

TONOPAH TOWN BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 20, 2017  
Tonopah Convention Center  
301 Brougher Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Town Board Chairman Duane Downing called the meeting to order on December 20, 2017 at 6:01 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Don Kaminski, Clerk Jerry Elliston, and Board Members Roni Link and Mike Sain. Eight others were in attendance. Chairman Downing led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town Board recessed to the Library Board of Trustees at 6:43 p.m. and reconvened as the Town Board at 6:58 p.m.

1. Public Comment

David Hiebert introduced himself and noted that he is retired from the fugitive task force for the U.S. Marshal Service with 30 years of experience in law enforcement and special operations. Mr. Hiebert added that he is attending the meeting to announce that he is running for Nye County Sheriff. He stated that he believes not the same credence is given to law enforcement in the north of the county and that he thinks Tonopah is left out a lot. He emphasized that he knows how to get money because he was in Congress and that he believes one has to diversify to get better. He added that he would like to bring in additional training for the police officers.

Clerk Jerry Elliston pointed out that Mr. Hiebert can ask to be added to the e-mail distribution list for Board matters so he can stay informed.

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

Chairman Duane Downing stated that he would like to get the ball rolling for a new ordinance for Tonopah. He added that the marijuana laws can be controlled on a local level. He pointed out that the Town can be more restrictive and only allow use in private residences, not public places. Vice-Chairman Don Kaminski asked if the Town has any authorization to decide where a grow place is allowed. Mr. Downing clarified that this is a County decision. Clerk Jerry Elliston asked if the current ordinance was completely codified yet. Utility Manager Joe Westerlund explained that this is in the process.

3. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held November 22, 2017.

Roni Link motioned to approve the minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held November 22, 2017. Mike Sain seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the special meeting held December 1, 2017.

Jerry Elliston motioned to approve the minutes, in context, from the special meeting held December 1, 2017. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held December 6, 2017.

Roni Link motioned to approve the minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held December 6, 2017. Mike Sain seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to accept the Annual Audit for the Town of Tonopah/Tonopah Public Utilities for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 as presented by Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd., CPA.

Certified Public Accountant Dan McArthur noted that the Financial Statements for the Town/Tonopah Public Utilities (TPU) are about 90 pages long. He noted that the index pages show what is included in the statement. Mr. McArthur explained that he has to issue an opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report and that he is giving the Town/TPU a clean auditor opinion.

Mr. McArthur referred to pages 13 and 14 (Statement of Net Position/Statement of Activities) and noted that this is like a balance sheet that shows all activities on the government side. He pointed out that TPU is shown like a business. He stressed that the cash and cash equivalents total almost \$4.9 million and that this is a pretty good position for the Town to be in. He noted that the Town does not have any bonds payable, but TPU owes about \$5 million due to the arsenic project. He added that the "Net Pension Obligation" is what the Town is required to pay into NVPERS, Nevada's retirement system. Mr. McArthur clarified that the loss shown for TPU is mostly driven by depreciation and is like a paper-loss.

Mr. McArthur referred to pages 61-63 and noted that this shows the Water Enterprise Fund which includes the large bond payment. He noted that as TPU is run like a business, assets and liabilities have to be recorded. He emphasized that TPU budgeted to lose more than what was really lost. He pointed out that there is a positive cash flow which was higher than the previous fiscal year.

Mr. McArthur referred to page 63-66 that show the Sewer Enterprise Fund. He pointed out that the loss was less than what was budgeted, but that the depreciation is still pretty high. He emphasized that TPU's funds are looking strong and healthy.

Mr. McArthur referred to pages 54-55 (Town General Fund) and stressed that the Town's ending fund balance for FY 16/17 is over \$2 million. He noted that the collections have been increasing, mainly driven by room tax. He pointed out that this may decrease with construction winding down. Deputy Town Clerk Kat Galli disagreed and noted that she and Tourism/Events Coordinator Shari Bombard compared room tax collections for the past few years earlier that day and have noted a substantial increase in room tax collections. Chairman Duane Downing added that another hotel will open within the next few months. He pointed out that the expansion of the Town boundaries might result in higher collections as well. Dan McArthur stated that the general fund is looking really healthy to him. He stressed that the Town can cover its bills for two years even if there was no revenue. He emphasized that Town staff is doing an excellent job.

Mr. McArthur referred to pages 90-91 and stressed that there were no compliance findings this year. He explained that there were violations in the prior FY due to the Sheriff's PST Fund. He added that as the Sheriff's planned expenditures did not take place until the current fiscal year, there were no expenses in FY 16/17. Mr. McArthur emphasized that he has no suggestions for Town staff to change anything.

Chairman Downing asked how Mr. McArthur felt about the Town continuing to set money aside for retirement and benefit payments. Mr. McArthur replied that he believes the Town is doing great and staying on top of that. He emphasized that the Town of Tonopah is the only entity out of 25 local governments he audits that puts money aside for this.

Don Kaminski motioned to accept the Annual Audit for the Town of Tonopah/Tonopah Public Utilities for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 as presented by Daniel C. McArthur. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to approve the purchase of a rescue fire apparatus for the Tonopah Volunteer Fire Department.

Utility Manager Joe Westerlund noted that Fire Chief Rob Elliott did an excellent job on finding a better price for the rescue apparatus as this quote is about \$100,000 less than the one the Fire Department received at the beginning of the year. Mr. Westerlund pointed out that the vendor is part of the State purchasing system and the Town therefore does not have to go out to bid for this apparatus.

Chief Elliott stressed that this apparatus has everything they wanted and will be much more effective than the current one. Chairman Downing asked if the old rescue truck will be retired. Chief Elliott pointed out that it belongs to Nye County. Chairman Downing inquired whether the new apparatus could be licensed for medical response which Chief Elliott confirmed.

Joe Westerlund asked if the truck will be delivered which Chief Elliott confirmed. Board Member Roni Link asked how long the delivery time is. Chief Elliott replied that it is 180 days. Clerk Jerry Elliston inquired what fund the truck will be paid from. Duane Downing clarified that the funds will be taken out of the Fire Department Public Safety Tax (PST) Fund.

Don Kaminski motioned to approve the purchase of a rescue fire apparatus for the Tonopah Volunteer Fire Department, as presented. Jerry Elliston seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to authorize execution by the Chairman of the loan contract by and between the State of Nevada and Tonopah Public Utilities for the TPU Radio Read Meter System Project.

Joe Westerlund explained that this item is only to sign the contract so that TPU can receive the funds (\$500,000) they were already awarded. He added that he is currently getting a count on what is needed so that TPU can go out to bid in February. Chairman Downing pointed out that this is a loan TPU does not have to pay back.

Don Kaminski motioned to authorize execution by the Chairman of the loan contract by and between the State of Nevada and Tonopah Public Utilities for the TPU Radio Read Meter System Project. Mike Sain seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Discussion, deliberation and possible action on Department Staff Reports:

- a) Town Administration:
  - Town Collections for the Month of November 2017
  - 5/8ths Room Tax Grants FY 17/18
- b) Convention Center:
  - Usage for the Month of November 2017
  - Carpet/hard floor installation complete
  - Wainscoting replacement
  - AC Units
  - Bathroom renovations
  - Round tables received, possible chair replacement
- c) Tonopah Historic Mining Park:
  - Collections/Visitor Count November 2017
  - Glass replacement at Grizzly
- d) Tourism/Events:
  - Past/current/future events (i.e. Santa Crawl, etc.)
  - Training/conferences attended by Shari Bombard
  - Tonopah High School Outreach
  - Grant Applications
  - Visitor Center at Pocket Park
  - Cemetery brochure/Town brochure
  - Tonopah Website
  - NevadaGram
  - Muni Arts Leaders Group
  - Cowboy Poetry
  - Museums
  - TravelNevada FAM Tours
- e) Pool:
  - Closed
- f) Parks/Maintenance:
  - Shade structures at Sportsman's Park
  - Surplused vehicles removed
  - Christmas lights/banners on Main Street
- g) Rodeo Grounds:
  - Picnic tables refurbished
- h) Joe Friel Sports Complex:

- i) Tonopah Public Utilities:
- Admin Work Orders
  - Online Account Update
  - System Update
  - Radio Read Meter System Project
  - Cable truck
  - Daily maintenance

Tourism/Events Coordinator Shari Bombard asked the Board if her written report is helpful which all Members confirmed. She noted that he would like to talk a little more about the Governor's Conference as she could not believe how fantastic it was. She pointed out that people from all over the world attended. Ms. Bombard added that she felt the most amazing event was similar to "speed dating". She had seven minutes with each of the travel agents/tour guides/etc. for over 2.5 hours to sell Tonopah as a travel destination. She stated that she showed them the promotional video and talked them through it. Ms. Bombard stressed that a lot of tour operators were seriously interested in adding Tonopah to their schedule. She emphasized that the room tax collections have been increasing for years and that the first four months of the current fiscal year were about \$34,000 higher than the prior FY. She pointed out that despite the travel ban that lost the U.S. \$10 billion in revenue and 60,000 jobs, Tonopah did not see a slow-down in tourism. Ms. Bombard pointed out that the advertising contributes to the good results. She added that the Town received all grant funds they applied for again and that she believes this shows that the State knows Tonopah is using the money right.

Vice-Chairman Don Kaminski asked what the possibilities are to have a cowboy poetry in Tonopah. Shari Bombard clarified that she will discuss this with possible organizers after she attends the Cowboy Poetry events in Elko. She noted that she is trying to work out another program with Shosh Zeldner of the Nevada Arts Council that could be something like a mining poetry gathering.

Board Member Roni Link noted that she lives close to the Tonopah Historic Mining Park and that it is fun listening to the various languages spoken while people walk to the park. She emphasized that the Northern Nye County Hospital District Board approved the agreement with Renown/REMSA to provide additional medical services in Tonopah and that this should be passed on to tourists.

#### 10. Correspondence

Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Agenda, December 12, 2017

Nye County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Summary, November 30, 2017  
and December 5, 2017

E-mail from Vance Payne re: Tonopah Ambulance Coverage Gaps, December 12, 2017

E-Mail from Chris Mulkerns in reply to Vance Payne's e-mail, December 14, 2017

Beatty Town Advisory Board Meeting Agenda, December 18, 2017

Round Mountain Town Board Meeting Agenda, December 19, 2017

Nye County Board of County Commissioners Meeting Agenda, December 19, 2017

Northern Nye County Hospital District Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda,  
December 20, 2017

Letters from TavelNevada re: Grant Award for 6 Grants, December 4, 2017

Movie Night Flyer, December 21, 2017

Nye County Water District Governing Board Meeting Agenda, December 21, 2017

Letter from C.S. to Town, December 2017

11. Approval of vouchers for payment.

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

12. Announcements

None.

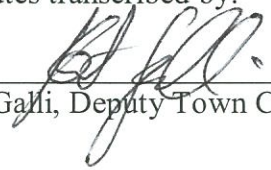
13. Public Comment

David Hiebert noted again that he is running for Sheriff.

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

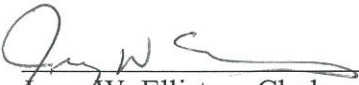
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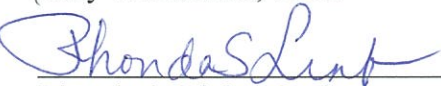
  
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Kat Galli, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:

  
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Duane Downing, Chairman

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Don Kaminski, Vice-Chairman

  
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Jerry W. Elliston, Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda S. Link, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Sain, Member

TONOPAH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 20, 2017  
Tonopah Convention Center  
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049

Tonopah Library Board of Trustees Chairman Don Kaminski called the meeting to order on December 20, 2017 at 6:43 p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Mike Sain, Clerk Roni Link, and Trustees Duane Downing and Jerry Elliston. Eight others were in attendance.

Items were taken out of order.

1. Public Comment

None.

5. Discussion, deliberation and possible action to accept the Annual Audit for the Tonopah Library District for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 as presented by Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd., CPA.

Certified Public Accountant Dan McArthur stated that he is giving the Tonopah Library District a clean audit opinion and that there were no compliance findings. He added that the District is doing terrific and that the District pulls in some valuable properties due to its boundaries. He noted that the revenues are higher than the expenditures which leaves the District enough money for upgrades and other capital projects. He pointed out that there were no major improvements in FY 16/17.

Duane Downing motioned to accept the Annual Audit for the Tonopah Library District for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 as presented. Jerry Elliston seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Joe Westerlund noted that the work performed by the Conservation Camp is what keeps the cost low for the Library as well as Town improvements and that the Board needs to continue sending letters of appreciation to the Camp.

3. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held November 22, 2017.

Duane Downing motioned to approve the minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held November 22, 2017. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Review and approval of minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held December 6, 2017.

Duane Downing motioned to approve the minutes, in context, from the regular meeting held December 6, 2017. Roni Link seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Discussion, deliberation and possible action on Library Staff Reports:

- a) Library:
  - Computer usage
  - Patrons served/ books checked out
- b) Historic Library:

No comments.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Approval of vouchers for payment.

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

9. Announcements

Chairman Don Kaminski asked if staff had heard anything new in regards to the purchase of the property located next to the Library. Utility Manager Joe Westerlund noted that staff is still waiting to hear from Cow County Title.

10. Public Comment

None.

11. Adjourn


The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:

  
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Kat Galli, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Kaminski, Chairman

  
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Michael Sain, Vice-Chairman

  
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Rhonda S. Link, Clerk

  
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Duane Downing, Trustee

  
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Jerry Elliston, Trustee