



**TOWN OF ALPINE
COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 17TH, 2005**

Mayor David Lloyd, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and held the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was established by the clerk through a roll call. Council members present: D.R. Hutchinson, Steve Fusco, Don Jorgensen, and Kathy Swiston arrived later. Others present: See attached list.

A. ACTION ITEMS AND NEW BUSINESS:

- **COUNCIL MINUTES:** Mayor Lloyd called for a motion to approve the May 3rd, 2005 minutes. **D.R. Hutchinson motioned to approve the council minutes. Don Jorgensen seconded. VOTE: 4 – Yes; 0 – No; 0- Abstain; 1- Absent (Kathy Swiston).**
- **PLANNING & ZONING MINUTES:** - No minutes were available, however, Don Sherman advised the Council regarding Steve Dicenso's variance hearing which was voted on by the Board of Adjustments. The vote was 3 to 1 against allowing the variance. Mr. Dicenso built a residence in a set of storage units without obtaining a building permit, electrical and framing inspections, and a Fire Marshall's review. According to Sherman if the variance would have been received he would have had to tear apart the building anyway as it is a commercial building and, therefore, a Fire Marshall's electrical inspection would have been required. The reason the variance was denied was due to the fact Mr. Dicenso could not meet the three statutes required for variances. The issue has been turned over to the Town's attorney.
- **Kay Gogol – Child Development Center (Thayne):** Kay Gogol had approached the Town several months ago to possibly place a child development center in Alpine at the Civic Center. Due to the fact the acoustics are poor in the civic center and many of the children are speech and language kids, the civic center was not conducive for the Alpine location; a location is needed where they can stay set up in. Another reason the civic center wouldn't work for the location is that it did not meet certain regulations they must adhere to. Ms. Gogol gave Council an Alpine Community Assessment/ Census Report (Alpine, Etna, and part of Freedom areas). The census data covers the birth- five years of age range and about 192-198 children are in the "Alpine" area. The bussing of 3-4 year olds to Thayne is too long of a pre-school day for this age. The Thayne class enrollment shows at least 42% of the enrollment coming from the Alpine Community Area. The Thayne center operates four classes currently and they are bursting at the seams without room for all of the children. Ms. Gogol requested the Council decide if land is still available to build a CDC in Alpine. If the Council decides the land is available the next step is to write a CDBG grant in conjunction with the Town of Alpine; this grant is due July 1st, 2005; if the grant is approved, the CDC would be built within the next two years. Ms. Gogol advised the Town that if the Town seeks CDBG money for the CDC it may affect future funding opportunities for the Town from the same grant fund. The Council discussed possible locations for the CDC in regard to a future library and school. The Council wants to review and research the vacant, public lands for the right location. A resolution will need to be approved by the Council for the grant. Council agreed to research the issue and **TABLED** the item to June 7th, 2005.

Steve Fusco voiced concern whether the county commissioners are considering the Town of Alpine for a new library. The mayor ensured he has talked with the commissioners and voiced the community's desire for a library and the fact the Town has land available to gift to a new facility. D.R. Hutchinson expressed concerns that the CDC is designed not to interfere with the adjacent land being used later for a school or library. The clerk is in the process of setting a community meeting with the county commissioners for June 2005.

- **2nd Reading: 113-Ordinance No. 2005-03 Business License Codes:** The Mayor voiced he would like to see a flat fee charged to everyone until such time as further research is completed and everyone should be treated equally. The only exception would be the businesses charged for daily rates. Steve Fusco advised much of the verbiage in the new ordinance was taken from our old codes and ordinances from 1989-1993. The cost for everything has gone up since 1993. Kathy Swiston advised advertising costs have also increased since 1993. The Town assists the business sector in matching monies for publications in the SnoWest, American Snowmobiler magazines. Steve Fusco feels an increase is needed. The Mayor feels a \$50.00 increase for now is adequate until he can further research the proposed fees. Don Sherman inquired whether the local snow machine club would be affected for a parade of cars this summer. The council advised the word "parade" was removed and only the word "procession" remained which dealt with demonstrations. Brenda Bennett, Treasurer, advised she did the majority of the research and wanted it put on the record she did not agree with a straight-across the board flat rate fee system for the main fact that more labor and liability is required with some of the items. They mayor feels an explanation as to why we are doing the rate increases instead of just "throwing them out there".

D.R. Hutchinson motioned to increase the business license fees to \$50.00 with the exception of any of the daily charges such as a one-day malt beverage permit. Don Jorgensen seconded. VOTE: 3- Yes ; 2-No (Kathy Swiston & Steve Fusco); 0- Abstain; 0- Absent

Kathy Swiston advised she would like to see the proposed business license rates kept. Steve Fusco indicated that if a flat-rate fee schedule will be used then the flat-rate should be increased. The Mayor cast his vote and broke the tie.

Mayor Lloyd read as a second reading the 113-Ordinance No. 2005-03 through the title and second paragraph.

Kathy Swiston motioned to approve as a second reading the 113-Ordinance No. 2005-03 Business License Codes with the \$50.00 flat rate fee. D.R. Hutchinson seconded. Vote: 4-Yes; 1- No (Steve Fusco); 0- Abstain; 0- Absent

- **Mountain Days – 'Porta Potty Request':** Treasurer advised the cost of the toilets ran \$200.00 and Bart Kunz donated ½ of the bill last year. It is already within the budget this year. **D.R. Hutchinson motioned to approve payment of the porta potty rentals for Mountain Days. Kathy Swiston seconded. VOTE: 5-Yes; 0- No; 0-Abstain; 0- Absent**
- **ARDA - Mosquito Abatement Program- Request for Funding:** According to the Town Treasurer, \$1,000.00 was donated to ARDA last year. Jeanne Barr has advised the BLM quit funding the mosquito abatement program. Ron Rollins, local resident, described the years in living in Alpine prior to the abatement program and the fact the mosquitoes carry diseases. He encouraged the Council to give as much money as possible to continue the program. **Steve Fusco motioned to approve \$1,000.00 donation to the ARDA Mosquito Abatement Program. D.R. Hutchinson seconded. 5-Yes; 0- No; 0- Abstain; 0- Absent**

The Council will meet to discuss the new fiscal budget and determine if additional money is available for the abatement program.

B. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

- **STREETS & ROADS:** The clerk advised the draft bid packets are in the council's packets tonight and any changes would need to be made prior to this Friday as the packets will be available to the public. On behalf of Val Jensen, this bid packet will not cover the costs associated with any repair or maintenance to the asphalted or chip and sealed roads; these repairs would be under separate bid in the future. Brenda Bennett advised the Streets & Roads account for general maintenance, mag-watering has \$ 28,243.44. The Council has budgeted an additional \$30,000.00 for next year's fiscal budget which begins July 1st, 2005. Additionally, one of the Town's CD's can be cashed for \$50,000.00 (with interest the CD is worth \$ 52,348.86). This would give the Town

approximately \$110, 592.30. Brenda Bennett advised she is still researching the idea of penny sales tax for streets and roads. Steve Fusco advised the repair of the roads is definitely needs to be taken care of. **Kathy Swiston motioned to approve the draft road maintenance bid for 2005 Road Maintenance. Don Jorgensen seconded. VOTE: 5-Yes; 0- No; 0- Abstain; 0- Absent**

The council did not pass approval to cash in the \$50,000.00 CD until the bid process is complete. The Council discussed asphalt holes must be cut-out, filled with asphalt, and then sealed with 2" asphalt. The way we are correcting these holes isn't working. Council agreed asphaltting woes would be handled under separate bid.

- **SEWER DEPARTMENT:** Treasurer Bennett advised the Council that both water and sewer department savings accounts have been dormant for a period of over a year and without activity by the Town of Alpine a \$20.00 fee will be imposed. She requests the ability to add \$1,000.00 to the sewer department savings account and \$3,000.00 to the water department savings account from both departments' checking accounts. Additionally, after operating for the remainder of this fiscal year and if any surplus revenue is held in the checking, she would like permission to transfer the money to the savings account. The sewer department has not had to borrow any money this year to operate; the sewer department will most likely will not have a surplus. **Kathy Swiston motioned to approve \$1,000.00 sewer savings deposit and a \$3,000.00 water savings deposit from both departments' checking accounts. D.R. Hutchinson seconded. VOTE: 5-Yes; 0-No; 0- Abstain; 0-Absent**
- **WATER DEPARTMENT:** Kent Perkins questioned which engineering firm won the project to do the leak detection evaluation. The Mayor advised Rendezvous Engineering won the project with Nelson Engineering coming in second. Kent Perkins called for a water board meeting and a meeting is set for 7:00 p.m. May 26th, 2005 at the Town Hall.
- **PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Shawn Bard, local resident, questioned the Council what was going on with the Parks & Recreation Department since his departure. He questioned how the Town was trying to fill his vacant position. The Mayor advised at the moment nothing is happening currently. D.R. Hutchinson advised only one applicant applied and rescinded their application. Applicants didn't want to mow lawns or take care of the Town's ice rink. The ball fields will be worked on for the kids to use in the interim. Bard questioned whether the Council is going to amend the job description or pay scale to attract applicants. Kathy Swiston advised the P&R Position is locked into the pay scale determined by the current fiscal budget which expires July 1st, 2005. Shawn Bard felt requirements should be changed.

Shawn Bard questioned how the Town can proceed with finishing the ball parks without seeking outside money and help from the county and state. The Town is trying to build a house with a 'garage' budget according to Bard. He suggested Mary Crosby explain the grant. The grant application is due in January of each year and approximately \$32,000.00 of in-kind donation money was gathered, according to Bard. Mr. Bard advised that if any work is done prior to the submission of the grant and if these individuals are used now they cannot be used as in-kind donations with the grant in the future. D.R. Hutchinson voiced concerns that designating the land in perpetuity as a park due to the fact the first and primary concern of that property is designated for school use. The council felt Mary Crosby should advise the Town if development of the ball field now would interfere with the future school use instead of Mr. Bard's opinion. Mr. Hutchinson feels the ball field can be worked on for use prior to any grant. He feels the grant isn't in the best interest of the Town of Alpine. Steve Fusco advised the first step isn't developing the ball fields but to get water to the property for irrigation. Clerk advised that the development of the ball fields requires water and irrigation for hydro-seeding. The water main extensions may require engineering monies to determine where the water main should be extended, per Val Jensen. He is concerned adding Town parks to the end of the River View Meadows subdivision will deplete the pressure. The water main may have to be tapped from the Highway 89 6- inch main due to pressure purposes.

The climbing wall should be finished soon and the Mayor requested its completion before the American Legion convention on June 24th, 2005 in the Civic Center. Mark Celentano has offered that if he is not working on a Saturday he will assist with the climbing wall installation.

- **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:**

- **POLICE DEPARTMENT/COURT:** James Phillips addressed the public audience regarding the article printed in the newspaper alleging the Town is seeking to hire a third officer. Essentially, Chief Phillips has made no request to hire a third officer and advised they are filling the position by Officer Van Valkenburg's recent resignation. He expressed sadness for his departure, however, supports him in the decision. The Chief thanked him for his outstanding service. Chief Phillips addressed community rumors circulating that Mr. Van Valkenburg has been fired, suspended, asked to leave, pressured to leave, etc. Chief Phillips made it very clear that Officer Van Valkenburg remains in high-standing with the Alpine Police Dept. and is leaving under his own free will.

- **PERSONNEL/ ADMINISTRATIVE:**

C. ON-GOING BUSINESS/ INFORMATION:

- **TABLED 4-19-05:** Proposed Lowering of the Speed Limit from 25 mph to 20 mph near Rice-Kilroy Construction and children's park. **TABLED AGAIN 5/3/05:** Council discussed this tabled item. Upon entering the residential section the speed limit raises to 25 mph. D.R. Hutchinson feels the speed limit should be enforced. James Phillips advised many Towns post a sign at the borders/ entrances to their town which states, "Town roads are 25 mph except otherwise posted." Kathy Swiston feels the speed limit should be left alone until the public approaches the council for action. Bruce Jorgensen has wondered why the speed limit is higher and would like it to be lowered to 20 mph, according to Don Jorgensen. He resides next to the park. James Phillips will check door-to-door in the neighborhood as to whether all neighbors want to lower the speed limit to 20 mph. **ITEM TABLED.**

D.R. Hutchinson motioned to approve purchasing four (4) signs, with approval of WYDOT to place in the right-of-way, at the entrances to the Town advising all Town roads are 25 mph unless otherwise posted. Don Jorgensen seconded. VOTE: 5-Yes; 0- No; 0- Abstain; 0- Absent

TERRACE LANE: Shawn Bard questioned whether Terrace Lane was on-going business and the Mayor advised it is but isn't on tonight's agenda. He suggested Mr. Bard call the Town clerk to get on the Town's agenda. Mr. Bard thought he was on the agenda tonight. The Mayor advised and promised that he, Carter Wilkinson, Dave Gustafson, and Val Jensen are going to evaluate the Terrace Lane situation and get back with him. Mr. Bard asked what were the options and the Mayor advised he didn't know yet. Mr. Bard stated he didn't understand why the issue couldn't be discussed tonight and again Council person Swiston advised it is on-going business but needs to be put on the agenda after the site is evaluated. Mr. Bard advised he must have misinterpreted it being on the agenda and asked if it was "too bad" for him. He continued to demand discussion of the item. He feels the issues are clear and there is no reason a site visit should occur. The Mayor asked him for the right to have the time to meet with these three people and to discuss the item at the next council meeting. Eventually, the Mayor advised Mr. Bard he was out of order and swung the gavel. The Mayor questioned Bard to explain to him another administration that has attempted to address this issue like he has. Mr. Bard advised that Karen Perry, former mayor, did take the issue to Court to resolve it. The item was added to the next agenda.

The Town Clerk advised she has asked repeatedly and consistently that if people want to be put on the Town's record that they have to speak at the podium/ microphone. She cannot guarantee that audience members speaking from their seats will be recorded.

D. INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED TO COUNCIL:

- WAM 5/6/05 Newsletter
- WAM 5/13/05 Newsletter
- SENATOR THOMAS Newsletter

E. FINANCIALS/ UNPAID BILLS:

Mayor Lloyd called for a motion to pay the bills. Kathy Swiston motioned to approve payment of the unpaid bills. Don Jorgensen seconded. VOTE: 5- Yes; 0- No; 0- Abstain; 0- Absent

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

David H. Lloyd, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Tracy Matthews, Clerk

Date