

**MINUTES  
ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008  
ALTA COMMUNITY CENTER  
ALTA, UTAH**

The Mayor called the meeting to order. Mayor Tom Pollard and Council members Steve Gilman, Dave Richards, and Cliff Curry were present. Paul Moxley was excused.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor reported on the monthly Little Cottonwood Road Committee meeting. Two topics were discussed: the traffic metering efforts and the proposed improvements to the bottom of the canyon.

The committee committed to conducting two more days of traffic metering before the end of the season. Everyone felt that one of the days should be a snowy day but the device that counts cars cannot be laid on the road during snowy days because the plows would cut them up. The number of County Sheriff's deputies assisting with this effort will be cut from nine to six and the Town of Alta has offered to pay 1/3 of the personnel costs involved with these efforts.

John Nepstad representing the consulting firm studying the reconfiguring mouth of this canyon gave a presentation on their recommendations. The discussion was very lively with some negativity expressed regarding most of the suggestions. It did, though, open up dialogue about future possibilities regarding improvements to this area of the canyon. Along those lines and Onno, Bob Bonar and the Mayor Pollard met with Mayor Corroon who committed to being more involved with this issue and the road in general. It was pointed out that approximately 80% of the canyon road is located in unincorporated Salt Lake County. Mayor Corroon has committed funds to address the park and ride lots and the re-configuring of the mouth of this canyon.

The Mayor reviewed the Legislative session which ended on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The final number set aside by the Legislature for the Town's antimony treatment project was \$450,000. The Town also spent numerous hours at the Legislature addressing a House bill that would have effected the ownership of the Albion Basin road. It passed the House but did not get out of the Senate. The Mayor thanked everyone who rallied in support of the Town's efforts: Senator Carlene Walker, Salt Lake City, Ski Utah, Alta Ski Lifts, and League of Cities and Towns. The Mayor conveyed special thanks to Senator Walker and Lincoln Shurtz from the League for stepping up to the plate for the Town during this session.

The Mayor reported on the most recent meeting of the UFA. Most of discussion surrounded VECC and how it affects the County in general. There is a movement by the County, for economic reasons, to create their own PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point). If they made this move, they would take the UFA with them. If there were two

PSAP's in the valley, it could be a positive move, creating redundancy in case one of the systems goes down.

The Mayor reported on the Town's second meeting with Bowen Collins, the engineering firm hired to study and design the antimony water treatment plant. Tom Ward, the principal on our project, is leaving his firm. Thayne is our new contact. Also in attendance at that meeting were representatives from the Division of Drinking Water and Service Area #3. There is an option for the Town to be its own contractor, which could save the community a considerable amount of money on this project.

The Mayor suggested, that with the cost of this antimony treatment project, we could be looking at a 25% increase in our water rates.

The Mayor announced that there will be a public hearing at the Town Council's April meeting to receive comments and suggestions on the use of the Town's 2008-2009 CDBG Grant funds. Tom Pollard suggested taking some of next year's grant funds and combining them with the funds set aside for the recycling/garbage and Community Center studies to start looking at a Community wide plan.

The Mayor reported on the last COG meeting he attended where a Legislative update was given to its members. New laws governing Justice Courts were also reviewed. Our Judge would like to speak with the Council about those changes at our April meeting.

The Mayor announced that the Town of Alta has been approached by Snowbird Corporation with a proposal to "disconnect" a small parcel of land which is dissected by our Town boundary. It is located near the Powderbird building on the west boundary of the Town. It is approximately ½ acre and the Town will have to hold a public hearing before it can vote to approve this disconnect. Public notices will appear three times in a newspaper of general circulation.

The budget committee of the Town Council has had one meeting to discuss next year's budget and will hold another meeting before a final proposal is drafted. We do have to pass a tentative budget in our April meeting.

At the Division of Drinking Water Board meeting in St. George, the Town of Alta was granted a three year variance on our antimony issue. This variance will provide the Town time to study, design and complete construction of the treatment plant.

The Mayor would like to pass declarations that declare the weeks of March 24-28, 2008 "National Community Development Week" and a proclamation declaring the month of April "Fair Housing Month". All Council members agreed with these two proclamations.

Cliff Curry announced that Wilson Dippo, the son of Marcus Dippo, is competing in the National Nordic Junior Olympics in Alaska.

The Mayor announced that his son, Andrew Pollard, placed fifth in the National Big Mountain Contest in Crystal Mountain, Washington and placed first in the qualifier. The canyon was well represented, with a boy from Snowbird winning the event.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

**Marcus Dippo read the report for the last month. Hearing no comments, questions or corrections, there was a motion by Steve Gilman to approve the treasurer's report as submitted. There was a second by Dave Richards and the motion was carried.**

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Town Administrator: John Guldner announced that the Patsy Marley lawsuit has been dismissed. John also reported that part of the View lawsuit has been resolved through a partial summary judgment on the parking issue.

John reported that the Judge in the Melville case is requiring mandatory mediation between both parties which will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March.

John mentioned that he had started to research an ordinance on idling restrictions in the Town of Alta.

AVB Report: Susan reported that she has heard from many of the reservationists from the lodging community in Alta and they report that reservations have increase over last year. Susan attributes much of this increase to a link on our web page for reservations.

The spring add in the Wasatch Journal will be out on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We are also hosting a press trip in April.

She reported that a meeting will be held with a new company called Flying Sensors. They are proposing to produce for AVB and the Town of Alta a video tour of our community which can be accessed our web site.

An update was given on the upcoming Spring Festival. AVB will have a tent where brochures and promotion material will be handed out. We also paid for the promotional poster for this event. This event is hosting a drawing which is supporting three non-profits.

She reminded people of the upcoming events associated with the Annual Snowflake Festival.

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

## UPDATE ON RECENT ALTA PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS – Skip Branch

Ski Branch reported that the Alta Planning Commission has been meeting recently to discuss the updating of Alta Land Use Ordinances related to LUDMA which requires all Planning Commissions to take a look at ordinances under their jurisdiction as well as looking at responsibilities involving Land Use Authorities.

Within their discussion there is a Uniform Zoning Ordinance which has as its purpose a paragraph that represents how all of feel about Alta: Skip read this paragraph.

*“This title is designed an enacted for the purpose of preserving, protecting and promoting the public health, safety, order, morals and the general welfare of the Town of Alta and specifically to preserve and maintain Alta as a vibrant, viable, protective and orderly recreation area. To perpetuate its inherent geologic and geographic features: to preserve the essential watershed of the Little Cottonwood Canyon for all of the residents of the Salt Lake Valley and to otherwise retain and replenish the remarkable and natural beauty, peace and tranquility of Alta.”* Mr. Branch reiterated that this is a charge and challenge by which all the members of the Planning Commissions serve.

He explained that the Commission is in the process of meeting and reviewing Alta Zoning Ordinances. The next steps are more planning sessions, in addition to gathering input and holding a public hearing. After this hearing, recommendations will be made to the Mayor and Town Council as far as the Zoning Ordinances and any possible changes to those ordinances.

The Mayor announced the dates of the upcoming Planning Commission meetings and Public Hearing, which will be posted on the Town’s web site:

March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm – Public meeting at the Alta Community Center with the Town Council in attendance

April 1<sup>st</sup> at noon – Public meeting at the Market Street Grill

April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm – Public Hearing at the Alta Community Center

May 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon – Public Meeting at the Market Street Grill

The Mayor announced that the Town Council will then address the final recommendations from the Planning Commission in meetings and a public hearing to follow in May and June, with the intention of finalizing these draft recommendations by the end of the moratorium which is June 13, 2008.

### DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- a. There was a motion by Dave Richards to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2008 Town Council minutes. There was a second by Cliff Curry. Hearing no comments or corrections, there was a vote on the motion and it was carried. The minutes were approved.**

- b. **There was a motion by Cliff Curry to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2008 Special Town Council meeting. There was a second by Steve Gilman. Hearing no comments or corrections, there was a vote on the motion and it was carried. The minutes were approved.**
- c. The Mayor announced that over the last few months, there have been conversations between the Town Council about changing the meeting time from 10:00 am to 9:30 am..

**Hearing no comments or objections to this change, there was a motion by Steve Gilman to change the official starting time of Town Council meeting to 9:30 am. There was a second by Cliff Curry. The motion passed by a unanimous vote with all those present voting in favor of the motion. Paul Moxley was absent.**

- d. Resolution 2008-R-1 – Extension and amendment of Interlocal Service Agreement between the Town of Alta and Salt Lake County Service District #3.

The Mayor explained that Service Area #3 operates our culinary water system under an Interlocal Agreement. They are paid a monthly fee for this service.. This Interlocal Agreement has expired and needs to be renewed for another two years. the Mayor proposed that the monthly fee be increased from \$1,300 to \$1,500 a month with all other charges in the agreement to remain the same. The Mayor expressed that Keith and his staff do a fabulous job managing and monitoring our system. Kate mentioned that any Service Area time spent specific to the antimony project is being billed separately and is not part of the monthly retainer of \$1,500. The term of this agreement will be two years and the charge for monthly service will be retroactive to January 2008.

**Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Dave Richards to approve Resolution 2008-R-1 extending and amending the Interlocal Service Agreement between the Town of Alta and Salt Lake County Service Area #3. There was a second by Steve Gilman. The motion was carried and the resolution approved.**

- e. Resolution 2008-R-2 – Establishing a maximum number of dog licenses for 2008 and fees to be charged for licenses.

The Mayor explained that the Town Council can set the total number of dog licenses each year based on 12% of the census population which is 370. This translates into a maximum of 44 dog licenses that can be issued in 2008. Currently 40 dog licenses have been renewed this year which gives the Council the option of issuing up to four more licenses. The Mayor reminded everyone that having a dog license in Alta is a privilege and is also unique and special. The strict adherence to the guidelines set out in the Town's ordinance makes it possible for dog owners to continue with the freedoms they have.

The Mayor has spoken with the Marshal who did not express any major concerns about the dog situation in our community.

The Mayor also asked dog owners to use common sense and try not to walk their dogs on a leash on the main road during the height of traffic in our Town. It is a perception issue.

The Mayor asked Mark Kaila, Salt Lake City Watershed Department, to speak to this issue. He has been asked by the Town Marshal to assist him with complaints about dogs in our community and will follow through to make sure that dog owners comply with the rules set out by the Town. He does have concerns about what the Town calls "C" licenses: people who live in the valley and work in the Town and can bring their dogs up the canyon. It has opened a can of worms with people from Snowbird asking for licenses. The Mayor assured Mr. Kaila that no new "C" licenses have been issued and those that currently exist will eventually be retired and not renewed.

Dave Richards asked why 12% was used to determine the total number of dogs: 44. Why not 45. The Mayor explained that the Town Council, at that time, had to tie the total dog licenses issued to a number and at that time we wanted to clear the waiting list. Piper explained the history of the percentage and how it changed from 10% to 12% because our census population went down in the year 2000.

There was discussion about better wording on the signs informing people that there are no dogs allowed except by special permit.

The Mayor asked the Council members for their input on the how many new dog permits they felt should be issued and to what class.

The Council agreed that four new licenses should be issued. Discussion did take place on how they should be divided. The Mayor explained that he gets pressure and more requests from those that fall under the Class B definition: those that own property and come out to stay at their home periodically during the year. The Mayor's proposal is to allocate two licenses to Class A and two to Class B.

Cliff is concerned with fairness especially for someone who has applied, for instance for four years and has been just unlucky. He would like to give those people some consideration. He suggested that we base the drawing on seniority. Kate mentioned that even though last year's resolution mentions a seniority list our attorney at that time, Paul Thompson, stated that we would have to amend our ordinance in order to follow through with the seniority list concept. He recommended that we review the ordinance over the summer. That was not done.

There was discussion about tabling the decision on this matter until next month at which time the Council could address changes to the ordinance. the council was reminded that there is a specific time table spelled out in the ordinance that would not allow the decision by the Council to take place in April.

It was pointed out by staff that there are not just 44 dog licenses in existence now: there are actually 15 to 20 temporary licenses that have been issued, so there are up to 64 dog licenses in the Town at this time.

Dave Richards proposed that we put four licenses in the drawing to be dolled out to qualified applicants in a class to be determined and then address the dog ordinance this summer.

Dan Ketner asked how Salt Lake City felt about the number of dog licenses we issue each year and also asked how a person gets a temporary tag. The Mayor has met with Salt Lake City Public Utilities on this issue and in a perfect world they would like to see no dogs in this canyon. They do understand our situation and accept our policy on dogs. Those that want a temporary license contact the Mayor and explain their situation. A good example is someone wishing to bring their dog for one day to their wedding.

Julie Willis suggested that the Town consider issuing a six month temporary license for those people who are here during the ski season or just for the summer season. The Mayor suggested this is a subject that could be discussed this summer when we review our dog ordinance.

Cliff asked for the definition of a Class E License. Those licenses are issued to dogs who come to the Town to train during certain times of the year. In the past we have not charged for those licenses as long as they received permission from Salt Lake City Watershed Dept.

Steve Gilman suggested that we need to have more time to discuss changes to the dog ordinance.

**There was a motion by Dave Richards to approve Resolution 2008-R-2 with alternate language for section "2A" written by Cliff Curry which reads "That a total of four licenses shall be issued to qualified applicants. Applicants who have applied unsuccessfully in consecutive years before 2008 shall have priority over applicants who have applied first in 2008 or in fewer consecutive years. If necessary, issuance of licenses to applicants of equal priority be determined by a chance drawing in accordance with Section 3 of this resolution. The total number of dogs for the year 2008 shall not exceed 44 and 4 licenses to new applicants shall be issued. Cliff Curry seconded the motion. The Mayor opened the floor to discussion on this motion.**

There was discussion on how these licenses were to be distributed: Class A or Class B or a combination. Piper commented that in the past five years, the Council has decided to give all the licenses to Class A. So if the Council wants to give priority to people who have applied over the last years, no applicants have applied under Class B. Therefore there is no priority list in place for this class.

Katie Lewis, the Town's attorney, commented that the ordinance specifies that there will be a random drawing. If you create a seniority list that eliminates the random drawing, then that goes against the dog ordinance. The ordinance would have to be amended before you can create this list. She recommended that the Town not pass a resolution that goes against the ordinance. There has to be public notice to amend an ordinance.

**Dave Richards withdrew his motion.**

**Dave Richards made a new motion to pass Resolution 2008-R-2 as submitted and in Section 1 it shall read that dog permits shall not exceed 44 and 4 licenses to new applicants shall be issued. Section 2 shall read that 2 Class A licenses shall be issued and 2 Class B licenses shall be issued and the final line of Section 4 shall read that Class E licenses shall be charged -0- per dog. In addition, the agenda for the July 2008 Town Council meeting shall have a line item to discuss the Town of Alta Dog Ordinance . There was a second by Cliff Curry.**

**Hearing no further comments on this issue, a vote was called on the motion. The vote was unanimous with all those present voting in favor of the motion. Paul Moxley was absent. The motion was carried.**

#### CITIZEN INPUT

The Mayor reported that the results of the primary election were now available but not specific to our voting district.

Onno announced that our US Forest has merged with Uinta and it is now called the Wasatch/ Cache/ Uinta National Forest. Our new Forest Supervisor is Brian Ferebee.

He thanked the Alta Planning Commission for all their hard work.

Onno mentioned that the County has asked Cottonwood Heights City to work with both ski areas on retaining the swamp lot between the two canyons for a park and ride lot.

Onno reminded people that the Legislature has appropriated another 11 million dollars this session for promoting Utah which is part of their "Life Elevated" campaign. This could and will put more pressure on our canyons which ties into the planning study that is taking place at the mouth of the canyon. In this context, we cannot ignore the concept and planning for mountain transportation whether it is more park and ride lots, light rail or other suggestions.

The Mayor responded to Onno's concerns.

Along those lines, Laura McIndoe reminded people that there is a second stakeholder meeting as part of the Scenic Byways study which will be held on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. The time and place has yet to be announced.

**With no further business before the Council, there was a motion by Cliff Curry to adjourn the meeting. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried.**

Passed and approved this 10th day of April, 2008

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Katherine S.W. Black, Town Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR APRIL 10, 2008

MAJOR BILLS PAID

Payroll	\$34,509.77
Payroll Taxes	\$14,698.77
Attorneys	\$31,335.52
URS Retirement Contributions	\$6,735.14
UFA Quarterly Contract Payment	\$23,862.10
Health, Dental and Life Insurance	\$10,571.25
ARA Promotions	\$6,216.00
Recycling Pickup	\$1,400.00
Other Town Bills	\$9,663.62
Total	\$138,992.17

Mayor Revenue Received

Sales Tax/Uniform - January 2008 Collections	\$50,395.56
Sales Tax/Resort - January 2008 Collections	\$131,052.95
Property Tax	\$18,665.77
Snwobird/Alta Central Contribution	\$13,407.44
Donations	\$30,830.00
Court fines	\$1,528.00
Community Center Use Fees	\$1,202.00
Energy Taxes	\$6,226.09
Total	\$253,307.81

General Fund Checking	\$12,658.93
Genral Fund Savings	\$308,641.48

