

MINUTES
ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 21, 2007
10:00 AM
ALTA COMMUNITY CENTER/LIBRARY
ALTA, UTAH

The Mayor called the meeting to order. All members of the Town Council were present at this meeting.

The Mayor announced that the first order of business was a public hearing to discuss and take questions on the proposed 2007-2008 fiscal budgets for the Town of Alta along with the proposed certified tax rate.

The Mayor explained that the Town Council passed a tentative budget in their May 2007 Council meeting for the 07/08 fiscal year. Since that meeting, the County Auditor has submitted to the Town its certified tax rate and taxable value. The Town's taxable rate has increased dramatically and as a result the Town's proposed CTR has been plummeted. Last year the Town's CTR was .001280 and the proposed rate from the County for the next fiscal year is .000885. The Mayor explained that the law dictates that cities and towns cannot benefit from increases in property values. We can benefit from any new growth that has occurred in the last year.

The Mayor stated that the Town does not anticipate that it will raise its CTR this year over what the County has given it in part because it voted, in a public hearing, to raise it last fiscal year and will work with the anticipated revenues from property taxes to balance the budget.

The Mayor opened the hearing to public comments on the proposed budget.

Mark Haik commented that the budget falls short of allocating funds for the following items:

1. Funds for a title search to determine the road status in the Town given the recent meetings with the Forest Service.
2. The Town should allocate additional funds for future improvements to the sewer system to do the study necessary and obtain the necessary engineering so that they are ready to go in the future.
3. The budget should include additional funds for both professional fees and the purchase of additional water resources for the community for future growth.

Lawrence Raty speaking on behalf of the Butler group and Pearl Raty. He read the following statement for the record: I would like to express my concern that there is not adequate planning or funds identified in this proposed budget to expand water and sewer infrastructure to serve already zoned and entitled development areas. It would seem to me that if the Town of Alta was really concerned about serving and protecting the

watershed that you would invest more of your resources and planning efforts in the type of infrastructure that would not only support your economic future but preserve the environment.

John Guldner asked who the Butler Group represented. It was explained that Pearl Raty's maiden name was Bulter and the group is comprised of Laurence, Pearl and their daughter.

Hearing no further comments on the Town's proposed fiscal budget, the Mayor closed this public hearing.

The Mayor opened the public hearing on the proposed budget for the Alta Special Service District for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. He explained that the Town has had this district in place for 25 years and over the years the Town has chosen to leave it in place and set a budget of -0- instead of dismantling the district. He announced that we recommend that the budget and CTR be -0- again for the next fiscal year.

Mark Haik commented that the District should implement assessments for the following items:

1. For additional road improvements on the Albion Basin road because the Town regularly maintains and polices that road.
2. For some manner of planning to implement some type of garbage collection
3. For planning, engineering and obtaining property necessary or property rights necessary for water storage capacity specifically for four things
 1. Culinary use
 2. Fire protection
 3. To insulate that Town should they not be able to successfully get another extension on their antimony.
 4. Obtain engineering services and infrastructure planning for fiber optics to be laid within the Town for future development and for current businesses and to aid in public safety.

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

Regular Town Council Meeting

The Mayor announced that the ARA report would be heard first, as Meg has meetings to attend down town.

Meg reported that the brochure for the upcoming winter season is under way. ARA will be keeping the basic design and will be adding new pictures. She expects that it will be going to press in mid July and be mailed by mid August.

The Town of Alta will be participating again with the Office of Tourism Grant. The same agencies will be participating with us: Snowbird, Alta Ski Lifts, Salt Lake Visitors and Convention Bureau and possibly the airport group. The different groups have committed to fund this campaign as follows: Snowbird, \$11,000; Town of Alta, \$9,000; Alta Ski Lifts, \$3,000 and the Convention Bureau, \$12,000. The campaign this year will include a New York Times weekly add from November, December and January, two buys in the New York Times daily headlines and a “coffee sleeve” with Snowbird/Alta art work. This sleeve will be distributed in lower Manhattan. Meg also went over the report she handed to each Council member outlining each project from the 06/07 year and her projected budget for the upcoming year.

MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor reported that on the 12th of June the Forest Service held a “resolution” hearing on their Over the Snow Vehicle (OSV) decision to hear from people that had filed an appeal to their decision. The Mayor explained that the Town is like everyone else in this process: we are a commenter. The final decision lies with the Forest Service not with the Town. The question of who owns the Albion Basin Road also came out of this process and the Town will probably have to put funds towards resolving this issue. John Guldner commented that when the Town sent its proposed revisions to its General Plan to the Forest Service the Forest Service did comment that Town must indicate in its General Plan the Albion Basin Road is Forest Service Road 028.

The Mayor reported on the most recent UFA meeting where they passed their 07/08 fiscal budget. The Town’s contract with UFA is around \$95,000. We have four firefighters at the Snowbird station and it is a paramedic station. There will be ban on fire works east of Wasatch Blvd.

The Mayor reported on the monthly COG meeting.

The Mayor also attended the first meeting of the Air Quality subcommittee where they discussed the ongoing problem in the valley and its effects on the entire population.

Along those lines, Laura reported that the Town of Alta has now been designated as a “Green Powered Partner” through EPA which means we exceed the purchase of renewable energy that would be required for that partnership certification. The Town, in fact, is one of 10 communities in the entire USA that has this designation. This is in large part due to the Alta Ski Lifts who purchased a large chunk of green power from Rocky Mountain Power Co. It is great publicity for our small community and we should encourage other Alta businesses to follow in the footsteps of the Town and Ski Lift Company.

The Mayor reported that Clean Up Day, held on June 12th, was a great success. We had over 250 people participating in this annual event.

The Mayor announced that the Alta Town Council will hold a public hearing on the school district issue and whether or not we should put the issue on the November ballot. The hearing will be held before the July 12, 2007 Town Council meeting at 10:00 a.m.. There are a few legal issues still to be resolved and a report will be forth coming to the Council. The Mayor clarified to the Council that the vote is not a vote to split the Jordan District: it is a vote on whether or not we should form a new school district.

The Mayor and John reported on the Community Center feasibility committee meeting that was held earlier this week. Out of this meeting came a consensus that we needed to find a site for the proposed new building and we also needed to establish who is driving this project. The committee established a list of people to call and also to get some feeling from the community on their needs and wants.

The Mayor updated the Council on the problems the Town has had in getting dust retardant on the summer road. We are trying our best to find another company to lay the solution on the road. Our projected opening is June 30th. We thanked the Ski Lifts for all their work this spring on the grading of the road.

The Mayor mentioned the article in the newspaper highlighting the fact that the ski industry in Utah had another record year for skier days.

The Mayor also reported that the FAA has announced that they are withdrawing their proposal to change the routing of commercial air traffic throughout the Salt Lake Valley. The Mayor and Council thanked Laura for all her effort on this project.

On May 23rd a bear walked through our community and unfortunately this whole issue with bears turned very sad with the attack that took place recently.

Paul Moxley reported on his meeting in Seattle where the future use of artillery in the canyon was discussed. He explained that we are one of a very few communities where artillery is shot over buildings. We buy the ammunition from the Army and recently it was brought to the Army's attention that this in fact takes place in this canyon. As a result, they called a meeting in connection with these issues. Liam Fitzgerald gave a power point presentation to those in attendance and made the point that this community, as a result of this program, is safer than not having it this program. The Army's concern was that this community had not done any risk assessment. Paul got a sense that the Army listened to our presentation, that we would continue our dialogue with those concerned in the Army and a representative from the Army might do an on site visit to review our situation.

There have been no further meetings on the tunnel issue. When the next meeting is held, an invitation will go out to Senator Walker, who willing to review the numerous issues facing the canyons.

The Mayor reported on the upcoming municipal election in Alta. He announced that there will be three seats up for election: two, four year seats and one, two year seat.

Those interested in running for one of the seats may register in the Town Office between July 2 and July 16 with either Kate or Piper. Kate reported that the costs might be increasing a slight bit for our municipal election do to the fact that the school voucher issue will be put on the ballot in November which will dictate that we use the touch screen voting system in November instead of our traditional paper ballots.

The Mayor recognized Alan Orr from the Alta Ski Lift Company who addressed the issues of the UTA schedule for the upcoming winter season. He is currently meeting with their representatives and would like the help of the Town in determining the needs of their employees who ride the buses in the morning and afternoon. There will be a meeting with the UTA on this issue in July or early August.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Marc Dippo read the monthly report. Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Bill Levitt to approve the report as read. There was a second by Dave Richards and the motion was carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Town Administrator's Report: He reported on the three lawsuits. John updated the Council on a tax hearing that he attended on the question of value of building pads in the Sugarplum PUD of Town. The County protested the value. He gave a review of the hearing.

Hellgate got their building permit on June 4th and they have started building. We have issued six building permits and five or six on really to be issued.

John reported that Snowbird is proceeding with their 20 unit employee housing building behind the existing parking structure off the bypass road. They will also be building a bigger retaining wall behind the existing employee housing (the Hilton).

John reported that there are no fire works allowed in the canyon. Mr. Kroenke, District Ranger of the Forest Service, also reported that fire works are banned year round in the Forest.

John updated the Council on the dirt that was pushed between two of the Superior Point buildings last fall. Salt Lake City Watershed was very concerned about this situation. The responsible party has corrected this situation.

Marshal's Report: Deputy Marshal Tom Bolen gave the monthly report which is attached for the record.

UFA Report: UFA thanked the Town of Alta, through homeland security, for their new 4-wheeler's that they have converted to a medical assist vehicle to help the fire department respond to incidents in the back country.

Informational Item: Discussion points for the inclusion of a 10-mile segment of Little Cottonwood Creek into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System – Laura McIndoe.

Laura introduced Lauren Kroenke, District Ranger for the Forest Service who was available to answer any questions regarding this topic. Laura explained that the Forest Service is conducting an EIS on the suitability of the inclusion of a number of rivers in Utah to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Little Cottonwood Creek is one of those waterways and is being considered from its source which is the confluence of the drainages from Albion Basin and Grizzly Gulch to the first divergent point on the creek which is the Murray City diversion near the mouth of the canyon. Laura explained that the Town's comments on this matter have to be into the Forest Service by June 30, 2007. She explained her two major concerns with this designation: the effects this would have on our ability to mitigate in the future avalanche hazard on the canyon road because of the proximity of the road to the creek and second is the concern that the creek in Little Cottonwood Canyon is listed as an impaired waterway because of its zinc concentration. Would this designation as a Wild and Scenic River make this situation subject to other permitting regulations? Mr. Kroenke explained the history of this proposal and why it is now being considered by the Forest Service. The federal designation only applies to federal lands not private property.

The Mayor suggested that we compose a letter and delineate our concerns. He asked that the draft letter be forwarded to the Council for their comments.

CONSIDERATION WITH POSSIBLE ADOPTION/APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Minutes: May 10, 2007 – **There was a motion by Steve Gilman to approve the minutes to the May 10, 2007 Town Council meeting as submitted. There was a second by Paul Moxley. Hearing no comments, there was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as submitted.**

2. Awarding of Town Insurance bid – July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007 – Tom Lanning
The Mayor introduced Tom from Hub International. He asked the Council if they had any questions on the proposal that was prepared by his firm. The Mayor asked if this proposal reflected the additional one million umbrella that was requested by the Council last year. It does reflect that addition. The Mayor asked about the difference in the amount of liability coverage for different areas of the Town's insurance: law enforcement vs. general liability. Tom explained why this was different and also explained that his companies general management fee went up \$500 and the overall premium for the policy went down a slight bit. The Mayor asked Mr. Lanning if he would compare premiums on the Town's auto insurance by changing the deductible from \$250 to \$500 and possibly \$1,000. Mr. Lanning will forward that information to Kate within the next few days.

Hearing no further comments or questions, there was a motion by Paul Moxley to approve the Town insurance bid prepared by Hub International. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried with all members of the Town Council present and voting in the affirmative.

3. Resolution 2007 – R – 6- A resolution establishing fees for temporary or transient merchant business licenses.

The Mayor explained that in the May meeting of the Town Council we amended the business license ordinance to address this type of business. This month we will be setting the fees for those types of businesses. The Town Council, at that May meeting, recommended a fee of \$35 for temporary or transient merchant business licenses.

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Steve Gilman to approve Resolution 2007-R-6, a resolution establishing a \$35 fee for temporary or transient merchant business licenses. There was a second by Dave Richards and the motion was carried with all members of the Town Council present and voting in the affirmative.

4. Resolution 2007—7 – A resolution amending the 2006-2007 Fiscal Budgets

Kate explained that over the course of every fiscal year, revenues and expenditures change in each department. She reported that she had taken actual revenues received and expenditures made through June 15, 2007 and made the appropriate changes in the budget that was approved for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Those changes are reflected in exhibit “A” of this resolution. The State of Utah requires that we do not exceed the budget approved for each department. Our overall general fund budget increase by approximately \$200,000.

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Dave Richards to approve Resolution 2007-R-7 amending the 2006-2007 fiscal budget as attached. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried with all members of the Town Council present and voting in the affirmative.

5. Resolution 2007-R-8 – A resolution adopting the final budgets and Certified Tax Rate for fiscal year 2007-2008.

Kate explained that by approving this resolution, the Town Council is approving the budget and the Certified Tax Rate given to them by Salt Lake County.

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Paul Moxley approving Resolution 2007-R-8 adopting the final budget for the General Fund, Water Enterprise and Sewer Enterprise Funds for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the Certified Tax Rate of .000885 which will produce property taxes revenue of \$259,599. There

was a second by Steve Gilman. The motion was carried with all members of the Town Council present and voting in the affirmative.

The Mayor explained that as we move to quarterly reports on the budget provided by Kate with the new accounting program, the Town Council could be asked to look at legal fees associated with looking at the status of the summer road and the possibility of the Town joining the State Retirement System for its full time employees.

6. Resolution 2007-R-9 – A resolution adopting the final budget and Certified Tax Rate for the Alta Special Service District for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Bill Levitt to approve Resolution 2007-R-9 adopting a -0- budget and -0- Certified Tax Rate for the Alta Special Service District for fiscal year 2007-2008. There was a second by Steve Gilman and motion was carried.

7. Alta Town Council Meeting Calendar for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

The Mayor explained that the Town Council meetings will be scheduled for the second Thursday of each month except for the June 2008 meeting which will be the third Thursday of that month.

There was a motion by Dave Richards to approve the Town Council meeting calendar for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried.

8. Action on closed door meeting to discuss litigation matters.

There was a motion by Steve Gilman to have a closed door meeting to discuss litigation matters. There was a second by Paul Moxley. The Mayor asked for a roll call vote of the Town Council.

**Dave Richards – aye
Paul Moxley – aye
Bill Levitt – aye
Tom Pollard – aye
Steve Gilman – aye**

The vote was unanimous with all members of the Town Council voting in favor of the motion. The motion was carried.

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

A closed door meeting of the Alta Town Council was held immediately following this meeting. The following people were present: Mayor Tom Pollard, Council members Bill Levitt, Paul Moxley, Steve Gilman and Dave Richards: Marc Dippo, Treasurer, Town

Staff John Guldner, Kate Black and Laura McIndoe, Greg Sanders, legal counsel.
 Current and reasonable imminent litigation matters were discussed and no action was taken.

Minutes approved on _____

 Katherine S.W. Black
 Town Clerk

Treasurer's Report: June 21, 2007	
Major Bills Paid: 2 months	
Payroll	\$92,453.88
Payroll Taxes	\$37,765.39
Attorneys	\$11,076.50
Health / Dental / Life Insurance	\$19,495.34
Plan Checks	\$1,430.00
Workers Comp. Insurance	\$1,670.98
Justice Court Judge	\$2,400.00
Forsgren	\$2,990.00
New Volleyball Court Bleachers	\$940.48
ARA Promotions	\$16,430.00
Police Car Lease Payment	\$7,113.40
Matt Tietje / Recycling	\$800.00
School District Study	\$338.64
New 07 Pickup Truck	\$23,010.10
Donation / Avalanche Center	\$1,000.00
ARA Photographer	\$1,400.00
Other Town Bills: 2 months	\$26,971.60
TOTAL:	\$247,286.31
Major Revenues Received: 2 months	
Sales Tax Uniform	\$114,494.00
Sales Tax Resort	\$294,800.00
Property Taxes	\$4,536.22
Court Fines	\$4,986.00
Building Permits	\$22,623.03
Sale of Truck	\$5,200.00
Energy Taxes	\$9,486.16

Dog Licenses	\$50.00
Business Licenses	\$200.00
Post Office Contract	\$1,166.67
Other	\$200.00
TOTAL:	\$457,742.08
General Fund Checking	\$16,533.87
General Fund Savings	\$630,053.12

