

**ROUND MOUNTAIN TOWN BOARD MEETING
DANIEL R. SWEENEY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
101 SMOKY VALLEY BLVD.
ROUND MOUNTAIN, NEVADA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023– 5:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

Members Present: Nicole Silberschlag, Chair
Sara Sweeney, Vice Chair
Vicky Richardson, Clerk

Also Present: Heidi Bunch, Administrative Supervisor
Maci Curiel, Administrative Aide
Dennis Bunch, Maintenance Supervisor
Sherman Richardson, Maintenance Worker
Sky Trease, Recreation Director
Monicka Harter-Hill, Facilities Aide

Citizens Present: Eric Reid
Allen Stumpf
Robert Trelford
Cooper Paasche

Lisa Davila
Rachel Ray
Chuck Paasche
Melissa Olsen

C. Larrabee
Pam Franks
Marquez Zamora



1. Call meeting to order/roll call

Nicole Silberschlag called the meeting order at approximately 5:30 p.m. no quorum at that time. Silberschlag call to order at 5:32 p.m. Silberschlag – Chair, Sara Sweeney – Vice Chair and Vicky Richardson – Clerk were present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. General Public Comment (FIRST)

Pam Franks addressed the Board on the election procedure in selecting a new town manager. She stated that after the second week there was already an agenda on the Board and it was a waste of time for the other nine candidates. Feels that it was a waste of time with no transparency or accountability and a decision should have been made and not drawn out.

4. Approval of the August 22, 2023 agenda

Sweeney motioned to approve the August 22, 2023 agenda as presented. Richardson seconded; motion passed 3-0.

5. Approval of the July 25, 2023 meeting minutes

Sweeney motioned to approve the July 25, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Richardson seconded; motion passed 3-0.

6. Approval of the August 8, 2023 meeting minutes

Richardson motioned to approve the August 8, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Sweeney seconded; motion passed 3-0.

7. Round Mountain Volunteer Fire Department update

Captain Allen Stumpf updated the Board on the Round Mountain Volunteer Fire Department. He gave kudos to Captain Eric Reid for the golf tournament which raised \$1,610. He also thanked the Golf Course. Two community members contacted the department to do a poker night and Fireman's Ball. There are 10 active members, five active junior firemen; two inactive and one out on medical leave. One person has joined the fire fighter one class with six others. A live fire burn will be held in Pahrump with the final fire fighter testing to be held in Pahrump. There are two rigs out. Brush II needs batteries, Rescue I has an air issue. Parts are on order. Command is at the local mechanic shop. CPR/BLS class will be held with Taylor Damon. The cost is \$35/person plus supplies. A change of training is now scheduled due to the new mine schedule. Richardson told Stumpf this is the best update she has received since being on the Board. Sweeney asked if the public can attend the CPR/BLS training. Stumpf stated that would depend on who is paying for supplies, etc.

8. Review and approve invoices for the Town of Round Mountain for August 22, 2023

Heidi Bunch explained that due to a limited Board and there is an invoice in the batch that Richardson needs to abstain from, this item should be tabled. Sweeney motioned to table the invoices and pay with pre-approval letter. Richardson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

9. Discussion, decision and deliberation regarding hiring of James Swigart as Town Manager for the Town of Round Mountain and entering into a contractual agreement

Sweeney asked about term limits. Discussion of five year and indefinite limits. Richardson stated 2 or 3 years. Silberschlag asked the Board if the Town Manager candidate wants to cut ties with the Town, would the Board hold them to a 30-day notice, the Board stated no. Richardson asked about time limit to notify if termination of services is desired. Discussion of no severance pay and notice of termination as set forth by the State of Nevada. H. Bunch read into record what the town manager's contract stated about severance. Richardson stated that the employee and town owe each other nothing. Lisa Davila asked about putting so much effort into the wording of the document about severance/pay-out. Jim Swigart stated that he wasn't prepared to sign the contract tonight. This is just about finalizing the wording. Richardson asked about letting employees go with or without cause. The Board discussed accrued leave. Board decided to cap the annual leave at 300 hours. Discussion on the salary being \$74,963.20 as what is shown on the pay scale. Richardson highly disagrees with this salary stating that nine other employees were told that they wouldn't be receiving top dollar, an employee was lost because of this and now it will be done for one individual person. Silberschlag stated that this is not about one special person it is about the position and that the employees need to have the skills to hit the tier and if they don't, the tier needs to be built. Discussion on surrounding communities and their pay scales. Franks stated that the average town manager position makes \$85,000. Richardson countered that Silberschlag set up the pay scale and the Board approved it. Davila stated that she has had the opportunity to come to the Board meetings and hear the discussion of employee pay scales and believes that this is a set up for failure and believes that as the other employees need to prove themselves, so should the town manager. Franks asked what was budgeted for the position and how much other communities pay their managers. Richardson does not want to pay at the top of the pay scale regardless of what is budgeted. Silberschlag stated it is not the Board's business what the Town pays their employees. Silberschlag stated that it was Richardson who didn't want to pay at the top of the pay scale. She stated it was Richardson who wanted people to have room to grow. Richardson stated it looks bad if we do it. Swigart stated he didn't take the position for the money but though it would be comparable to what he makes as a manager of

the golf course even though it is more responsibility and liability. He stated he wants to the town of Round Mountain succeed and not go back to when there was nothing here. He has big plans with the help of the community and the Board. Davila states that Swigart comes with experience but wanted to remind the Board that they need to pay someone to do the town manager position as well as erring on the side of caution as to what is happening at the mine. At this time, the Board does not know what other candidates would have taken financially for that position. Sweeney and Silberschlag believe that the pay should be \$84,434.40. Swigart brought up that the Town provides insurance for the employee but not for the dependents. He would like to discuss that further. Silberschlag stated that it will be put on the next agenda to look at. Davila asked about reimbursements for travel. She stated there was controversy with the fire department. Silberschlag believes the pay should be over \$74,000. Richardson stated she doesn't believe so. Silberschlag discussed that in the town manager position has no room to grow. Richardson stated she is willing to pay more to the town manager position if the board pays more to the employees. Silberschlag explained that it is not the business of the Board as to what the employees are paid. Silberschlag stated that she doesn't want to sit there and hammer at this topic if the vote [with only three members in attendance] is not unanimous and would like to table the item. Sweeney motioned to table the hiring of James Swigart until the next meeting. Richardson seconded; motion passed 3-0.

10. Correspondence, awards, department updates, and announcements

H. Bunch read the following correspondence into record:

1. Nye County Board of County Commissioners agenda for 8/15/23, rec'd 8/10/23
2. Nye County Water District Governing Board, Notice of Vacancy, rec'd 8/10/23
3. Northern Nye County Hospital District agenda for 8/17/23, rec'd 8/14/23

Silberschlag stated there was a state of emergency declared by the county commissioners. Silberschlag thanked Franks for fixing Old Town road. Discussion on splash pad lack of bids. Arcade stuff is showing up. Pool is still running and cold. LEPC awarded a gas meter to Round Mountain through a grant. Swigart stated he has spent time with the fire department and has met with the interim chief to discuss training, etc. Silberschlag reminded Board members about a letter from Dan McArthur's office. Sweeney asked about the mat room. Trease stated everything has been ordered.

11. General Public Comment (SECOND)

Davila wanted to remind the Board that the "Board" is the town's voice and has an obligation of asking town members what they would like to see done in the community. She encouraged the Board to listen to everyone in the community. Sweeney thanked the Town for helping the theatre group.

12. Adjourn meeting

Sweeney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m. Richardson seconded; motion passed 3-0.

APPROVED THIS DAY 12 OF September, 2023

Nicole Silberschlag
Chair

Sara Sweeney
Vice Chair

Richardson
Clerk

Chris Philips - absent for meeting on 8/22/23
Member

Janet Jorgensen - absent for meeting on 8/22/23
Member