Convention Center, and specify what items, if any, will be purchased and installed as described in said proposal.

Chris Mulkerns explained that she was contacted by Kevin Conboy of Ford AV after the training was completed as these were items mentioned by Board Members. She clarified that the company has to come back anyway to connect the recording system to the AV system as this was part of the original job. They could add the new features at the same time. Jerry Elliston asked if this would be paid out of the capital projects fund which Ms. Mulkerns confirmed.

Ms. Mulkerns noted that the possibility to show movies at the Convention Center was discussed. She explained that she looked into the licensing and the Town could have a license where they pay per event.

Mr. Downing noted that a public comment was made during the Library Board meeting about the teleconference system. Ms. Mulkerns stated that she will ask the company about it.

Don Kaminski motioned to authorize \$7,630.00 to purchase all three (3) items proposed by Ford AV after discussions during the initial training for the Convention Center equipment. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

12. Discussion, deliberation and possible action on Department Budget Reports.

No questions or comments.

13. Correspondence

Nye County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Agenda, August 1, 2017

Letter to Nye County Planning Department, July 27, 2017

NyE Communities Coalition Newsletter, August 2017

Letter from BLM re: Piper Peak radio repeater, July 24, 2017

Community Foundation of Western Nevada Report, January 1-June 30, 2017

Nye County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Agenda, August 1, 2017

Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Agenda, August 8, 2017

Beatty Town Advisory Board Meeting Agenda, August 14, 2017

Compliance Monitor Instrument Positive Actions/Project Magic, July 1, 2016-
June 30, 2017

Letter from BLM re: Vegas to Reno OHV Race, August 3, 2017

Chris Mulkerns pointed out that Positive Actions/Project Magic served triple the amount of kids as planned and was a very successful program.

14. Approval of vouchers for payment.

The Board reviewed and signed the vouchers. Jerry Elliston motioned to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

15. Public Comment

Tonopah resident Cindy Kaminski commented on how the microphones should be set up so everyone can hear.


Horace Carlyle referred to articles in the local newspaper about the police presence during Jim Butler Days. He noted that he would love the Board to consider sending a letter thanking the local police for their service. Ms. Kaminski emphasized that there are a lot of people who put in a lot of hours to put the events on and that the local officers understand that. She stressed that it was the officers from the other areas who were a little bit overzealous.

Jerry Elliston stated that he would like to introduce Glen White who works for him and moved here from Texas. He added that he hopes he will get involved in the community.

16. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Kat Gallj, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:

Duane Downing, Chairman



Don Kaminski, Vice-Chairman

Jerry W. Elliston, Clerk



Rhonda S. Link, Member



Michael Sain, Member

TONOPAH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2017
Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Library Board of Trustees Chairman Don Kaminski called the meeting to order on August 9, 2017 at 7:46 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Mike Sain, Clerk Roni Link, and Trustees Duane Downing and Jerry Elliston. Thirty-four others were in attendance.

1. Public Comment

None.

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

None.

3. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held July 26, 2017.

This item was tabled.

4. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve the purchase of a telescope.

Shari Bombard explained that the Town has visitors from TravelNevada regularly who would like to have star parties. She noted that Jim Rigby has been so kind as to help Ms. Bombard with this request but he is moving away from Tonopah. Ms. Bombard stressed that the Town needs to be able to have access to a telescope so that they can continue to promote Tonopah as the #1 stargazing destination. She stressed that Mr. Rigby recommended different telescopes to her and that up to \$1,500 would get a nice telescope that a beginner could use. She stated that one can enter the GPS coordinates and what one wants to see and the telescope will automatically dial it in.

Chris Mulkerns clarified that the reason this item was placed on the Library agenda is that the Board had looked into purchasing a telescope for the Library in the past so that what is seen through the telescope could be shown on the screens at the Historic Library. She clarified that Dianne Ryals talked with the State Library who was ecstatic about the Library's willingness to do this. Ms. Mulkerns added that this purchase would fulfill the requirement to purchase at least 10% of the budget for books or these kinds of purchases. She stressed that there will be an agreement between the Library and the user such as Ms. Bombard or the Mining Park or the Town. She emphasized that it has been a problem in the past to spend 10% of the budget on books as the Library is running out of space.

Don Kaminski suggested doing research to see what the best equipment is and to make sure it can be connected to a screen. Ms. Bombard noted that the one recommended by Mr. Rigby does have that feature and the advantage is that it can be lifted by one person. She added that the telescope has a lot of features and that she trusts Mr. Rigby's expert opinion. Mr. Kaminski asked for that information in writing so he can look at the specifications.

Don Kaminski suggested approving up to \$2,500. Jerry Elliston noted that he would like to see the agreement first. Ms. Mulkerns clarified that a sample agreement was provided as backup and that she would recommend that Library users cannot check the telescope out.

Duane Downing stated that he trusts Jim Rigby's expertise.

Duane Downing motioned to approve the purchase of a telescope for an amount up to \$2,500.00. Jerry Elliston seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision regarding property located at 155 Central Street.

Chris Mulkerns stated that she received a draft of the environmental assessment per e-mail in the morning, but has not had time to look through the draft as it is over 200 pages. She suggested postponing the decision.

This item was tabled.

6. Discussion, deliberation and possible action on the Library Budget Report.

No questions or comments.

7. Correspondence

State Council on Libraries and Literacy, Library Report 2016

8. Approval of vouchers for payment.

The Board reviewed and signed the vouchers. Jerry Elliston motioned to approve the vouchers as presented for payment. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Public Comment

Don Kaminski asked staff to check with Acting Librarian Dianne Ryals if the Library will be giving out free glasses to see the eclipse.

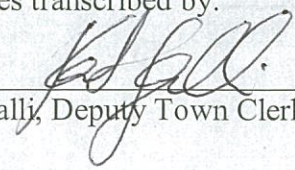
Roni Link asked the people in attendance if they were able to hear better during the meeting due to the new AV system. Don Kaminski added that the Town has been upgrading all of the Convention Center as Tonopah will be hosting the Rural Roundup in 2018. He stressed that the Board is hoping there will be more conventions held in Tonopah.

Tonopah resident Horace Carlyle noted that he would like a better teleconference system.

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Kat Gallj, Deputy Town Clerk

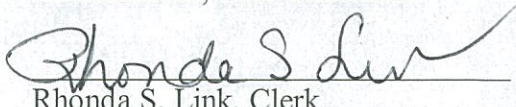
Approved:



Don Kaminski, Chairman



Michael Sain, Vice-Chairman



Rhonda S. Link, Clerk

Duane Downing, Trustee

Jerry Elliston, Trustee

