Agenda Item 9
9/22/10

# TOWN COUNCIL OF MAMMOTH LAKES

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

## JULY 29, 2010

## SPECIAL MEETING

### ROLL CALL

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, California. The Council was present in its entirety with Councilmembers John Eastman, Matthew Lehman, Rick Wood, Mayor Pro Tem Jo Bacon, and Mayor Skip Harvey in attendance.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Bacon led the flag salute.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Teri Stehlik introduced John Urdi, the new Executive Director of Mammoth Lakes Tourism, to the Council and the community.

Sandy Hogan said that the workplan for the Community Development and the Public Works Departments was very ambitious. She said that the Council needed to focus on their priorities and timelines. She said that there was a difference between a study and a plan, and that the current studies and plans needed to be finished before additional ones were started.

Councilmember Eastman said that he attended the Children's Fishing Festival held at Snowcreek. He said that the Town usually provided funds for the event, and that he wanted staff to add an item to the next meeting agenda regarding funding for this event.

1. Workshop to discuss the fiscal year 2010-11 Proposed Budget and Budget Policy Decisions.

The workshop began at 6:16 p.m.

Council directed staff to add 2g. Measure R awards and 2h. special events to the mini agenda for tonight's meeting.

Town Manager Rob Clark outlined the proposed budget agendas.

Finance Director Brad Koehn outlined the information in Budget Policy Decision #7:

Utility User Tax Revenue Funding of Parks Development Debt Service and Parks, Recreation, and Trails. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Bill Sauser, Tourism and Recreation Commission, said that it was inappropriate to use "found" money to fund the Recreation Department. He said that the Council needed to make a committment to recreation from the General Fund.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Do no fund the Recreation Department with the UUT funds left after paying the debt.

Mr. Sauser said that the there were reserve funds that could be replenished in addition to the REU.

There was discussion among members of Council and staff regarding the percentage of funds in other reserve funds.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 It was the consensus of the Council, with Mayor Pro Tem Bacon disagreeing, to direct staff to put the extra UUT funds left after the payment of the debt into the Reserve for Economic Uncertainty (REU) as a place holder.

Mr. Clark outlined the information in Budget Policy Decision #12: Measure R Administration. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

Mayor Pro Tem Bacon said that the audit that was required in the ordinance needed to be done.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Sandy Hogan said that four percent was a minimal, but necessary charge for the administration of the fund.

Mr. Sauser said that he understood that there were administrative costs, but that the funds were supposed to be used for parks and trails and not to pay for staff.

There was discussion among members of Council.

Ms. Hogan said that the fund created more work for staff that needed to be paid for.

There was discussion among members of Council.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Leave the provision of administrative funding from the Measure R fund as it is in the proposed budget.

Mr. Sauser said that staff needed to develop a billable rate for the administration of Measure R.

Community Development Director Mark Wardlaw outlined the information in Budget Policy Decision #23: Environmental Review for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. Sauser said that he thought the SNC grant funds were to be used for the CEQA analysis on the Trails Master Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and that the plans would be done together.

Mr. Wardlaw reported that the SNC grant could only be used for the Trails System Master Plan, and that the analysis had been delayed due to the State's freezing of the grant funds.

Ms. Hogan said that the plans would never be perfect and that they needed to be adopted now and could be amended later.

Mr. Wardlaw outlined the costs of the CEQA analysis.

There was discussion among members of Council and staff regarding the Community Development Department's workplan.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Do not request Measure R funds to complete the environmental analysis for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, but add it to the Community Development Department's workplan later if funds become available.

Teri Stehlik, Tourism and Recreation Commission, asked if the CEQA analysis for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan could be "piggy backed" onto the Trails Master Plan using the same consultants.

Mr. Wardlaw responded that the plans could be done together with the same consultants if the Town Council funded it.

Public Works Director Ray Jarvis outlined the information in Budget Policy Decision #27 : Enhance Sidewalk Snow Removal. There was discussion among members of

Council and staff.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. Sauser asked why sidewalk snow removal would be included in the recreation budget.

Ms. Hogan, Mobility Commission, said that she supported sidewalk snow removal on Meridian because it would help get children to school safely.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Council supported additional sidewalk snow removal, and would wait to see if it could be funded with "wait and see" money.

Mr. Clark outlined the information in Budget Policy Decision #28: Modify Ice Rink Operations Plan.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. Sauser asked for the ice rink to be referred to as the multi-use facility. He said that the grant funds already awarded needed to be used on the current site. He said that control of the land needed to be written into the lease. He said that the multi-use facility should not be run this winter, and that a committee should be formed to evaluate the multi-use facility.

There was discussion among members of Council.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Do not operate the ice rink this winter, and explore options for its future use.

Budget Policy Decision #31: Mammoth Nordic Operations.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Wait until after the Measure R fall funding cycle to evaluate the request for funding of the Mammoth Nordic operations.

There was discussion among members of Council and Mr. Sauser regarding Measure R awards.

There was discussion among members of Council regarding the funding of Special Events.

CONSENSUS:

330-20 Direct staff to request that the Tourism and Recreation Commission recommend where the funding for Special Events should come from.

There was discussion among members of Council and Police Chief Dan Watson regarding the Council's concerns with the Police Department.

Chief Watson reported that he did not think that the Police Department was over staffed at all.

There was discussion among members of Council and staff regarding the continuing review of budget policy decisions.

The workshop ended at 7:57 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:57 p.m. the Mayor announced that the Council would be entering into closed session for the purposes as stated in the agenda.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

The Council reconvenved from closed session at 8:37 p.m. and announced that there was no reportable action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Gray
Town Clerk