

HATCH TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 21, 2024

Council Present: Mayor Kerry Barney, Kurt Sawyer, Jon Spendlove, Duane Barnhurst and Janell Barney

Staff Present: Jacie Torgersen, Tyler Mendenhall and Jaycen Walter

Public Present: Gary Goble & Levi Degarmo

1. Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Barney welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7pm. Councilor Sawyer offered the opening prayer and Jacie Torgersen led those present in the pledge.

2. Approval of January 17, 2024 Minutes

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the minutes and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

3. Review January Invoices, checks & financial report

Councilor Barney and Councilor Barnhurst reviewed the checking and savings account balances and Councilor Spendlove and Councilor Sawyer reviewed the credit card statements. All councilor members reviewed the expenditures for January. Councilor Sawyer motioned to approved the expenditures and Councilor Spendlove 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous. The signature cards will need to be changed at Zion's bank with the treasurer. The town will have Mayor Barney, Jacie Torgersen, Janett Young, Jon Spendlove and Janell Barney on for signatures for the town account and cemetery.

4. Public Hearings

5. Petitions, Remonstrations and Communications

5.1 Kimball & Roberts Financial Statement

Councilor Spendlove motioned to accept the financial statement prepared by Kimball and Roberts and Councilor Sawyer 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

5.2 Ways for town & businesses to build tourism

Mayor Barney would like to help out the businesses in town with more tourism and business. He suggested coordinating with the county, Panguitch City and Bryce Canyon city to get some things on their calendars and also maybe showing that there are places to stay nearby in Hatch. A suggestion was made to make a card listing all the businesses available in town hand out. It was also suggested that it would be nice to have a chamber of commerce for Hatch or even a business owner representative for the town council. Tyler Mendenhall would like to see the town put up flags for President's Day like other local communities did. The council wondered if it would be possible advertise businesses with the Bryce Canyon Ultra marathon that is here each year.

Levi Degarmo suggested that the town look into getting bike paths in the area or promoting them. Jacie Torgersen said that there are recreation grants available for bike paths that the town could pursue. Mr. Degarmo also suggested making contact with the Aquarius Path to

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see if the town could advertise there and tie in with that system. The Aquarius path is a big deal to bikers. Another suggestions was made to do ATV tours which would bring business and people to the area.

5.3 Employee cell phone policy/stipend

Councilor Barnhurst motioned to approve the employee cell phone policy/stipend for Tyler Mendenhall and Jacie Torgersen for \$40/month and Councilor Sawyer 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

5.4 Number of Vacation Rentals in town

The planning & zoning commission approved a motion allowing the transfer of the vacation rental license from a residential home to a ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) on the same property. There is only one license allowed per property.

Councilor Sawyer would like to lower the number of vacation rentals allowed in town. Right now, the town has a limit set at 20% for water the number of water connections. He would like it possible for people to come here and live not just buy up all the homes and turn them into vacation rentals. He feels like we were at our limit when we counted Gordon Hilton's as 6 rentals instead of 1. Councilor Spendlove feels like the town is sending mixed messages when they want to promote tourism but they want to prevent people from coming to stay here. Jacie Torgersen will have the exact number for the council next month on the number of vacation rentals in town and how many licenses are left to get to the 20%.

5.5 Hatch Master Fee Schedule

The water fees need to be changed on the master fee schedule. Rural Water Association will be here next month to review the water rates and look at raising them. Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the Hatch Master Fee Schedule and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

6. Ordinances

6.1 Resolution 2024-02 Compensation

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve resolution 2024-02 and Councilor Barney 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

6.2 Resolution 2024-03 Moratorium on Land Use Applications

The planning and zoning commission is working on a master town road plan. The moratorium is being put in place for 180 so they have time to get the road plan completed. Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve resolution 2024-03 and Councilor Barnhurst 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

6.3 Ordinance 2024-04 Restriction of Liquor Licenses in town

The council had a few different examples to review of how other communities restrict liquor licenses. The town currently has 3 liquor licenses. The town needs to decide if they want to be a limit on each class of license. The town currently has A, B and C licenses available. The council would like to look at the town's current application and review what

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each of those classes entail. Levi Degarmo asked if there have been any problems with the Outlaw Bar of any of the current licenses and there have not been. Mr. Degarmo suggested limited the amount of time that liquor could be served instead of limited the number of licenses. Jacie Torgersen will send more information to the council and they will discuss it again next month.

6.4 Ordinance 2024-05 Backflow Ordinance

Tyler Mendenhall wanted to have the council pass this backflow ordinance to go along with his cross-connection certification. He is now certified and will be the enforcement for this. His concern right now is with hoses left running in water troughs. He making contact right now with the party responsible for Gordon Hilton's water trough where the water runs from well #5. Councilor Barney motioned to adopt ordinance 2024-05 and Councilor Spendlove 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.

7. Report of Officers – boards – committees

7.1 Water Department – Water Usage

A fuse blew and the pump ran for 2 days straight so the town used 51, 500 gallons of water in the last month. If anyone sees the blue light flashing, please contact Tyler Mendenhall and make him aware. When the fuse blows it knocks everything out so he is not getting the notifications on his phone. He is trying to work with the operators of the mission system to see if there is a way he could get a notification on his phone when the pump is running for 3 hours straight

7.1.a VFC Quote

This is tabled until the Franklin's come to work on the mission system.

7.1.b Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023

The drinking water quality report has been completed and submitted. The council reviewed it. Tyler Mendenhall said it will need to be posted. The council also talked about notifications if there is a water emergency. Jacie Torgersen will work on getting the emergency response plan updated and present it to the council.

7.2 Fire Department-

7.3 Road Department-

7.4 Parks & Recreation-

7.5 Grants-

Councilor Sawyer said he saw that the state of Utah had 240 million available in grant money from the federal government that the town should look into.

7.6 Planning & Zoning Commission

The planning & zoning commission had a meeting earlier tonight but they did not have a quorum so they weren't able to vote on anything.

7.7 Cemetery

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The cemetery board met earlier this week and is trying to re-do the plat map to get it straight. They will be meeting every month until they have gone through the whole map to try and get everything in order.

8. Public Input

Levi Degarmo made a suggestion to the town that they could limit the number of vacation rentals in town by only allowing them if a person lives there. Jason Barney and Duane Barnhurst both have a business like that and that number is not counted in the vacation rental percentage. If someone has an ADU on their property then they could rent it out and this would encourage the town to grow. There would not be a limit on these but you would have to be a permanent resident of the town to be able to do it and this would be strictly enforced. Mayor Barney would like to help people who live in town and maintain Hatch for people who want to come and live here. Councilor Sawyer does not want to see the town turn into Orderville with more vacation rentals than permanent residents?

Mayor Sawyer saw a notice in the paper about a water rights petition that could possibly take away from Hatch City water. This petition is converting above ground water to underground so they could dwell a well. The property is located west of Garkane. Jacie Torgersen has contacted Richard White and water engineer about this and he is drafted a letter for the town to send to the state.

Councilor Sawyer feels like the town should have a place on the Hatch Irrigation Company board. The water rights say same place, same date for the towns and irrigation companies. If this is really the case until it can be proved whose water rights are whose Councilor Sawyer feels like the town should have a place on their board. Tyler Mendenhall is also concerned about the irrigation pipe. He wants to make sure there is a deed recording that it is now property of the irrigation company in case any questions arise concerning asbestos and lead fittings.

9. Unfinished or New Business

The next town board meeting will be on March 20th.

10. Adjournment

Councilor Barnhurst motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm and Councilor Sawyer 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.