

**TONOPAH TOWN BOARD**  
**March 27, 2024**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tonopah Convention Center**  
**301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Chairman Don Kaminski brought the Tonopah Town Board meeting to order on March 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Vice-Chairman Joni Eastley

Clerk Marc Grigory

Member Douglas Baker

Member Zachary Newell

The Tonopah Town Board recessed to the Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees at 6:51 p.m. and reconvened as the Tonopah Town Board at 7:04 p.m.

19 others were in attendance

1. **Public Comment.**

None.

The following items listed under the CONSENT AGENDA will be considered as a group and acted on by one motion with no separate discussion of said items unless a Board Member so requests. In that event, the item will be removed from the CONSENT AGENDA for separate discussion and action:

2. **Consent Agenda:**

- a. Approval of agenda
- b. Approval of minutes from the March 13, 2024 meeting
- c. Approval of vouchers for payment
- d. Review of correspondence

Vice Chairman Eastley removed item 2A. Vice Chairman Eastley moved to approve items 2B-D.

Clerk Grigory seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Item 4 was tabled and items 5-7 were pulled. Per town ordinance the Town Manager can approve these events.

3. **Department Managers' and Town Board Members' Comments.**

**Mining Park host/tour guide Jeff Martin:**

Contacted by Shop LC Network (jewelry sales) to do a live feed during JBD weekend with the Ottesen's

**Administrative Supervisor Becky Braska:**

Arch dedication at Patriots' Park July 4 - tentatively

Budget workshop March 29, 2024

Public hearing date will be set at the April 10 board meeting

**Town Manager Joe Westerlund:**

TVFD pump test complete

Dishwasher install at the Convention Center is pending  
Warmup arena ¼ complete

Vice Chairman Eastley read the following email into the record:



Joni Eastley <joniaeastley@gmail.com>

## Few comments to put into the public record during Town Board Meeting

1 message

From: tyson falk <tfalk@ioneer.com>  
To: Joni Eastley <joniaeastley@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 25, 2024 at 2:20 PM

Hi Joni

Thank you for doing this for me! Here are some brief comments that would be great if you read it into the record during public comment or your remarks.

//

Honorable Town Board:

We at Ioneer are excited to share that we are nearing the final stages of the NEPA process for the Rhyolite Ridge Lithium-Boron Project. After many years of working with federal agencies and local partners (including this esteemed board) we are pleased to say that we expect that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project will be released to the public in very short order. Once the draft is released to the public, there will be a 45-day public comment period for all interested parties to submit comments on the Project, including support letters.

We are grateful for the continued support of the Tonopah Town Board, and the citizens of Tonopah, as evidenced by the many letters of support and petitions as we have embarked throughout NEPA and other permitting processes since 2020. When the Draft EIS is released, we will communicate that to this Board and the community, and we would be honored if the Board would submit a letter of support to the Project which will generate considerable economic opportunities, including jobs for many decades, for the Town of Tonopah, and the region as a whole.

And as this body is aware, Ioneer awards scholarships to local high school students pursuing higher education each year. In fact, the first award winners in 2020 were announced during a meeting of this body. If you know of a local high school student that is pursuing education either at a college, university, or trade school - please encourage them to apply! The deadline for this year's application period is April 20, 2024. All information about the scholarship program can be found at [www.therhyoliteridgeproject.com/scholarship](http://www.therhyoliteridgeproject.com/scholarship). Any interested students may also reach out to Tyson Falk - [tfalk@ioneer.com](mailto:tfalk@ioneer.com) - for further information.

Thank you, and we look forward to giving the Board a formal update once the Draft EIS has been released.

Tyson Falk, Ioneer Government and Public Affairs Manager

• CEMETERY

ioneer

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4. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to accept the Town of Tonopah, Nevada, Fiscal Year 22/23 Audited Report on Financial Statements and Supplementary Information as presented by Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd.**  
Item tabled.
5. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible action to approve a request from Jimmy Lewis for a Use & Maintenance Agreement for the OHV staging area at the Tonopah Fairground on April 18, 2024.**  
Item pulled.
6. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible action to approve a Use & Maintenance Agreement for Joe Friel Sports Complex to host a circus as a fundraiser for the Hassana Dance Troupe May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**  
Item pulled.
7. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to approve use of the Tonopah Fairground for the Jim Butler Stampede Rodeo. This is an annual event held during Jim Butler Days.**  
Item pulled.
8. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible action to approve waiving the fees for use of the Convention Center in the amount of \$450.00 for the Nevada Museum Association Conference in October 2024.**  
Mr. Martin stated the event will be held October 15-18, 2024.  
He stated they are nonprofit, and the budget is limited. Working on sponsorships.  
Vice Chairman Eastley moved to approve waiving the fees for use of the Convention Center in the amount of \$450.00 for the Nevada Museum Association Conference in October 2024. Member Newell seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.
9. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to award \$1,300.00 to the Tonopah Speedway Fundraiser Poker Run for a band at the Union Plaza Parking Lot on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024; funding source: Tourism/bands.**  
Vice Chairman Eastley moved to award \$1,300.00 to the Tonopah Speedway Fundraiser Poker Run for a band at the Union Plaza Parking Lot on June 7th, 2024; funding source: Tourism/bands.  
Clerk Grigory seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.
10. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible action to approve a 5/8 Room Tax Grant request to help offset the costs to advertise the 2024 Nevada State Mining Championships May 25, 2024 during Jim Butler Days in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.**  
Vice Chairman Eastley disclosed she is on the committee and this is her event.  
Ms. Braska addressed the Board. Clerk Grigory motioned to approve a 5/8 Room Tax Grant request to help offset the costs to advertise the 2024 Nevada State Mining Championships May 25, 2024 during Jim Butler Days in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.  
Member Baker seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.
11. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible action to approve the purchase of 4 alien statues in an amount not to exceed \$2,400 for the Tonopah Stargazing Park; funding source: Tourism.**

Tourism and Events Coordinator Chrissy Pope addressed the Board.

\$600/each. Vice Chairman Eastley inquired; since the stargazing park is used to gaze at stars which can only be seen at night, why would they have these statues when they won't be visible at night. Ms. Pope stated people have red lights on their head lamps. Stated this will set us apart. Discussion about how they'll be secured for anti-theft purposes.

Vice Chairman Eastley motioned to approve the purchase of 1 alien statue in an amount not to exceed \$600 for the Tonopah Stargazing Park; funding source: Tourism. Member Newell seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

12. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on Nye County Planning Department's draft Bill No. 2024-03 to amend NCC Title 17, Comprehensive Land Use Planning and Zoning, Chapter 17.10 entitled Special Use Permits.**

Nye County Planning Director Brett Waggoner addressed the Board.

A copy of this draft is available for review.

Meeting with towns again to include them in the process of working through regulations for solar companies. There was an inundation of applications being filed with BLM which led Nye County to put an SUP in place. Vice Chairman Eastley pointed out the flood of applications was in Amargosa Valley and Pahrump Valley.

Some processes and requirements examples:

Applicant would come to the BoCC for a preliminary approval for gathering other information that will be required. Development agreement. Disposal plan.

Decommissioning bond.

Discussion of the significant fee; will Tonopah benefit from any of the fee? Yes.

Vice Chairman Eastley inquired if there were discussions with any of the BLM districts within which Nye County lies. Mr. Waggoner; Yes and they haven't or won't provide feedback. Perry Wickham with Tonopah BLM office – Battle Mountain District. He stated they had no interaction with Nye County regarding this draft bill. He would like to be involved with this process since it does deal with federal lands. Mr. Waggoner stated he has been in contact with the Southern District and has tried to contact Mr. Wickham.

Board requested:

- Coordinate final language with all four BLM districts that manage public lands in Nye County;
- Town of Tonopah must have a seat at the bargaining table for any proposed development agreements related to operations in our taxing district; and
- Application fees for operations in our taxing district should be shared with the Town of Tonopah, as well as any other related fees

13. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible action to approve Nevada Division of Forestry's plan to remove 5 trees at Barsanti Park and plant 3 new ones and plant 10 new trees at the OHV area at the Tonopah Fairground.**

Christian Stephensen and Dan Eason addressed the Board.

Member Baker moved to approve Nevada Division of Forestry's plan to remove 5 trees at Barsanti Park and plant 3 new ones and plant 10 new trees at the OHV area at the Tonopah Fairground.

Vice Chairman Eastley seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

14. **Public Comment.**

**Vice Chairman Eastley:**

Reimplementation of the Town Board Summit held quarterly. Town Board representatives would meet and discuss items of common interest or concern to those communities. Other communities are interested in the idea. Item to be placed on an agenda.

15. **Adjourn.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

**TONOPAH LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 27, 2024**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tonopah Convention Center**

**301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049**

**6:00 p.m.**

Chairman Don Kaminski brought the Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees meeting to order on March 27, 2024 at 6:51 p.m.

Present:

Vice-Chairman Zachary Newell

Clerk Marc Grigory

Trustee Joni Eastley

Trustee Douglas Baker

19 others were in attendance

1. **Public Comment**

None.

The following items listed under the CONSENT AGENDA will be considered as a group and acted on by one motion with no separate discussion of said items unless a Board Member so requests. In that event, the item will be removed from the CONSENT AGENDA for separate discussion and action:

2. **Consent Agenda:**

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Trustee Eastley removed item 2A, item 4 was tabled and then moved to approve items 2B-D

Vice Chairman Newell seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

3. **Managers' and Library Board Members' Comments**

Acting librarian Jessyka Boteler and employee Mike Sain addressed the Board.

Trustee Eastley stated that at a previous meeting the Board asked that Ms. Boteler get with Ms. Braska or Ms. Mills to get set up in Eden to process their own time sheets and invoices. Ms. Boteler stated she did get with Ms. Braska. Ms. Mills stated they were looking for guidance from the Board as far as how they want her set up. Will she be entering all time and invoices and approving or will there be another person entering and she approve? Chairman Kaminski wanted to discuss this matter at the Friday morning budget workshop. He also stated that job descriptions would need to be changed to include these duties. Discussion regarding computer purchase, new staff computer needed.

4. **Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision to accept the Tonopah Library District Fiscal Year 22/23 Audited Report on Financial Statements and Supplementary Information as presented by Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd.**  
Item tabled.
5. **Public Comment**  
None.
6. **Adjourn.**  
Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Town of Tonopah & Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees  
Invoices, Vouchers, Journal Entries, & Minutes



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**Don Kaminski Chairman/Chairman**



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**Joni Eastley Vice Chairman/Trustee**



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**Marc Grigory Clerk/Clerk**



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**Zach Newell Member/Vice Chairman**



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**Douglas Baker Member/Trustee**

APPROVED ON APRIL 10, 2024:

**TOWN/TPU INVOICES TOTAL: \$ 60,856.79**

**JOURNAL ENTRY TOTALS: \$ n/a**

**LIBRARY INVOICES TOTAL: \$ 127.11**

**March 27, 2024 MINUTES**



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Prepared by: Jennifer Mills