

**ROUND MOUNTAIN TOWN BOARD MEETING  
DANIEL R. SWEENEY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
101 SMOKY VALLEY BLVD.  
ROUND MOUNTAIN, NEVADA  
TUESDAY, October 10, 2023 – 5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: Nicole Silberschlag, Chair  
Sara Sweeney, Vice Chair  
Vicky Richardson, Clerk  
Chris Philips, Member  
Janet Jorgensen, Member

Also Present: James Swigart, Town Manager  
Heidi Bunch, Administrative Supervisor  
Dennis Bunch, Maintenance Supervisor  
Sky Trease, Recreation Director

Citizens Present: Robert Trelford  
Allen Stumpf  
Loretta Wallace  
Chuck Paasche  
Shelby Abbott

Eric E. Reid  
C. Larrabee  
Mark Kampf  
Taylor Damon

Ashley Sutherland  
Amanda M. Reed  
Bruce Jabbour  
Brandon Simcox



**1. Call meeting to order/roll call**

Nicole Silberschlag called the meeting order at approximately 5:30 p.m. Silberschlag – Chair, Vicky Richardson – Clerk, Chris Philips – Member and Janet Jorgensen – Member were present.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

*(Sara Sweeney in at 5:32 p.m.)*

**3. General Public Comment (FIRST)**

Loretta Wallace approached the Board as the middle school advisor to bring in her class while the Board conducts a meeting so that they can get the feel of local government.

**4. Approval of the October 10, 2023 agenda**

Sara Sweeney motioned to approve the October 10, 2023 agenda as presented. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**5. Approval of the September 12, 2023 meeting minutes**

Item tabled.

**6. Start official discussion only of Smoky Valley Grant Funding Task Force**

Robert Trelford discussed that he had a tentative meeting regarding his vision of creating the Smoky Valley Grant Funding Task Force. Robert read an email he sent to Sam Faga and Rachel Ray with Round Mountain Gold Corporation. Discussion of PILT money, opioid epidemic Walgreens settlement and Biden's infrastructure grant monies was mentioned. Trelford believes that Round Mountain will give a great return on investment when groups strategize together. Sweeney stated she will help. It was discussed that the County already receives funding – the Smoky Valley Grant Funding Task Force just needs to figure out where it goes. Philips will volunteer as will Wallace. Trelford stated the first step is to identify stakeholders and the need for leadership to step up. The Smoky Valley Library will engage in the conversation. The Manhattan Library roof is caving in. Jim Swigart stated he has spoken with Joe Westerlund, Tonopah Town Manager regarding a NDOW archery grant. Trelford believes that the group should go after all funding available. He will put an agenda item on the next meeting to form a task force.

### **7. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision on hiring of Round Mountain Volunteer Fire Chief**

Swigart gave a history lesson on the Round Mountain Volunteer Fire Department and past chiefs. The first chief was Dan West. Sweeney served 24 years with two years in lieu of payment for the property at ponds. The position then went to Greg Teixeira, Derrick Brown, Sergio Olmedo, interim Sheldon Shelf and then interim Allen Stumpf. Swigart interviewed most of the firemen and got a feel for the department. He stated that the department has changed with the seven on – seven off schedules. Stumpf reported there are currently ten active firemen, five junior firemen with two firemen out on medical leave. Swigart stated that when he spoke to Westerlund that the Tonopah Volunteer Fire Chief has been with the department for 30 years and it is an unpaid position. Tonopah gives a \$2000 stipend to the volunteers. Swigart feels that with this being a contractual position that the volunteer chief should report to the Town Board and have an interview like the one conducted for the town manager position. Swigart identified three good leaders. One refused to fill out an application and Swigart had a recommendation but will hold off until directed by the Board. He was impressed with the dedication of the department. Many have under one year of service. The department will continue with recruitment. Currently the response time is 30 minutes but the last two calls were 14 and eight minutes. Philips stated that part of bringing Swigart on was to supervise as a battalion chief. Swigart thanked him but declined the position as battalion chief. His last year on the department was as a safety officer. He will do that but not oversee training or incidents but will work directly with the chief. Question was asked why the department went from 20 members down to ten. Silberschlag asked why Stumpf and Eric Reid didn't do the right thing regarding padded numbers, improper gear, no gas meters. Stumpf believes names were left on the roster for numbers and was told that the gas meters had been ordered. Stumpf implemented hard and fast rules. He will keep the numbers realistic. The gas meters will follow NFP regulations. Questions how both will do things differently and how can the Board trust them. Jorgensen also questioned the correct numbers. Philips discussed integrity with the Board, Stumpf and Reid. Stumpf stated that the department needs to move forward. There was a lot of unnecessary stuff. He hopes to get new admin and moral of troops with an open line of communication. Eric stated he would like to get rid of the "good ol' boy" system. Richardson defended the firefighters stating that sitting up here 'it's our job to read the job description, ask how many calls they have been on. Some of this is on us for not being informed. "Richardson asked if the department is allowed to vote on the chief position. Swigart stated that he took a vote. Stumpf has been with the department since 2018, Reid since 2020. Swigart stated that the current job description states that the Chief will report to the Board. Discussion of the Chief reporting to the Town Manager. Swigart will bring back an updated job description to the Board. Both Stumpf and Reid gave their vision of the department to the Board. Richardson asked if they were comfortable telling the Board "no". Swigart asked if the department was comfortable mirroring Tonopah due to mutual aid training. Stumpf stated he was. Reid stated he currently has an application on file with that department and that Round Mountain Volunteer Fire has reorganized their rigs to the way Tonopah equipment runs. Silberschlag asked Swigart who his recommendation for chief is. Swigart stated Stumpf with Reid as Assistant Chief. The succession would be Reid as chief if Stumpf were to step down. Sweeney asked if Stumpf was medically okay to perform the job. Richardson stated she will abstain if a vote is called for. The Board directed the following: change job description to reflect a 90-day probation to come back in front of the Board; Swigart to lobby the firefighters; revisit the job description; do a house vote and update the

current contract on file. Sweeney motioned to table the item with these directives as well as the Town Manager to oversee the fire department. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

### **8. Review and approve invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for October 10, 2023**

Philips motioned to approve the invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for October 10, 2023. Sweeney seconded; motion passed 5-0.

### **9. Discussion, deliberation and decision regarding the possible adoption of Town Board code of conduct and updating of said bylaws to include the adoption**

Sweeney motioned to approve the updated bylaws as presented. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

### **10. Correspondence, awards, department updates, and announcements**

H. Bunch read the following correspondence into record:

1. Tonopah Town Board and Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees agenda for 9/27/23, rec'd 9/22/23
2. Nye County Regional Transportation Commission Meeting agenda for 10/11/23, rec'd 10/5/23
3. Nye County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting agenda for 10/11/23, rec'd 10/5/23
4. Nye County Board of Commissioners agenda for 10/10/23, rec'd 10/5/23
5. Gmail from Arnold Knightly: County Veterans Banner Program accepting new applications, rec'd 10/9/23
6. Gmail from Arnold Knightly: BLM Seeks Public Comment on the Programmatic Easement to Refine the OHV Special Recreation Permit Process, rec'd 10/10/23
7. Harvest Festival flyer from Smoky Valley Library District, rec'd 10/10/23
8. Tonopah Town Board and Tonopah Library District Board of Trustees agenda for 10/11/23, rec'd 10/10/23
9. Gmail from Deane P. Lazenby – Nye County LEPC: Great Nevada ShakeOut, rec'd 10/10/23

Recreation is in need of volunteers to run games at the Harvest Festival and with bounce house set up. Sky Trease stated that the arcade lights are in; interviews with arcade workers conducted; card system in; working on kitchen and loose ends; two parties booked for the arcade after opening day on Oct. 27. Philips asked Trease to have more sheriff's office presence at arcade. JAG will be helping with Harvest Festival; pumpkin chunkin' contest; Sweeney asked if the festival cost money – Trease will readvertise tomorrow. Maintenance working on fixing broken stuff. Philips volunteered to snow plow. Richardson asked about roads. Silberschlag stated that there should be a contract in hand this week and staff will start advising residents to move items out of the streets. Philips asked about the electronic sign. Dennis Bunch stated they are waiting on concrete. D. Bunch advised that the pool heater is now working.

### **11. General Public Comment (SECOND)**

Nye County Commissioner Bruce Jabbour was in attendance with Clerk Mark Kampf/ Kampf advised that the Presidential Preference Primary is coming up on Feb. 6, 2024. There will be a June primary with the Presidential Primary to be held on Nov. 5, 2024. Stumpf stated that Rescue is at PointS. The supplies are in for the EMR class. A fire fighter ball is scheduled for New Years Eve and will be a formal event.

### **12. Adjourn meeting**

Philips motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7 p.m. Richardson seconded; motion passed 5-0.

APPROVED THIS DAY 24<sup>th</sup> OF October, 2023

absent

Chair

Jana Sweeney

Vice Chair

Richardson

Clerk

Christy E. Early

Member

absent

Member