

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 19, 2011**

Mayor Huntington called the special meeting of the Town of Yucca Valley Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Able, Hagerman, Rowe, and Mayor Huntington.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Huntington

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Town Council – Review Applications for Appointment

Town Manager Nuaimi gave a brief staff report advising all prior applicants were contacted and asked if they would like their applications resubmitted and new applications have been received.

Michal Alaniz, Yucca Valley, advised of her background and reasons for wanting to serve on the Council.

Charles McHenry, Yucca Valley, spoke in opposition to appointing another Council Member expressing concern regarding an inexperienced Council.

Curt Duffy, Yucca Valley, advised of his qualifications for appointment.

Ramon Mendoza, Yucca Valley, encouraged Council not to select a replacement, commented regarding hiring a consultant from out of the area to update the General Plan.

Roger Johnson, Yucca Valley, commented regarding his qualifications for appointment.

Margo Sturges, Yucca Valley, commented regarding the need for diversity on the Council.

Mayor Huntington commented at the last meeting Council consensus was to appoint a member. He advised of the process used to fill the last vacancy.

Council Member Abel suggested interviewing the applicants who were not interviewed in the last round plus the three new applicants, with the possibility of voting for any of the 9 for the seat on the Council.

Council Member Hagerman advised he is ok with that suggestion commenting he still remembers the first 5 interviews.

Council Member Rowe disagreed stating that sometimes in interviews you forget to say something or afterward you think of something you should have said, so she would like to have as many interviews as possible.

Council Member Abel stated he would still like to be able to select from any of the 9 applicants, whether or not they receive an interview in the next round.

Town Manager Nuaimi advised the Council has been provided with ballots listing the names of each candidates, noting during the last round it required that a candidate receive 3 yes votes from the Council to be interviewed.

Mayor Huntington polled the Council who selected Michal Alaniz, David Cooper, Jeff Drozd, Roger Johnson, Robert Lombardo, and Andrew Mueller for interviews.

Upon discussion Council agreed to call a Special Meeting on Monday, July 25th at 6:00 p.m. to interview candidates and make an appointment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Curtis Blankenship, Twentynine Palms, presented information regarding an energy upgrade program for low income home owners.

STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Town Manager Nuaimi advised of the process to gather Requests for Proposals for the General Plan Update, noting if there was a firm in Town interested in and capable of performing the update, they could have submitted a proposal themselves. He noted experts are required to perform the many studies mandated by the State.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

2. Council Member Abel

Thanked all those who have applied for the Town Council position. He noted the Council is also concerned regarding the lack of experience, but most of us have been very involved with the Town, maybe since it began, and promised to step up and try to fill any voice occurring over the last couple of months. He also looks forward to having the 5th person to help fill the regional committees individual Council Members sit on.

3. Council Member Hagerman

Thanked everyone for applying

Expressed condolences to the Burke family.

Advised he will be in Bishop on Friday for a Desert Mountain Division of the League of California Cities meeting.

4. Mayor Pro Tem Rowe

Thanked all who applied for the Council position.

5. Mayor Huntington

Stated that going through applications, there is a great bit of talent in the community.

Noted the passing of David Zamora, Colton Mayor who passed away last week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Meeting, Monday, July 25, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

Next Regular Town Council Meeting, Tuesday, August 2, 2011, 6:00 p.m.


CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Huntington commented regarding the passing of Bob Burke who came to the basin in 1982 to work as the Field Representative for newly elected San Bernardino County 1st district Supervisor John Joyner. Bob dedicated himself to making the Morongo Basin a better place to live and will be dearly missed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Huntington adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m. in memory of Robert "Bob" Burke.

Respectfully submitted


Jamie Anderson
Town Clerk