

**ROUND MOUNTAIN TOWN BOARD MEETING  
DANIEL R. SWEENEY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
101 SMOKY VALLEY BLVD.  
ROUND MOUNTAIN, NEVADA  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024 – 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 E. Swigart, Town Manager  
Heidi Bunch, Administrative Supervisor  
Allen Stumpf, Volunteer Fire Chief  
Dennis Bunch, Maintenance Supervisor

Citizens Present: Nickalaus Hardy  
Cody Parks  
C. Larrabee  
Pam Franks  
Dwayne Pipkins

Brandon Simcox  
Nichole Parks  
Frank Davila  
Shelby Stumpf

Eric E. Reid  
Lisa Davila  
Rachel Ray  
Gloria Foley



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

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

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Heidi Bunch advised there was a caller on the line. Lisa Davila read the following letter into record, “Good evening, Board members and thank you for opportunity to express my concerns. I would like to ultimate recall the meeting conducted on 10.10.2023 or collectively. This board voted in a clause that says “The board will conduct themselves in a professional manner and maintain the respectful and positive attitude towards fallow Bboard members and the community.” Respect requested specifically by your chair. It has been brought to my attention that the chairman has encourage members of this community, employees of the town, not to frequent Ama’s Bakery, which we know is owned by a fellow Board member. This situation is clearly unprofessional, unrespectful and has a negative attitude. As chairman is clearly undermines the growth of our town. Each and everyone of you on this Board regardless of your likes and/or dislikes, has a responsibility to the growth and vitality of this town. Targeting a small business, that for your information, offers a service that no one else in this town [does] demonstrates poor character, poor judgment and lack of integrity. There have been several occasions where the chairman has conducted herself unethically. I have heard time and time again, the word, transparency. Webster’s define transparency as being clear, capable of being seen through. Is that truly how this is being conducted? The chairman has made decisions on her own without regard for following procedure. On record

everyone's told that public comment was voted to be taken off the agenda in 2022. This was dishonest. Instead of assuming responsibility, public comment was added back to the following meeting. Any changes to the agenda must be a Board decision. How is the chair able to eliminate public comment and then reinstate it with no action or knowledge from the Board? Per my conversation with the district attorney, Brian Kunzi, he informed me that the chair was to act as town manager only for an emergency period of 3 to 5 days to allow for an official meeting to have action from the Board and to select an interim town manager. The chairman elected to act as town manager for eight months. During that time the town lost approximately three employees due to her negligent behavior. I am bringing these concerns to your attention only because you will be voting on the position of chairman tonight. Friendships with the chairman should not determine your decision on the position. The candidate should demonstrate the best interest, transparency, accountability, and financial responsibility for each and every resident of this community. Everyone of you has witnessed misconduct. These events are brought to your attention to show a lack of accountability and responsibility on the Board, in general. It would be a great pleasure to have the Board demonstrate the care and concern for our community - regardless of personal agendas, likes or dislikes. Thank you." Dina Snow addressed the Board in regards to an application submitted on behalf of her daughter.

#### **4. Approval of the January 9, 2024 meeting agenda**

Sweeney motioned to move items 10 and 11 to the bottom of the agenda until Robert Trelford is available. Richardson seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

#### **5. Election of Chair for Round Mountain Town Board**

Sweeney motioned to nominate Nicole Silberschlag. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

#### **6. Election of Vice Chair for Round Mountain Town Board**

Jorgensen motioned to nominate Sara Sweeney. Silberschlag seconded; motion passed 5-0.

#### **7. Election of Clerk for Round Mountain Town Board**

Jorgensen motioned to nominate Vicky Richardson. Sweeney seconded; motion passed 5-0.

#### **8. Approval of the December 26, 2023 meeting minutes**

Philips motioned to approve the December 26, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with the change of 2023 on the signature date to 2024. Sweeney seconded; motion passed 5-0.

#### **9. Discussion and decision regarding reimbursement for REMSA EMS Instructor Course and books**

Philips motioned to approve the reimbursement for REMSA EMS instructor course and books for Ashley Sutherland and Taylor Damon. Sweeney seconded; motion passed 5-0.

#### **10. Discussion and decision regarding CPR Instructor Course and EMT Instructor course for EMS and RMVFD**

Trelford explained that Ashley Sutherland and Taylor Damon are doing this instructor course. He spoke highly of them both. He believes it would be beneficial to have CPR instructors. Trelford would give his services for free. Currently the course is \$250/person. Sweeney motioned to approve the reimbursement of the CPR instructor course and EMT instructor course for EMS and RMVFD. Philips seconded; motion passed 5-0. Sweeney asked if her 4-H kids could be instructed.

**11. Discussion and decision regarding possible Economic Development “C” Corporation for Round Mountain**

Trelford explained that an economic development corporation needs to be developed as the Town can't open a casino. He has been working with an attorney in Tonopah that works with the secretary of state. With this corporation, those that need a 501c3 will be able to do fundraising. This is just a planted seed of an idea. Philips asked Trelford about grants. Philips motioned to include this in a workshop/steering committee so that they can be better educated and after the workshop move it to an agenda item. Sweeney seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**12. Round Mountain Volunteer Fire Department Update**

Volunteer Chief Allen Stumpf gave an update. He stated that there had been 40 runs for the year. Currently the department is participating in HazMat classes. The fundraiser yielded \$3,090. The vehicle maintenance fund has been exhausted and he would like to move \$5,000 more into account 5353. Philips asked about moving Engine 3 to Carvers and Engine 4 located at Round Mountain Gold Corporation. It was stated that Engine 2 is in Hadley. Silberschlag asked about the delivery of the new brush truck. Stumpf explained that he spoke to Rebel Strike today. They guarantee delivery by the end of April. There is a supply chain issue. Discussion of the 50% paid down on the brush truck. Currently there are 13 firefighters. Six junior firefighters and two out for personal issues. The response time was 45 minutes in November and is down to 15-25 minutes. Brandon Fitch won the rifle at the fundraiser.

**13. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to adopt, amend and adopt or reject Round Mountain Town Board Resolution No. 2023-2: A Resolution to Augment the 2023-2024 Budget of the Town of Round Mountain, Nevada**

Swigart discussed that this is a housekeeping issue. It wasn't printed in the Tonopah-Times for the appropriate amount of time as advised by Daniel McArthur's office. Richardson questioned why the roads cost more? Sweeney motioned to approve Round Mountain Town Board Resolution No. 2023-2. Philips seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision for the Town Board to approve and sign an updated letter, due to re-election of officers, to Nye County Finance authorizing payments to be made prior to Town Board approval for the following: 1) All utility bills, contract bills, and Round Mountain Public Utility Customer deposit refunds, a) This letter will be included with the bills for payment; and 2) All bills, in the event the Town Board is unable to conduct a meeting due to lack of quorum or other circumstances, a) We hereby authorize the Administrative Supervisor or Town Manager to sign the invoice approval list on behalf of the Town Board and b) This letter and invoice approval list will be included with the bills for payment**

Swigart explained this is a housekeeping item that is done whenever there is election of officers. Sweeney motioned to approve and sign the updated letter. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**15. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision regarding 90-day evaluation of Allen Stumpf, Round Mountain Volunteer Fire Chief**

Philips mentioned the Nevada Revised Statute regarding employees. Swigart stated that when the Board put Stumpf in this position it was decided that the 90-day review should be conducted by the Board. Stumpf stated some of his accomplishments such as: reorganizing of bays; propane regulation; changed unit numbers; added handhelds to engines; working on radios; IFTA7 training; updated reports; appointed lieutenants; Fire1 course; EMR class; voting for fire fighter account spending; purchasing of cones for rigs; inspection form on buildings; getting asset tags current and Swigart added the need for pond/ice training. Swigart stated that Stumpf is

dedicated. Philips thinks Stumpf has done a good job and is getting things implemented. He has no concerns with Stumpf continuing on. Trelford thanked Stumpf for fire firefighter 1 class. Stumpf stated his end goal is to get everyone to fire fighter 1 standard. The department has reached an agreement with Tonopah to do joint training. Philips motioned to extend the term as volunteer fire chief to Stumpf for one year. Richardson seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**16. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision regarding 90-day evaluation of James E. Swigart, Town Manager**

Swigart stated he was surprised and honored to be appointed to this position. He stated it is all about the people and he knows the people that knows the people. He stated he works by five things. Accomplishment was managing the completion of the roads and arcade. He has made good contacts. Currently, he is working on the history of the roads out in Round Mountain. He chose to save money with the custodian position and discussed the finished projects on the table. He LED sign will not be installed until after the mine is finished with ART classes and he has been researching the Hadley Subdivision – Declaration of Reservations which expired the end of December 2023. Philips stated that he stands by his decision of hiring Swigart, though it was a difficult choice. He stated that Swigart has managed sizeable projects. Sweeney thanked Swigart for doing a good job. Discussion of Swigart being seen at events, helping with medic and fire calls. Philips stated that people are taking notice in his representation of Town and self. Richardson appreciates Swigart being out there but is concerned that the Town is hemorrhaging money and would like to see people be held accountable. Jorgensen stated she hasn't heard anything about Swigart in the community. Silberschlag thinks it is cool to see him in the field everyday – several times a day. Building relationships. Swigart is going to Board of County Commissioner meeting to be a face – voice. She stated that Swigart is a breath of fresh air and finishing up projects. Philips motioned to continue with Swigart for one year. Richardson seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Discussion and decision on date(s) and time for Budget Workshops for fiscal year 2024-2025**

The Board was given a breakdown of the cashflow of the budget up through December 31, 2023. Discussion of dates that the Board would be available for a workshop. It was decided to hold a budget workshop for fiscal year 2024-2025 on Feb. 2 from 1 – 5 p.m. Sweeney motioned to hold the workshop on that date. Richardson seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**18. Review and approve invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for December 12, 2023**

Sweeney motioned to approve the invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for December 12, 2023. Philips seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**19. Review and approve invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for January 9, 2024**

Sweeney motioned to approve the invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for January 9, 2024. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**20. Discussion, deliberation and possible decision to set a date of a workshop regarding Declaration of Reservations – Hadley Subdivision of Round Mountain – Nye County, Nevada**

Richardson made a motion to scratch item from agenda and discuss this at a future workshop. Philips seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**21. Correspondence, awards, department updates, and announcements**

H. Bunch read the following correspondence:

1. Gmail from Amanda Marshall, re: Bill No. 2023-23 RV Park Standards Draft for Review, rec'd 12/27/23
2. Nye County Board of County Commissioners agenda for 1/3/24, rec'd 12/28/23
3. Nevada Commission on Ethics to host Briefing for Candidates and Campaigns, rec'd 1/4/24
4. Tonopah Town Board and Tonopah Library Board of Trustees agenda for 1/10/24, rec'd 1/5/24

Swigart informed the Board that Commissioner Bruce Jabbour is no longer chairman, it is now Chair Strickland and Boskovich is vice chairman. Dennis Bunch and his crew were thanked for snow removal especially while training three new employees on the equipment. There was a going away luncheon for Monicka Harter-Hill. H. Bunch is scanning documents, working on budget. Swigart stated his is looking into funds, working on the pond signage, big sign and working with D. Bunch on contractors. He discussed the promise of the 2019 approved solar lights from Public Works Director Tom Bolling. Swigart is working with Round Mountain school principal Sonja Miller about Smoky Valley Youth Theatre's play in June and will be the liason between Loretta and Sonja. Philips asked that a note be placed in the Smoky Valley paper about doing burnouts on the roads.

**22. General Public Comment (SECOND)**

Swigart recommended to those in attendance to support all businesses in town.

**23. Adjourn meeting**

Philips made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Jorgensen seconded; motion passed 5-0.

APPROVED THIS DAY 23 OF January, 2024.

*Frederick Silberschlag*  
Chair

*Sara Sweeney*  
Vice Chair

*Richardson*  
Clerk

*Christopher E. Query*  
Member

*Janet Jorgensen. absent*  
Member