

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL
HELD MARCH 5, 2013, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE
SARATOGA TOWN HALL

Mayor John Zeiger called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Councilman Steve Wilcoxson, Councilwoman Susan Howe and Councilwoman Judy Welton. Councilman Mike McWain was absent from the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2013 meeting as presented. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Councilwoman Welton read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$36,115.48; Payroll and FICA for 2/25/2013 in the amount of \$59,852.41; and manual checks in the amount of \$43,690.56, for a total of \$139,658.45.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$139,658.45. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Zeiger read the following correspondence a Thank You from Museum Director Kimberly thanking the town for renewing their membership.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilman Wilcoxson stated that he would like to revisit the motion made at the last council meeting that would require all board appointments and reappointment letters of interest to come before the council for consideration. Mr. Wilcoxson noted that after talking with the town attorney and asking for clarification on board appointments he believes that the motion was incorrect. As noted by the town attorney and stated in the ordinances as well as state statutes all board appointments and reappointments are made by the mayor with consent of the council. Therefore the unexpired term created by the resignation of Randy Raymer can be filled with an appointment by the mayor. A discussion ensued and the council requested that the town attorney be contacted before amending the motion.

Clerk Suzie Cox noted she would send the minutes of the February 19th meeting with reference to the motion in question and request that Tom Thompson review the motion and provide the council with an opinion letter.

After further discussion it was decided that the council will receive all letters of interest for their review and Mayor Zeiger and Councilman Wilcoxson will set interviews with the individuals seeking appointment. The Mayor will then take their recommendation to the council for their consent.

Mayor Zeiger read State Statute §15-1-502 provided by Councilman Wilcoxson which Councilman Wilcoxson noted he had received from an individual with highlighted areas to indicate the appointments of boards and commissions.

(As highlighted) “Each city and town may have a planning commission. The number and terms of the members and any other details relating to its organization and procedure shall be determined by the governing body”

Mayor Zeiger noted that the individual that provided the statute was only drawing reference from a portion of the statute and the mayor highlighted and read the rest of the applicable statute which read as follows:

“The members shall be appointed by the mayor with the consent of the governing body and shall serve without compensation, except for reasonable expenses.”

Mr. Wilcoxson then stated that each councilperson will have the opportunity to review the letters of interest and that they should visit with the individuals at their convenience and make their preferences known to the mayor prior to his appointment.

Mayor Zeiger noted that the ad for letters of interest to serve on the planning commission went to the paper this week and he and Mr. Wilcoxson will be setting a date for the interviews.

Mayor Zeiger then addressed the audience and noted that there seems to have been an oversight on the reappointment of Bev Hempel to the Planning Commission and it is still being researched. However, he stated “the witch hunt needs to end tonight, and it is nothing more than a witch hunt. If the group had come in to the town hall or would have gone to the planning commission and said that they believe we should check all of the boards to see if any of the terms had expired, that would have been one thing. But to go to the paper and say that Bev Hempel was not reappointed five years ago, that is something else”. He then cautioned individuals to be more respectful in their gestures.

Mayor Zeiger added that if that was the case, and we find that indeed it was an oversight in their failure to reappoint Ms. Hempel, then they will rectify that issue.

Councilwoman Welton asked for a few minutes to address the “nuisance committee” asking for permission to rename the committee to something more positive which will better reflect the purpose of the committee being the beautification and pride of Saratoga. Councilwoman Welton added that the committee has become inactive and some of the members are no longer here or do not want to participate on the committee. Councilwoman Welton indicated that one individual plus herself seems to be interested on participating with the committee, and she (Councilwoman Welton) was asking for direction from the council and mayor on how to move forward with the committee. Discussion followed and it was the consensus of the council to allow Councilwoman Welton to move forward with recruiting new members and choosing a more positive way to reference the committee.

Councilwoman Welton reported that the town is moving forward with a clean up week May 26th thru June 6th to allow residents to clean up their properties with assistance from the town and that more information will be forth coming.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

Town Hall: Stacy Cramer-Morton introduced herself as a member of Friend of the 133rd, a non-profit organization in Laramie which assists military families of members of the guard unit that will be deployed to Bahrain this spring. Ms. Morton reminded the audience that the 133rd was the guard unit sent to Saratoga to help with flooding in 2011. The members of the 133rd unit were in Saratoga for approximately two weeks to help with flooding and quickly became friends with many citizens of Saratoga as they spent time helping throughout the community.

Ms. Morton reported that she is putting together family camps for Wyoming children whose parent(s) will be deployed to Bahrain this April. These camps will teach families coping skills to deal with deployment. Two camps will be available but many people will not be able to make it to either camp due to hardships in transportation. Additionally, Friends of the 133rd will be hosting an auction on April 20th at the Civic Center in Laramie to raise money to help with the costs of getting these children to camp.

Fire Department: No report

Police Department: No report

Recreation Department: Recreation Director Lisa Burton requested permission to advertise for summer pool help.

Director Burton indicated that she would like to advertise for a pool manager, assistant pool manager, and lifeguards. She would like to hire eight age 16 years and older.

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to allow Ms. Burton to advertise for swimming pool employees for the upcoming season, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson the motion passed unanimously.

Recreation Director Lisa Burton reported on the following:

- Registration for Utah Jazz – Currently there are fifty-one kids, grades kindergarten through fifth grade who have registered. Practice starts next week and games will run from March 25th thru April 30th
- Mike Smith will be giving Fly Casting lessons approximately every other Saturday in March with a total of five lessons to be given
- Pottery Classes are scheduled for March 21st

Department of Public Works

- Street Department: Public Works Supervisor Chuck Bartlett reported that the street department crew has been doing vehicle maintenance and clearing ice from storm drains.
- Water & Sewer: Mr. Bartlett reported that the water and sewer crew will begin videotaping sewer lines next week.
- Weed and Pest: Chuck Bartlett reported that the Emergency Insect Management Grant application is due March 25, 2013 and will be brought back to the council on March 19, 2013 for approval and permission to submit.
- Hot Pool: No report

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Airport Board: The next meeting of the airport board is scheduled for March 13, 2013 at 1 p.m. at the Saratoga Town Hall.

Councilman Wilcoxson requested permission from the council to recommend to the airport board that the Brush Creek hanger lease be a twenty year lease with five year review and renewal to allow the IRS to depreciate the investment over twenty years rather than in five year increments. Councilman Wilcoxson also noted that the twenty year lease would be available to any other hanger lease holder upon renewal of their lease.

Councilman Wilcoxson noted that at the last airport board meeting they had discussed storage of personal items in the hangers. Currently the lease prohibits storage outside the hangers but does not prohibit inside storage of personal items. The board was discussing options and perhaps prohibiting the storage of any personal items inside the hangers as well.

Councilman Wilcoxson also requested permission from the council to recommend to the airport board that storage of personal property is acceptable if the property is not hazardous or flammable and as long as the FAA does not have regulations prohibiting the storage of such property. Discussion followed with council support of those recommendations.

David Worthington asked when the Council would be having a workshop with the Airport Board and the council responded that a meeting would be set prior to a council meeting in April.

Community Center Joint Powers Board: The next meeting will be held Monday, March 18, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board: The next meeting of the water and sewer joint powers board will be Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill Board: (Richard Hodges gave a short report later in the meeting which is being noted under the Landfill Board.)

Mr. Hodges reported that five trailers were shipped last year saving 75 tons of recyclables from being dumped in the land fill and there is already a trailer half filled so far this year. Mr. Hodges thanked everyone for their commitment to recycling and urged them to continue to do so.

The next meeting will be March 6, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Medical Board: No report

Planning Commission: The next meeting of the planning commission will be Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Commission: The next meeting of the recreation commission will be Monday, March 11th at 5:00 p.m.

Community Garden Board: The next meeting of the Saratoga Community Garden Board will be Monday, February 11, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

South Central Emergency Services Board: No report

Business:

Items from the Public:

Glee Johnson presented a letter she had written asking that the council re-visit the special event ordinance and event application. The letter turned in prior to the council meeting contained the signatures of Liz Wood on behalf of the Saratoga Museum, Laura M, and Gary Widemshek on behalf of the Saratoga Lions Club. The letter indicated that each signature represented organizations or individuals that are sponsors of numerous events and they believe that the event application is too cumbersome and causes undue hardship when trying to sponsor events. These individuals would like a workshop with the council to revisit the ordinance and application.

Mayor Zeiger stated that the council will take written comments on what they would like to see changed by March 15th to review at the March 19th council meeting.

Tasha Worthington questioned the setting of a meeting with the airport board to discuss airport ordinance changes. No action taken.

Adjournment: Being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilwoman Welton made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded the motion.

The next regular meeting of the Saratoga Town Council will be held on March 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

Mayor John Zeiger

ATTEST:

Suzie Cox, Clerk