

MAGNA TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Monthly Meeting
December 5, 2013

Presiding: Jeff Senten

Members Present: Todd Richards, Kelly Killpack, Jeff Senten, Mel Palfreyman, Elizabeth Parkinson, Jodi Strader , LaDell Bishop, and Russ Dobesh, Boyd Smith, Tory Allred, and Matthew Hurst.

Excused Members: Starr Campbell

Absent Members: Jeff Larson

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm with 20 citizens in attendance. Jodi Strader offered a payer. Boyd Smith led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for the meeting were presented. Elizabeth stated that her name was not added as a present as the only amendment needed. Boyd Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mel seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

1. Public & Government Relations (Kelly Killpack): Nothing to report

Arts Council – Wes Furgason, Final rehearsal for Christmas program next week. Tuesday performance will be at the senior center and Thursday at Matheson Jr. High.

4th of July – Elizabeth Parkinson: Meeting 21 Jan at the firehouse at 7pm.

2. Schools, Library & Recreation (Tory Allred): Ben Horsley, Granite School District community outreach. Mr. Horsley stated that Granite School District houses 67,000 students. Gave an overview of number of schools, area that is served and number of employees. They are 43% minority and expect to have a minority majority in the near future. Stated that Granite estimates cost of \$39.00 per student compared to a national average of roughly over \$200.00 per student and statewide average of \$65.00 per student. Discussion was made about a bond that was passed in 2009 in the amount of \$256 million dollars. Bond money helped to rebuild two elementary schools and two high schools, and a special needs school. Money also put air conditioning in 62 schools. Invitation was extended to tour the facility at 2500 S. State Street. This is the Granite Technical Institute. New businesses partner with the school district to help kids to drive toward jobs beyond typical technical vocation study. Discussion was made on the estimated rebuild of Cyprus High School. Bond amount did not cover the rebuild at that time. Strategically we are striving down the road to go that direction. He cannot speak for the board, but discussed looking at refinancing the bond or asking for another bond may be a possibility. Discussed how some communities have looked at doing 9th-12th grade schools. Different areas have voted different ways on this issue. Discussion was made on whether or not the school has been sinking, where Ben claimed that was not true. School grading was addressed. Grading is based on CRT scores, or UCAST system (that takes into account growth). Legislative grading system does not take growth into account. Discussion was made about various concerns of Granite School district. Promises were made to give a list of concerns if he would return.

3. Health, Welfare & Environment (Jeff Senten / Russ Dobesh): Nothing to report.

Special Reports

Presentation by Mayor Ben Mc Adams (came on his birthday). Community preservation plan presentation that stated concerns that he has that he hopes that this will address. Salt Lake County has gone from 300,000 residents to 160,000 residents in a fairly short amount of time. Concerns were shared that if we continue to dwindle, quality of services and tax rates will suffer. Kennecott has projections of 30 years of mining operation estimated. Kennecott is about 20% of our overall tax revenue. The loss of Kennecott would result in higher taxes. The Mayor stated that he would like to see new business growth in Magna and surrounding areas. Overviewed the program that he is presenting is designed to protect investment Salt Lake County will make to protect it from being lost by areas going away by means of city independence or annexation by other cities. Taxation benefits and deficits can shift between different areas at different times. Boyd Smith shared that the majority of people have wanted to become incorporated and does not have tax base enough to stand independent at this time. Feelings are that this community has been hurt by not being heard. Wanted to know how we will be protected in this plan. The Mayor stated he has created the position as township executive (Patrick Leary), then economic development director. Jodi brought up shared concerns that the plan will end up costing more due to the cost of the voting process for the new positions created. Also, other people are feeling that this plan will be another layer of government on top of what already exists. The Mayor stated that he feels there are options of status quo or questions of boarder protection and higher taxes for fewer services. He wants to strive to a shared tax base. He strives to set up something like a city, but not a contiguous area, where each separate area has a voice. He admitted that elections cost money, an election every four years estimated of 150,000 of a 400 million dollar budget over four years. He claims that this will not create another level of government. It would consist of 9 part time council members that could be either volunteers or paid position. Discussion was made about if we really have boarder protection from annexation. Discussion was also asked as to whether or not this new plan would truly protect the boarders, which the Mayor assured that it would. It was stated that once we would agree to this plan, if we were to, than we cannot get out. The mayor is just looking to see if he has approval to go further with research to see if he should flesh out this plan further. We are not passing the plan at this point.

Public Comments: None

County & Community Reports:

1. Mayor's Office (Celina Milner): 80th West traffic study is currently being done. Canal access road, canal meeting December 19th West Jordan senior center.
2. West Township Representative (Greg Schulz): Checks will be coming this week.
3. U. P. D. (Chief. Jon Fassett): Selected new Detectives Parsons Metzkwow and Josh Wolfenden. Catholic Church burglary case has resulted in 3 juveniles charged and one adult may be charged with aiding after the fact. Joe Ball will be our new fraud detective. William Stone will be our traffic cop. There was an undercover op to attempt to find those selling spice and no attempts for a sale were made. Rhonda Curtis has been working at the substation. Major case of a runaway juvenile occurred where comments had been made against the handling of the case. Chief Fassett discussed the difference of runaway cases verses a missing person case. Amber alerts have to be 17 or under, believed to be an abduction, believed eminent danger, and must have information able to be given to assist to locate the child. Criticism was made that it was not handled in as high of a priority due to being from the west side, which was not at all true. Runaway cases information is not allowed to be released to anyone but the parents.
4. U. F. A.: Not available/

Michael Murphy, chief building official and code enforcement invited people if they have questions or problems.

Planning & Zoning (Todd Richards, Jeff Larsen): Meeting for this month has been canceled.

4. A.C.C.T.: (LaDell Bishop / Mel Palfreyman): Want to know what Magna feels about what the mayor is proposing. Questions were made on the Mayor's plan as to the possibility to get out of the plan to become our own city in the future. Statements were made to think that there was a possibility that you could do so. A proposal was reviewed that basically makes it so that unincorporated areas would establish municipal services that would be under one umbrella so as to protect the tax base. This would only involve services; where as the mayor's plan is farther reaching. Motion was made by Todd to support further review of the Mayor's plan and also to further review of the service district proposal as well and was seconded by Kelly. Motion passed. It was clearly stated that this is not stating approval for the proposal itself, but only to give allowance for further investigation for drawing of legislation. Elections for ACCT are coming up.
5. Finance Committee (Todd Richards): Magna Fact letter was read asking for Sub for Santa donations in the amount of \$2,000.00. Last year we gave \$1,000. We also gave to UPD Shop with a Cop \$250.00 last year. In our services general fund currently has \$5,352.02 given from Kennecott with intent to assist the community. UPD is trying to support 2 needy families in Magna and also 2 in Kearns. Motion was made by Matt to give Magna Fact \$2,000.00 and to give UPD fund for Christmas giving \$500.00 and motion was seconded by Russ. Motion passed. Financial Statement (See report attached): Suggestion was given for review of possible purchase of producer's tackle box and light balloon that will be discussed next month
6. Presidents Report (Jeff Senten) Would like Cyprus and other local schools to be better.

Special Orders: Elections for positions of the council were held and determined that all current positions will continue another year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38