

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2015**

OPENING CEREMONIES

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 Huntington.

The invocation was led by Myron Wells, First Christian Church

PRESENTATIONS, INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITIONS

1. Jim Ricker, MCAGCC Assistant Chief of Staff

Ricker updated the Town Council on recent and upcoming activities with the Marine Corp Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms

2. Town Employees of the Year

Mayor Huntington awarded Planning Technician Diane Olsen as the Town's Employee of the Year for 2014-15.

Mayor Huntington awarded Maintenance Facility Worker Al Arrowood as the Town's Part-Time Employee of the Year for 2014-15.

Mayor Huntington also presented a plaque of appreciation to outgoing Police Chief Dale Mondary and thanked him for his service to the Morongo Basin communities.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to approve the agenda for the Town Council meeting of June 2, 2015. 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

CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. **Waive** further reading of all ordinances and read by title only
- 4. **Approve** the Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2015 as presented.
- 5. **Adopt** Ordinance No. 255 amending Certain Provisions of the Town’s Municipal Code Relating to the Regulation of Registered Sex Offenders

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TOWN MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 11.90, RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS, TO ALIGN WITH STATE LAW AND COMPLY WITH RECENT COURT DECISIONS

- 6. **Approve and adopt** Resolution No. 15-10
 - 1. Preliminarily approving the engineering reports for the existing assessment districts and directing the filing of such reports with the Town Clerk.
 - 2. Setting the date for conducting a public hearing at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. in the Yucca Valley Community Center, 57090 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, CA 92284 pursuant to California Streets and Highways Code Sections 22552 and 22553 and Government Code Section 53753.5, to consider the levy of annual assessments upon real property.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT DIAGRAMS AND ASSESSMENTS AS SET FORTH IN THE ENGINEER’S REPORTS FOR LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS AND STREET AND DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS AND DECLARING ITS INTENT LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS UPON REAL PROPERTY WITHIN SAID DISTRICTS FOR THE 2015-2016 TAX YEAR.

- 7. **Item Pulled**
- 8. **Review** the engagement letter between the Town of Yucca Valley and Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP concerning audit services for the year ending June 30, 2015 and authorize the Town’s Finance Manager to sign the engagement letter.
- 9. **Receive and file** the AB1234 Reporting Requirement Schedule for the month of April 2015
- 8. **Ratify** the Warrant Register totaling \$637,676.02 for checks dated May 14, 2015. **Ratify** the Payroll Register totaling \$135,798.02 dated May 8, 2015.

- 9. **Receive and file** the Treasurer’s Report for the third quarter of FY 2014-15
- 10. **Ratify** the Warrant Registers totaling \$997,255.92 for checks dated April 2, 2015 to April 30, 2015. **Ratify** the Payroll Registers totaling \$567,457.50 dated march 13, 2015 to April 24, 2015

Council Member Leone requested to pull Item No. 7 from the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Huntington opened public comment on the Consent Agenda items 3-6, 8-10. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Council Member Abel moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 3-6, 8-10. 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

Item No. 7- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014

Town Manager Yakimow presented the staff report, announcing that the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Yucca Valley for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. This is the tenth consecutive year that the Town has achieved this prestigious award.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Leone congratulated Finance Manager Cisneros and finance staff on the award.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to receive and file the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. 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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

11. Resolution in Support of Hi-Desert Medical Center’s Ballot Measure seeking Voter Approval of Agreements with HDMC Holdings, LLC

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL, OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF HI-DESERT MEDICAL CENTER’S BALLOT MEASURE SEEKING VOTER APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS WITH HDMC HOLDINGS, LLC.

Town Manager Yakimow presented the staff report explaining that the Hi-Desert Medical Center is currently seeking voter approval on a ballot measure. If passed by the voters, the measure approves agreements between Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District and HDMC Holdings, LLC an affiliate of Tenet Healthcare Corporation, to lease and operate the medical center and associated facilities for 30 years.

Mayor Huntington invited Hi-Desert Medical Center Board Directors, Sullivan and Doyle to the podium to speak on the item.

HDMC Board Director Sullivan expressed the importance of the measure passing for the Medical Center to continue to operate and provide services to the local communities.

HDMC Board Director Doyle explained the benefits of an affiliation with Tenet Healthcare Corporation.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Leone and Council Member Denison expressed support on the measure.

Council Member Abel inquired if the local health care district will continue to allow for fundraising and other functions.

Mayor Huntington spoke in favor of the ballot measure.

Council Member Lombardo moved to approve Resolution No. 15-11 in support of Hi-Desert Medical Center’s Ballot Measure seeking voter approval of agreements with HDMC Holdings, Inc. 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

12. 2014-15 Youth Commission Term Summary

Community Services Manager Earnest introduced 2014-15 Youth Commission Chair, Ahmadi to present the visual report on the Youth Commission activities for the year

Community Services Manager Earnest presented Certificates of Appreciation to each of the outgoing Youth Commissioners.

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

Council Member Lombardo thanked the commissioners and commended the youth of the community for getting involved in local government.

Council Member Denison spoke of excellent outreach in the community and the service the youth provided.

Council Member Abel thanked the Youth Commissioners and encouraged them to invite others to get involved next year.

Mayor Huntington congratulated the Youth Commissioners for their accomplishments this year.

Council Member Abel moved to receive and file the 2014-15 Youth Commission Term Summary Report. 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

13. Time Warner Public, Education, Government (PEG) Channel 10

Management Analyst Rice presented the staff report, giving an overview of Time Warner Cable Channel 10 which currently broadcasts public, education and government programming in the Yucca Valley and Twentynine Palms areas. In December 2016, Time Warner Cable is scheduled to eliminate the current administration of the channel. At that time, Channel 10 will no longer be available unless the Town requests its continuation and agrees to administer the management of the channel. Rice continued to present the benefits of the local channel and explained potential costs associated with implementation, programming and continued administration.

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

Council Member Lombardo spoke favorably of continuing the PEG channel and inquired on the possibility of partnering with Copper Mountain College or local high school students for programming assistance.

Council Member Denison also is in favor of keeping the channel and sees this as an opportunity to include a variety of programming. Denison stated he would like to see additional research on options for administering a local channel.

Mayor Huntington expressed the need to continue to research the idea and see if other local agencies would be willing to partner in sponsoring the channel. If the Town becomes responsible for the administration of the channel Huntington stated a third-party entity may be the best approach for such a feat. With the number of computer users, programming on the Town’s website might be a better option than cable television.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone would like to continue the service to the community of offering the Town Council meetings on the cable channel.

Council Member Lombardo moved to receive and file the update of the Public, Education, Government (PEG) Channel 10 administrative transition process and to bring back options as information becomes available as appropriate. 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

14. FY 2014-16 Proposed Budget Amendment

Finance Manager Cisneros presented the staff report on the proposed budget amendments. Last year, the Town Council approved a two-year budget. At this time, amendments to the approved budget are being requested. Two areas with significant deficiencies in the 2014-15 General Fund budget are for contract legal expenses and election expenses.

Cisneros continued to explain that the proposed amendments to the FY2015-16 General Fund Budget are a combination of adjustments to projected revenue, reallocation of personnel expenditures and accommodation of approved contracts.

Town Manager Yakimow thanked Cisneros for the presentation and added the explanation that the Town is currently in the process of a personnel Class and Compensation study, and if any budget adjustments are required due to the outcome of the study, the item will be brought back before the Town Council.

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

Council Member Abel inquired on the accounting process of tracking legal costs. Abel continued by commending staff for relatively minor adjustments to the budget.

Council Member Lombardo spoke favorably of the two-year budget cycle and is pleased with the minor adjustments needed.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone thanked Cisneros for the detailed work in keeping the budget on track.

Council Member Denison spoke favorable of the two-year subject and inquired on detail on the cost-savings being reported in the 800 fund.

Council Member Lombardo moved:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 15-12 approving the fiscal years 2014-16 amended budget as identified.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 15-13 establishing the spending limitation for fiscal year 2015-16.
3. Approve an amendment for fiscal year 2015-16 to the contract with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, and authorize the Town Manager or Mayor to sign on behalf of the Town.

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

14. Revenue Measure Ad Hoc Committee Formation

Town Manager Yakimow presented the staff report on the formation of a Revenue Measure Ad Hoc Committee. At the Town Council meeting of May 5, 2015 meeting, the Council expressed the desire to have a representative committee of the Council that could meet as needed with staff or other community groups to address the technical aspects of any potential revenue measure, and to assist in identifying related policy issues.

Mayor Huntington opened public comment.

Lori Herbel, Yucca Valley spoke as representative of the Citizens for Lower Sewer Costs

committee, commenting favorably of the creation of a Town Council ad-hoc committee.

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

Council Member Denison expressed his interest in serving on a Revenue Measure ad hoc committee.

Mayor Huntington stated his interest in serving on the sub-committee.

Mayor Huntington moved to appoint Council Member Denison and Mayor Huntington to the Revenue Measure Ad Hoc Committee. Council Member Lombardo seconded.

Council Member Abel asked for clarification on the guiding principles that the ad hoc committee would be working under.

Town Manager Yakimow explained that committee's first task would be to develop guiding principles, to be brought forward to the entire council for review and approval. Additionally, any recommendation of the ad hoc committee throughout the process would require full Council consideration.

Council Member Abel commended Denison for his capability and interest in the sub-committee; however Abel stated he would like to recommend Mayor Pro Tem Leone to be appointed on the committee if he is interested.

Council Member Lombardo requested to remove his second from Mayor Huntington's motion.

Mayor Huntington's motion died for a lack of second.

Council Member Lombardo moved to appoint Mayor Huntington and Mayor Pro Tem Leone to the Revenue Measure Ad Hoc Committee. Council Member Abel 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

Council Member Lombardo would like a fire department presentation on their services in the community.

Mayor Huntington would like to have a discussion on art studios.

Council Member Denison asked for clarification on access to local parks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Huntington opened public comments.

Sarann Graham, Yucca Valley spoke of the upcoming Father's Day event presented by the Yucca Valley Soroptimists Club on June 20th and commented on the assessment costs to the people of the community especially the small businesses.

Linda Walli, Yucca Valley thanked the Town Council for the traffic signal and stop signs near the Dumosa Senior Village.

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

STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Town Manager Yakimow announced the new Eat Well, Play Well exhibit at the Hi Desert Nature Museum.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

14. Council Member Abel congratulated Olsen and Arrowood as the Town's Employees of the Year and wished Mondary well in his future endeavors. Abel thanked the outgoing Youth Commissioners and thanked the Citizens on Patrol for their assistance in the community.
15. Council Member Denison spoke favorably on the recent Grubstake Days parade and thanked Mondary for his work in the community. Denison also thanked the Youth Commissioners.
16. Council Member Lombardo thanked the Youth Commission and Captain Mondary and congratulated the Employees of the Year. Lombardo also thanked Jim Ricker for his informative presentation on the Marine Air Ground Combat Center.
17. Mayor Pro Tem Leone thanked Wanda Stadum for her work with organizing the Grubstake Days Parade, wished Mondary well in his new job and thanked the Youth Commission for their presentation. Leone expressed his gratitude of having great employees such as Olsen and Arrowood working at the Town.
18. Mayor Huntington congratulated the group as other Council Members have expressed

and spoke of the recent SCAG meeting in the lower desert. Huntington welcomed Jim Schooler as Senator Jean Fuller's field representative.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Yucca Valley Town Council is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Yucca Valley Community Center Yucca Room

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation to which the Town is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Town of Yucca Valley vs. Yashraj Hospitality, Inc., dba Best Western Yucca Valley Hotel and Suites, Nathsons Hospitality, Inc., Venokumar Nathraj, Charmaine Nathraj et. al; CIVDS1415964; San Bernardino County Superior Court

Town Attorney Laymon read the Closed Session item and announced that any reportable action will be announced in the Town Hall lobby immediately following Closed Session.

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

Mayor Huntington adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 7:55 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT / ADJOURNMENT

Town Attorney Laymon reported that Closed Session adjourned at 8:20 p.m. with no reportable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley Copeland, CMC
Town Clerk