

MINUTES
ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2007
ALTA COMMUNITY CENTER
ALTA, UTAH

The Mayor called the meeting to order. Those present at this meeting were Mayor Tom Pollard and Council members Paul Moxley and Dave Richards. Bill Levitt and Steve Gilman were excused.

PUBLIC HEARING – To receive comment and questions on the resolution authorizing an interlocal cooperation agreement between the cities of Cottonwood Heights, Draper, Midvale, Sandy the Town of Alta and Salt Lake County for voter approval on a measure for creating a new school district.

The Mayor explained that the process of meeting and reviewing the issue of creating a new school district has been a long process. A feasibility study was completed on this issue which was required by state law. The Mayor felt that if it gets put on the ballot or not, that there probably will be a long legal battle over this issue. He also feels that if it succeeds that the effort to create this new school district will be monumental. He also stated that he feels that letting the voters decide on whether a new school district should be created is the proper way to go. If Alta chooses not to put it to the voters, it could disrupt the whole process.

The Mayor asked for public comment on this issue.

Dawn Page asked how this possible new school district could affect our Alta school. Could the new district close our school in Alta? The Mayor confirmed that the new district board could close our school but having worked through the process with the consultants and the other cities, the Mayor feels that we would have ability to influence the future of our school in Alta. Our school has increased enrollment to the point that it is at its maximum capacity and the Mayor feels we are in a strong position to maintain the school. But the Mayor reminded everyone that municipalities do not control school districts: school boards do and in reality the new school board could say “not” to our Alta school. We would have regional representation on that new board which is elected by the voters.

Karen Travis commented that she has gone back and forth on this issue and applauds them for their recent responsiveness to our community. It has taken the District 40 years to address our needs and concerns in our community. She does not want to lose what we have in Alta but with the growth that they are projecting in the district becomes a reality, maybe it is time to split the district up and make it more manageable. But with the recent vote to increase their salaries and benefits, she felt that they are becoming responsive to themselves and not to the constituents who pay their salaries. It ought to be up to the voters whether or not they would like to see a new district created out of the current district.

The Mayor commented that he felt that economics are driving this process but in the end we should not lose sight of the most important issue and that is the quality of our children's education.

Paul Moxley commented that as a public official he feels that the voters should decide on the issue.

Dave Richards asked how people felt about the law that governs who can vote on this issue: only those in the proposed new district may vote. Again, most everyone saw both sides of this particular issue.

As the west side of the Jordan District grows, their tax base does as well. The issue with the Granite District split is completely different and not quite as clean as the issue that faces the Jordan District.

Hearing no further comments on this issue, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor announced that Piney asked to be excused, as he is attending his mother's 80th birthday. Along those lines, the Mayor wished his son a happy 13th birthday today.

The summer road opened on June 30th and the dust control was put down the following week. Thanks to the Ski Lifts for helping the Town water the road that first weekend.

The Mayor reported that the free Albion Basin Shuttle also started the weekend of the 30th. Many many people are taking advantage of that service. We are collecting data this summer along with the Forest Service to aid in their study of the Albion Basin area.

As a result of the resolution hearing on June 12th on the OSV issue in Alta, the Town of Alta is researching the ownership of the summer road.

On June 18th another meeting was held to discuss the possibility of a new Community Center. Assignments were given to committee members to poll the community to pull together some of their ideas and needs. The committee is still reviewing a possible location for this proposed new building, which is one of the biggest obstacles.

The Mayor announced that the last day a person can file their Declaration of Candidacy is Monday, July 16th at 5:00 pm in the Alta Town Office.

The Town of Alta will be hosting the annual Utah HOG rally this weekend.

The Town of Alta is still looking at participating in the installation of the GAZ-EX artillery control system in partnership with the Alta ski Lifts, UDOT and Snowbird.

The Army is scheduled for an early August on sight visit to review the issue of the use of artillery to control avalanches over community.

We are working on trying to place entry signs on the main road and bypass road this summer.

The Town was given a nice plaque honoring our purchase of wind power through the Rocky Mountain Power Blue Sky Program. The Mayor thanked Laura for her efforts on this project along with the Alta Ski Lifts for their commitment to this program. The Town was also notified by Rocky Mountain Power that it had been awarded some grant funds to construct a 3kW solar array at the main administration building.

Laura also mentioned that the Town of Alta has been designated as a Green Powered Community by the EPA.

The next meeting of the Town Council is August 9, 2007 at 10:00 am.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Marc Dippo read the monthly report for the Town Council.

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Paul Moxley to approve the treasurer's report as submitted. There was a second by Dave Richards and the motion was carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Town Administrator's Report: John was excused from this meeting. Laura gave his report. A report was given on the three lawsuits including the most recent visit in front of Judge Hilder on the Tolton GRAMA case.

The town has issued five building permits to date and seven are pending. Laura reported on the numerous complaints on the construction debris left around the Berke property in the Albion Basin. It has been cleaned up.

Laura report on the "dirt" pile between two of the Superior Point buildings; it has been pulled back and revegetation has taken place all in the span of a week time.

Laura reported that the Forest Service appeal board has upheld the Forest Service Supervisor's OSV decision. A copy of this decision is attached for the record and available in the Town Office.

The Town of Alta did respond to the FEIS – Wild and Scenic River designation that the Forest Service is proposing. (see attachment)

Marshal's Report: Jerry Larson gave his monthly report to the Town Council which is attached for the record.

ARA Report: Meg reported that the HOG rally is using the Alta Ski Lift main parking lot all day on Saturday for events associated with this rally.

She reported that the Salt Lake Airport Authority has given \$5,000 toward the Town's joint application to the Utah Office of Tourism. We have submitted our grant asking the UOT for \$40,000. She will be interviewed by their committee on July 31st.

ARA has submitted their Ski Utah Planner advertisement. We are also working to finalize the brochure.

UFA Report: Wayne Rogers reported that their station is now "4" handed with one captain, a driver engineer and two paramedics. He thanked the Town for providing, through the Homeland Security Grant, the new ATV and mule.

They have completed all the fire inspections on the businesses in the Town of Alta and they will be starting their hydrant and hose testing this month.

He reported that they have spent 95 man hours of training.

They have had quite a few calls but most of them have occurred outside the Town of Alta.

Karen Travis asked the question of UFA: what if a wild fire starts in the canyon? Is there a plan in place to inform the public what they would do in case of this situation? Laura felt that the Town should get together with all the appropriate agencies and put together an evacuation plan for such a scenario. Wayne from UFA felt that because of our environment, altitude and temperatures that the chances of a fire like this are slim. Jerry felt that in an extreme situation, the authorities could go door to door and inform people of the situation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Hearing no comments or questions on the minutes of the June meeting, there was a motion by Paul Moxley to approve the minutes as submitted. There was a second by Dave Richards and the motion was carried.

ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2007-R-10 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITIES OF COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS, DRAPER, MIDVALE, SANDY, THE TOWN OF ALTA AND SALT LAKE COUNTY FOR VOTER APPROVAL ON A MEASURE FOR CREATING A NEW SCHOOL DISTRICT.

The Mayor explained that the resolution authorizes the Town of Alta to enter into an interlocal agreement with the aforementioned cities and Salt Lake County to allow the measure of the “new school district” to be put on the November 2007 ballot. The resolution authorizes the Mayor to approve the ballot language that will be submitted to Salt Lake County Clerk which will be included for voter approval in the November 2007 municipal election. It also authorizes the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the Town of Alta in accordance with its terms.

There was a motion by Paul Moxley to approve Resolution 2007-R-10. There was a second by Dave Richards. The Mayor asked the Council if they had anything further to add.

Dave Richards commented that the law and process under which this district formation is taking place leaves much to be desired and hopefully we will sort these issues out. But he feels that the voters have a right to be part of the discussion regarding their kid’s education. Paul and Tom both agreed with Dave’s statement.

The Mayor called for the vote. Mayor Tom Pollard and Council members Paul Moxley and Dave Richards voted in the affirmative. Bill Levitt and Steve Gilman were absent. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

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

Minutes approved on _____, 2007

 Katherine S.W. Black
 Town Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT	
12-Jul-07	
MAJOR BILLS PAID	
Payroll	\$20,580.71
Payroll Taxes	\$8,606.85
Health Dental and Life Insurance	\$9,125.30
Attorneys	\$4,776.00
Work on summer road/Alta Ski Lifts	\$5,760.00
UFA quarterly contract payment	\$23,862.00

Park Bleachers	\$4,223.48
Fire Station Back Wall Repairs	\$3,766.01
Plan Checks	\$770.00
Hub International Management Fee	\$8,000.00
Other Town Bills	\$9,585.05
Total	\$99,055.40
MAJOR REVENUES RECEIVED	
Sales Tax - Uniform	\$57,394.41
Sales Tax - Resort	\$37,350.88
Post Office Contract Payment	\$1,166.67
Court Fines	\$2,784.00
CDBG Reimbursement	\$18,739.00
Energy Taxes	\$2,558.42
Building Permits	\$2,008.17
Dog Licenses	\$75.00
Donations	\$25,996.00
Total	\$148,072.55
General Fund Checking	\$5,771.94
General Fund Savings	\$663,627.63

