

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

CLOSED SESSION (5:30 p.m. – Yucca Valley Town Hall)

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION-**

A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(4), Potential Initiation of Litigation- One (1) Matter

Mayor Huntington called the Closed Session to order, with all members of the Town Council present and opened public comments. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

OPENING CEREMONIES (6:00 p.m. Yucca Room)

Mayor Huntington called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Abel, Denison, Leone, Lombardo, and Mayor Huntington

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Yakimow, Deputy Town Manager Stueckle, Town Attorney Laymon, Police Chief Mondary, Finance Manager Cisneros, and Town Clerk Copeland.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro Tem Leone

The Invocation was led by Pastor Matt Jennings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Mayor Huntington reported the Town Council met in Closed Session prior to the regular meeting, with no reportable action.

PRESENTATIONS, INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITIONS

1. **2015 Miss Yucca Valley and Court**

Sarah Webb, 2015 Miss Yucca Valley introduced herself and her court to the Town Council and Court

2. **Employee of the Quarter- 4th Quarter 2014-**

Community Services Manager Earnest introduced Megan Stueckle as the recipient of the Employee of the Quarter for the 4th quarter 2014. Mayor Huntington presented a plaque to Stueckle in recognition.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Lombardo moved to approve the agenda for the Town Council meeting of February 17, 2015. Council Member Denison seconded. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

- AYES:** Council Members Abel, Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- ABSENT:** None

CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. **Waive** further reading of all ordinances and read by title only
- 4. **Approve** the Town Council meeting minutes of February 3, 2015 as presented
- 5. **Adopt** Resolution No. 15-01, approve the plans and specifications for the Town-Wide Slurry Seal Project- Town Project No. 8340 and authorize the Town Clerk to advertise and received bids

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2015/2016 TOWN WIDE SLURRY SEAL IN SAID TOWN AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS.

- 6. **Award** a construction contract for the Community Center Infield Refurbishment project to Athletic Field Specialists, in the amount of \$18,500, and authorizes a construction contingency in the amount of \$1,500, for a total contract amount of \$20,000, authorizing the Mayor, Town Manager and Town Attorney to sign all necessary documents, and authorizing the Town Manager to expend the contingency fund, if necessary, to complete the project.
- 7. **Award** the construction contract for Town Project No. 8948, Jacobs park Playground Improvements, to R.E. Schultz Construction, in the amount of \$89,405, and authorizes a construction contingency in the amount of \$8,595, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$98,000, authorizing the Mayor, Town Manager and Town Attorney to sign all necessary documents, and authorizing the Town Manager to expend the contingency fund, if necessary, to complete project.
- 8. **Amend** the FY 2014-16 Adopted Budget, transferring \$20,000 from Fund 800- Capital

Projects Reserve Contingency for routine equipment and fixture replacement

- 9. **Approve** Resolution No. 15-02 for the FY2014-2015 Off-Highway Vehicle grant application

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICANT TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE GRANT FUNDS

- 10. **Receive and File** the FY 2013-14 Single Audit Report on Federal Awards
- 11. **Receive and File** the AB 1234 Reporting Requirement Schedule for the month of January 2015.
- 12. **Ratify** the Payroll Register total of \$113,198.08 for checks dated January 30, 2015 and **Ratify** the Warrant Register total of \$444,721.08 for checks dated February 5, 2015

Mayor Huntington opened public comment on the Consent Agenda.

Susan Simmons, Yucca Valley spoke of the slurry seal schedule and inquired on the determination of what roads are included.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed public comments.

Council Member Abel moved to approve Consent Agenda items 3-12. Mayor Pro Tem Leone seconded. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

- AYES:** Council Members Abel, Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- ABSENT:** None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 13. **Brehm Youth Sports Park- Acquisition Agreement and Resolution**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA MAKING THE NECESSARY FINDINGS AS REQUIRED BY HSC 33445

Town Manager Yakimow presented the staff report, giving background on the acquisition and construction of park lands in accordance to the adopted Parks Master Plan, and the Town's General Plan Open Space and Conservation Element.

With the approval of the draft acquisition agreement, an escrow account will be utilized to administer the transaction of transitioning the ownership of Brehm Park Recreation Facility from Basin Wide Foundation to the Town of Yucca Valley. The transaction includes:

- Town to own the Brehm Park Recreation Facility upon close of escrow.
- Town to acquire land with all finished improvements gifted to the Town.
- Town to no longer provide partnership funding to the Basin Wide Foundation
- Basin Wide Foundation to complete all planned and initiated improvements prior to the close of escrow, and within 180 days.
- Acquisition price of \$410,000.00; reflecting the value of the unimproved land at a discounted rate of approximately 30% from actual cost, with all park improvements being gifted to the Town by the Foundation in their entirety.
- Transition in operational control from Basin Wide Foundation to the Town at the close of escrow.
- Town to provide all closing costs in addition to water utility reimbursement of up to \$10,000 for related expenses incurred from July 1, 2014 as budgeted in the FY 2014-16 Adopted Budget.
- Escrow to close no later than 180 days.

Brehm Park Ad Hoc Committee Members Lombardo and Abel reported that after an extended discussion period with the Basin Wide Foundation, the Town will benefit from the property and beautiful park amenities.

Mayor Huntington opened public comments on the item.

Jim Schooler, Yucca Valley spoke on behalf of the Basin Wide Foundation, explaining the benefits of accepting the park into the Town's recreation facility inventory.

Jack Rarick, Yucca Valley also spoke on behalf of the Basin Wide Foundation stating they are ready to enter into an agreement for the park transfer.

Trina Whiting, Yucca Valley spoke on behalf of Morongo Basin Youth Soccer and commented on the benefits of having additional playing fields in the community.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed public comments.

Council Member Abel thanked those involved with the many youth sports groups in the community and spoke favorably of accepting the park into the Town's system. Abel also thanked the Basin Wide Foundation and the many volunteers that came together to make the park a

reality.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone spoke favorably of the facility and thanked the Brehm Family for their generosity.

Council Member Denison thanked the Brehm Family for the major contribution to the community and to all the people involved in creating a beautiful park facility for many to enjoy.

Mayor Huntington also praised the project and the park amenities.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to:

1. Approve the acquisition agreement in the base amount of \$410,000.00 subject to non-substantive changes, authorizing the Town Attorney, Mayor and Town manager to sign the Agreement and all necessary documents to open and close escrow and to acquire the property.
2. Accept the donation of all improvements made upon the property from the Basin Wide Foundation
3. Adopt Resolution No. 15-03 with determinations made in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 33445

Council Member Lombardo seconded. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

AYES: Council Members Abel, Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

14. Hi-Desert Nature Museum 2014-16 Strategic Plan

Museum Programs Supervisor Ritter presented an overview of the 2014-16 Hi-Desert Nature Museum 2014-16 Strategic Plan, including updates to the exhibit spaces, and taxidermy updates to reflect the Museum’s mission statement, sponsorships, and partnerships with local organizations.

Museum Registrar Cantu spoke of goals for the Museum’s collections.

Mayor Huntington opened public comments. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Council Member Denison spoke highly of the Museum’s presence in the community.

Council Member Lombardo spoke of the benefits of updating the Museum’s offerings to stay consistent with a local area focus.

Mayor Huntington inquired about attendance and staffing since cutbacks a couple of years ago and suggested a closer look at this during upcoming budget discussions.

Council Member Lombardo moved to receive and file the Hi-Desert nature Museum’s 2014-16 Strategic Plan update covering activities, programs, events, exhibits and improvements. Council Member Denison seconded. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

- AYES:** Council Members Abel, Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- ABSENT:** None

15. Renewal of Agreement with the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department Work Release Program

Human Resources Manager Breidenbach-Sterling presented the staff report giving an overview on how the Town utilizes the County’s work-release program and the changes in the updated agreement.

Town Manager Yakimow explained that with past history with the program, relatively low workers compensation activity has occurred.

Mayor Huntington opened public comments.

Susan Simmons, Yucca Valley inquired on any potential risk.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed public comments.

Council Member Lombardo requested clarification on worker supervision requirements.

Police Chief Mondary reported that there are strict criteria for certain individuals to qualify for this type of program.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone inquired on transportation requirements.

Council Member Abel spoke favorably of the program and services provided to the Town.

Council Member Denison spoke of the benefits the program provides to the community.

Council Member Abel moved to authorize continued participation in the Work Release Program

through the new agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Leone seconded. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

16. Citizen Initiative Impact Report

Town Manager Yakimow presented the staff report explaining that the Citizen Initiative Impact Report is being presented in response to Council’s request at their January 20, 2015 meeting. The impact report is in accordance to California Elections Code § 9214 as part of the initiative process. The report encompasses input from various Town departments on land use, zoning, and law enforcement, legal and financial considerations relevant to the “The Medical Marijuana Dispensary Authorization and Regulation Initiative” a citizen-sponsored voter initiative for the allowance of medical marijuana dispensaries in the Town of Yucca Valley.

Yakimow continued to explain that the Town and the Proponents have entered into a tolling agreement at the special meeting of February 12, 2015 to extend the time to work together on a combined ordinance.

Mayor Huntington opened public comments. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Town Attorney Laymon clarified that the impact report is for the original citizen-initiative ordinance, and not the potential combined ordinance currently being negotiated.

Council Member Abel stated he would like this matter to go before the voters.

Council Member Lombardo expressed that as a member of the Medical Marijuana Ad-Hoc Committee, he is hopeful that negotiations will be completed soon and the item can then go to a vote.

Mayor Huntington inquired on the process to move forward if negotiations break down.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to receive and file the Citizen Initiative Impact Report as submitted in accordance with the Council’s previous direction pursuant to Elections Code § 9214. Council Member Lombardo seconded. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

- AYES:** Council Members Abel, Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- ABSENT:** None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None stated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Huntington opened public comments. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Town Manager Yakimow thanked the Community Services staff for presenting a fabulous Valentines Dance, and invited the public to participate in the upcoming Healthy Hearts Run.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

17. Council Member Abel congratulated Miss Yucca Valley and her court and to Megan Stueckle for her Employee of the Quarter award.
18. Council Member Denison congratulated Miss Yucca Valley and her court, and thanked the people behind the pageant, great community support. Congratulated Megan Stueckle and thanked the residents for their email communication.
19. Council Member Lombardo thanked Megan Stueckle for her dedication to the organization, welcomed Miss Yucca Valley and thanked the Brehm Family.
20. Mayor Pro Tem Leone thanked the Basin Wide Foundation for a great accomplishment and community contribution.
20. Mayor Huntington also congratulated Miss Yucca Valley Sarah Webb and her court and thanked Sheldon and Tara Hough for mentoring in the program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Yucca Valley Town Council is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.in the Yucca Valley Community Center Yucca Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Huntington adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley Copeland, CMC
Town Clerk