

**MINUTES  
ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 10, 2003**

The Mayor called the meeting to order. Those members of the Town Council that were present were Mayor Bill Levitt and Council members Tom Pollard, Rosi Gale and Bill Lennon. Paul Moxley was excused.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**There was a motion by Bill Lennon to approve the June 19, 2003 Town Council Minutes as submitted. There was a second by Rosi Gale. Hearing no comments, questions or suggestions, the motion was carried.**

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor announced that in August of this year it would be our 33<sup>rd</sup> year of incorporation as a municipality.

The Mayor gave a report of the committee meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup> with the economic feasibility consultant. Wikstrom Economic and Planning Inc will make a full presentation to the public in a meeting to be held on July 25, 2003 at the Town's Community Center.

On August 12, 2003 there will be the required public hearing on the Certified Tax Rate and final budget at 7:00 p.m.. The County has given the Town our average house figure to use in our public hearing notice and it is \$654,000. The proposed increase on a house of this value is around \$40.00 per year.

Clean Up day will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> and all those interested in participating, were asked to show up at 8:30 a.m. at the Rustler Mine Dump.

Fire restrictions are still in effect in our town and in the rest of the canyon and residents and businesses are asked to conserve water.

The Mayor gave an update on the Northern Utah Airspace Initiative and Representative Matheson's public support against the change.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

The Mayor explained an incident that took place at the last Town Council meeting where Mr. Haik came in wearing a sign with numbers that indicated the amount of money donated to the Town of Alta by the Friends of Alta. He explained that their numbers are incorrect as stated on that sign and the t-shirts being worn by individuals at this meeting. Whether by mistake or deliberately, Mr. Haik misstated those figures by \$80,000 and the Mayor corrected those figures. First, under the Uniform Fiscal Procedures Act of the State of Utah, Town's are audited by certified public accountants and then reviewed by the State Auditor's Office. Both have looked at our fiscal procedures and have found nothing wrong and in fact have been complimentary in our procedures.

If Mr. Haik had come to the Town of Alta or Friends of Alta for that matter, and asked for the figures, he would have received the correct figures which are as follows: the Town of Alta has received from the Friends of Alta, in the form of donations for the time period spelled out on the sign and t-shirts,

\$163,241 as against \$245,473. The first question asked on the t-shirts and sign was "What did the Town of Alta do with the money? The Friends of Alta has given to the Little Cottonwood School, Utah Avalanche Forecast Center, ACE, Memorial Grove, Utah Coalition for Recycling, Utah State University in the amount of \$35,000, and the Town of Alta among other organizations. The Town of Alta spent the money donated to them on the Summer Booth Project, tree planting projects, research and impact analysis items for the 1982 Settlement Agreement between the Town of Alta and Sorenson Resources, Community Center Computers, Printing, Millennium Party, KUER Translator Tower among other items.

The Friends of Alta, created many years ago, has regular meetings where they allocate funds to different organizations including the Town of Alta. The members of the Friends of Alta have donated their time over the years, never taking one dime for their time and efforts. If Mr. Haik is implying that Friends of Alta and its officers and contributors have taken advantage off this situation and are using it for their own benefit and the Mayor stated that he was wrong.

#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

John reported that the Town has issued 4 building permits this year, which translates into \$6,000 in building permit fees. Three permits should be issued within the next few weeks.

There is no update on the MSI/View/Town of Alta lawsuit.

The Uniform Fire Authority is on hold, which was scheduled to begin on January, 2004. John explained the reasons behind this situation.

John reported on the meeting he attended hosted by the League of Cities and Towns on the resort sales tax situation in Utah. There are 13 communities that collect some portion of the resort tax for their municipalities. It was created to help communities out who have big impacts from tourists but not enough property tax to support the needed services for these people and residents. Some communities have been taking advantage of the rules governing this tax and the legislature will be cracking down or doing away with the resort altogether if the cities and towns don't come up with tighter rules. The League is hosting a forum to come up with a solution.

The summer road opened on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and John thanked the Alta Ski Lifts Company for their assistance on the road.

John reported that Dick Despain, our Postal delivery person, is going in the hospital for heart surgery and we wish him a speedy recovery.

September 10-12 is the League of Cities and Town Annual Convention. Please let the Town Office know if you want to attend.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

**Marc Dippo was excused so Kate gave the treasurer's report for the last month. Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Bill Lennon to approve the report as submitted. Rosi Gale seconded the motion and it was carried.**

#### MARSHAL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Jerry Larson gave his monthly report, which is attached for the record.

Salt Lake County Fire Department personnel reminded people of the fire restrictions; no fireworks, campfires are restricted to established camp grounds and picnic areas in approved fire pits and no smoking outside your car or building.

#### RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION BRIEFING – Curt Ludvigson and Keith Hanson

The Mayor reminded everyone that the Town of Alta is an active member of the Rural Water Association. He turned the meeting over to Keith and Curt.

Keith Hanson reported that the Town of Alta has mailed out its 2002 Consumer Confidence Report last month. The public notice that is required to be published every six months on our antimony situation was part of this report. He reported that we are presently working with three (3) technologies to remove antimony, Granular Pherric Hydroxide, Magnetite and a medium produced by a local company called Water Recovery Sciences who is working through the Division of Drinking Water to establish a protocol. He explained all the technologies to the Council.

He reminded the Council that in March of 2004, the Town's antimony exemption expires again. This was our two-year extension from the original fire year extension. We have the opportunity to get another two-year extension. At the same time Rep. Matheson's office is very interested in trying to get us water and energy money for treatment and removal of antimony. While this is going on, the EPA has still not published their decision as a result of their six-year review of certain metals, antimony being one of the metals.

We will be putting together a package to apply for funding from the Federal Government by February of next year at Matheson's request. If they approve our funding request, we could have money as early as 2005. So no matter what we do, we have to go for another extension on our antimony exemption. This is an unfounded mandate so Keith believes that we should try to hand the costs of any capital improvements/treatment of antimony on to the Federal Government at some level.

He also reported that the water line would be placed underneath the bypass bridge in about 3 weeks. The Service Area has also replaced a section of sewer line near Powder Ridge.

Keith explained that the Rural Water Association is a group established to assist small to medium water system with research, technical assistance, training and education to name a few. He introduced Curtis and Terrel, circuit riders for the association.

Curtis thanked the Mayor and Council for their invitation and expressed his appreciation to Keith for all his efforts on behalf of the Association and small water systems in general.

The Rural Water Association has 12 staff helping "fix" things in rural areas of Utah. They explained the recent decision handed down from the EPA on arsenic in water systems. Many small systems have had to abandon their system because it is too expensive to treat and remove. This is another issue that the Association has focused in on and assisted small system with. The Association will be sending a delegation to Washington DC to help keep funding "rolling" through to small systems and communities on the arsenic issue.

The Association offers extensive education and training seminars not only to system operators but administrators of cities and towns as well and they encourage the town officials to take advantage of their free training.

Bill Lennon asked if we could apply for federal funds not only to offset capital expenses associated with the antimony issue but for operation and maintenance. Keith initially thought we would apply for funds for capital improvements but we could also put into the grant funds for O & M for 3 or 4 years. After the first few years we would have to adjust the water rates to cover the ongoing O & M for antimony treatment and removal.

When the Town and Service Area started researching the cost of treating the antimony in our systems, the cost was \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons to treat and remove. Now the cost is down to 10 cents a 1,000 to do the same. First we need to confirm the technology and have a good plan for treatment and removal. We also need a system that works but will also fit within the building footprint of the Bay City Tunnel building.

Keith noted that the Service Area and Town of Alta are now on their 19<sup>th</sup> pilot study to remove the antimony from our systems to an acceptable level.

The Mayor thanked the Rural Water Association for their support and efforts on behalf of our Town.

The Mayor reminded folks of the up coming Wildflower Festival sponsored by ACE. The ACE schedule is also available at this time.

#### PRESENTATION OF COMMUNITY CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY FINDINGS – Don Mahoney

Don explained that he was hired last fall to begin the feasibility study an exploration of a concept to develop a vision for a community center facility. They reviewed and assessed the needs of the different groups/ individuals within the area and also looked simultaneously at the existing facility. Then they tried to bring the two together. They spent a great deal of time reviewing whether it made sense relocate this facility to another location. But came up with the conclusion that we would try and work with the present piece of property. They determined that they could make good use of the current structure in whole or in part and by using the existing facility, would have a more sympathetic ear from the Forest Service.

Over the winter they met with groups and individuals about the needs of the community and what they would like to see in the proposed facility. Midwinter they had a design charrette, with about 15 or 20 people, to establish the needs of the community. We pared the list down to something that represented a realistic approach for this particular site. Then they tried to adapt this facility using what they are learned from community members.

The presentation today is a snap shot of where they are at this time. They are still receiving comments and suggestions but felt they had to present the Council with some sort of vision for what the building could look like. With this information, fund raising efforts could start taking place.

Don went over the preliminary floor plans for the proposed building, floor by floor, using the existing building site and structure. There is a possibility that, after reviewing the existing structure, they could recommend that it be torn down and a new building be built. They have presented the concept to the Forest Service and verbally they seem to be in agreement.

The footprint would increase from 2300 sq ft to 3500 sq ft. and the total square footage of the building would increase from 3500 to 11,000 sq ft. One of the ways that they are doing this is creating an intermediate floor level.

Dr. Tolton asked what the increase would be in water usage for the building. Don could not answer this question although there are more toilets and space for people to use.

The elevator accesses all floors. They are recommending a reinforced concrete structure but to try and soften the concrete look, they would use wood and other natural materials on the outside.

Don went over the cost estimate for this plan factoring in the Alta factor; increased cost of construction in the canyon. The estimate is \$2,493,229 which factors in the continued use of Forest Service land under the building by reapplying for a renewal on the current Special Use Permit.

Funding options were discussed and Don recommendation would be to hire a professional funding consultant who is familiar with not only the local Alta Community but the Salt Lake Community as well. That person, under the supervision of the Town Council, would, over a period of time, try to raise the necessary funds to complete this project.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Mahoney for a job well done and recommended that the entire Town Council meet on this project before the Town proceeded any further.

With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.