

HATCH TOWN BOARD MEETING

July 17, 2024

Town Board Present: Kerry Barney, Kurt Sawyer, Duane Barnhurst, Jon Spendlove

Staff: Janett Young, Tyler Mendenhall

Public: Gary Goble

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting began at 7pm with Mayor Kerry Barney offering the opening prayer and everyone present saying the pledge.

2. Approval of June 19, 2024 Minutes

Councilor Barnhurst motioned to approve the minutes with one change. On the minutes it says that he motioned and seconded the liquor ordinance. He did motion but Janell Barney 2nd so that change needs to be made. Councilor Sawyer 2nd the motion and the vote was unanimous. Councilor Barnhurst said the work meeting minutes looked good also.

3. Review June Invoices, checks & financial report/budget

The council each reviewed their departmental budgets. The council had a question about the check to VFC and Janett Young and Tyler Mendenhall were looking into it. Tyler will check into the invoice and ask for an itemized list of work done. The council voted to approve the expenditures for June.

The town is going to get a check scanning machine from Zion so the checks can just be deposited in the office. This service will cost about \$35 a month.

4. Public Hearings

5. Petitions, Remonstrations and Communications

5.1 Garfield Memorial Hospital Donation

Councilor Sawyer motioned to do \$750 for the Silver Sponsorship and Councilor Spendlove 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous. The dinner will be on August 22nd for those who would like to attend. The town will have a table of 8 there.

5.2 Resolution for 2024 Certified Tax Rate

Councilor Sawyer motioned to approve the certified tax rate for the town and the council was unanimous in its approval.

5.3 Change Council Wages to go with current water rates

Councilor Sawyer motioned to raise the council wages to go with the raise in the water rates and the vote was unanimous.

Kerry Barney and Matt Walter went to the county commission meeting to meet with the West Irrigation Company of Panguitch to see about a grant that they applied for. They are

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in a similar situation as the town. The town wrote a letter applying for a grant similar to them. The West Irrigation Company had some money left after the dam so there is some money left that could be used for the Hatch Irrigation Company. The county commissioners are big on saving water and conserving. This grant would be to pipe all the water from Red Point all the way down into town – approximately 15 miles. The pressurized system would be available to more people than it is now if they had the shares because it would be available all throughout town.

Mayor Barney also learned at the meeting that there is a way to get more tax money from the businesses in the town. The town could charge a resort community tax. Jacie Torgersen got a copy from Escalante City so she will look into it. This is money that would be a kick back from the state that would come from the rentals in town.

It was discussed about having a pickleball court put in at the park and move the horseshoes behind the town hall. Councilor Spendlove also suggested a bocce ball court so there would be more options.

6. Ordinances

6.1 Review Definitions for Recreational Vehicle Ordinance

Jacie Torgersen put together a list of definitions to go with the recreational vehicle ordinance. The definitions were for:

Seasonal
Employment
Employee housing

Councilor Barnhurst would like to see the trailers moved out at the end of the 180 days and then moved back in for employee housing. Councilor Spendlove said it would need to apply to everyone in town even those people who have personal recreational vehicles on their property. Janett Young asked why the town is allowing visitors to do things that community members aren't being allowed to do. This is an example of what the employee housing is doing. Mayor Barney said an apartment or house isn't going to move as part of employee housing so the recreational vehicles will probably not move either!

7. Report of Officers – boards – committees

7.1 Water Department – Water Usage

Water usage was 1.6 million from well #4 for the month of June. The town is using a lot of water!

The town is going to put a culinary water connection at the park. If the irrigation water is as dirty as it is now then the sprinklers could be ran on the culinary water instead. They would like to install this so it could be an option of either/or – irrigation or culinary. Russ Torgersen has spent a lot of time cleaning out the sprinklers at the park, this year has been a lot worse for dirty irrigation water than in the past. Councilor Sawyer feels like the town can get sprinkler heads that don't clog up – just get bigger heads. He feels like the town should get heads like sprinklers on the farm because the only thing that plugs those up is

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salamanders. Mayor Barney put a filter on there that should last about a week to help with keeping the lines clean and it doesn't even last 30 minutes and it is plugged. Councilor Spendlove suggested getting a different filter that is bigger that doesn't get plugged up as fast. Councilor Sawyer thinks it would be expensive and use a lot of power to water the park. Councilor Spendlove suggested that if it is transferred over that it is put on a timer to be used in the middle of the night. The council decided to hold off on that for a while.

7.1.a Definition of water on lot for stand-by fee

The council approved the stand by fee for lots that already had a meter on them. This is common in water systems. Paunsaugunt Cliffs has one in place where they charge \$25 for each lot in the subdivision and an example was read from their ordinance. There are 4 or 5 lots in town like this. Councilor Barnhurst asked what if they have a lot without a meter but have a connection? Mayor Barney said this would be a lot with a meter. Tyler Mendenhall is concerned about pulling the meters out that are currently in place. What about people who want the meters pulled? If the town isn't able to pull the meters, then they will put a lock on it. Janett Young suggested that the town needs to make sure everyone is paying fire fees even if they don't have a water connection on it. Mayor Barney said this would apply to subdivisions also. He would like to re-do this ordinance so with the subdivision they would have to pay this stand by fee per lot There are approximately 6 in town right now that this would apply to. The meters belong to the town so it should be the town's choice if they want to dig them up or lock them up. Councilor Barnhurst feels like everyone who has a lot in town should be paying fire fee. Paunsaugunt Cliffs doesn't charge a fire fee on their bills but they are in the Hatch Fire District, they also don't have a fire department to maintain either.

Ben Neilson had a letter he submitted to Councilor Barnhurst to have him read during the meeting regarding the water system. He was defining lines running through the property and lines at the property with the meter installed.

Mayor Barney proposed that the town pay \$25/month to Ben Neilson for the next year as a water consultant to the town. Councilor Sawyer thinks it is a great idea but it needs to be on the agenda and voted on.

7.2 Fire Department

The fire department got a TV and mounts for the wall. Fire meetings are normally held on the 4th Thursday of the month.

7.3 Road Department-

The roads need to be fixed at Kim Burrows home and on 300 E by Stan Huntington's house. Councilor Sawyer feels like Kim should be responsible for fixing the patch in front of his house because he got it done for free the first time around. Councilor Sawyer will talk to him. Councilor Sawyer will buy some patch in Cedar to cold patch the road.

7.4 Parks & Recreation-

7.4.a 24th Celebration

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The meat will be wrapped at 6pm on the 23rd if all the council can be there to help. Councilor Sawyer said to make sure and bring gloves to season the meat. Let Councilor Barney know if you are willing to cook some dutch oven potatoes for that night. The council reviewed the schedule of the 24th celebration. The dinner will start at 6pm on the 24th, council should plan on being here at 5:30pm.

7.5 Grants-

7.6 Planning & Zoning Commission

7.7 Cemetery

The cemetery board is continuing to work on the maps and Janett Barney is working on the tax reports for the cemetery.

8. Public Input

9. Unfinished or New Business

10. Adjournment

The next meeting will be on August 21st. Councilor Sawyer motioned to adjourn and Councilor Spendlove 2nd the motion, the vote was unanimous.