

**Minutes of the Amalga Town Council Meeting
Amalga Town Hall
July 27, 2011**

Attending:

Mayor: David Wood

Council Members: John Clark, Paul Hansen, Rick Fonnesebeck, Scott Gittins

Others Attending: Morris Hansen

Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing

Adjustment to Culinary Water Rates

The council discussed the need to generate additional reserves in the water fund to provide for future improvement of the water system. The storage capacity of the town reservoir may need to be increased as demand on the system grows. The town will also need to plan for increasing the town's water rights and water supply as demand increases. Projections for growth in Cache Valley estimate that the population may double by the year 2050. If the town's population increased by 50%, the town would need to increase its water supply and make additional improvements to the system. Increasing rates will help generate additional funds to use for future improvements. Water rates were increased by the town council at a prior meeting. The new rate schedule is as follows:

| Monthly Water Use (Gallons) | Rate per Tier |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 to 25,000 | \$15.00 (Base Charge) |
| 25,001 to 500,000 | \$.50 per 1,000 gallons |
| 500,001 to 1,000,000 | \$.75 per 1,000 gallons |
| 1,000,001 to 2,000,000 | \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons |
| 2,000,001 to 10,000,000 | \$1.25 per 1,000 gallons |
| Over 10,000,000 | \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons |

Water Rights Transfer Ordinance

The Planning and Zoning Committee has been working on an ordinance that would require those wanting to develop land in the town to transfer water rights to the town. John reviewed the purpose for the ordinance. The ordinance would increase the water rights available to the town to increase the town's available water supply. The requirement to transfer water rights would vary depending on the intended use for the developed property.

Bruce Jorgensen has reviewed the ordinance prepared by the committee and has made some suggestions. The town would need to coordinate its current impact fee ordinance with the proposed water rights transfer ordinance. Bruce has indicated that the town cannot have both at the same time, but the rights transfer ordinance could be combined with the impact fee ordinance.

The council discussed how this would apply to expanding dairy herds. Logan city has a water rights transfer ordinance but it doesn't cover livestock. David suggested that the livestock issue not be included in the proposed ordinance at this time. Paul also felt that the issue of livestock could be addressed at a future time if growth begins to strain water resources. John suggested that the water transfer ordinance not apply to dairy cattle now, but water use by a dairy farm could be addressed through the rates charged for water use. Large water users would be paying a higher rate and this may serve the same purpose. John will follow up with Bruce Jorgensen on the

ordinance. The council will table this issue for now and review the proposal at a future council meeting.

Adjustment to Compensation of Elected and Appointed Officials and Town Employees

The council had previously proposed adjustments the compensation of elected and appointed officials and town employees. The following schedule reflected the proposed changes.

| Position | Current Compensation | Proposed Compensation |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Mayor | \$600 per year | \$1,200 per year |
| Town Council Members | \$300 per year | \$600 per year |
| Town Clerk | \$1,000 per year | \$2,000 per year |
| Town Treasurer | \$10 per hour (plus mileage reimbursement) | \$10 per hour (plus mileage reimbursement) |
| Park Employees | \$8.50 per hour | \$9.00 per hour |
| Mosquito Abatement Employee | \$8.50 per hour | \$9.00 per hour |
| Utility Billing Clerk | \$13.00 per hour | \$13.00 per hour |
| Planning and Zoning Secretary | \$8.50 per hour | \$9.00 per hour |

This adjustment would increase the total compensation for the town to about \$10,000.

Paul Hansen felt that the increase in compensation was needed to help to offset the cost of working for the town. Paul suggested that the town consider compensation for members of the Planning and Zoning Committee. This may help to encourage members to attend the meetings and stay on the committee and attend the monthly meetings. David wasn't sure if other communities compensated their Planning and Zoning Committees.

Rick Fannesbeck made a motion to approve the salary adjustments as listed in the schedule. The motion was seconded by Scott Gittins and all voted in favor of this action.

Veteran's Memorial for the town Park

There have been proposals from town residents to create a memorial in the town park for veterans. Most recently, Tad Bingham offered to help create a veterans memorial. Paul suggested that the town council set a budget for the project to see what could be done for the proposed cost. This could be a fairly expensive project. Scott also recommended that the town be careful in how much is spent for this project. Other towns have used outside groups such as lions club to generate funds for their memorials.

Paul discussed combing this with some Eagle Scout projects to try to keep the cost of the project down. There would need to be some discussion about who would be included on the memorial. Keith Hansen had done some preliminary work on a memorial and he concluded that determining who should be included will be an issue that will have to be addressed.

John suggested contacting town residents to see if any would be interested in donating to the project to help fund it. The council discussed inviting Tad to the October council meeting prior to Veteran's Day in November.

Council Member Reports

Paul Hansen will discuss the July 24th celebration at the next council meeting. Paul was concerned that no town residents attended the public hearing. Paul asked about Parson's coming to repair town roads. David indicated that Parson's will be working on the roads in August.

Nick Fannesbeck is considering an Eagle Scout project in the town park. He would like to install some benches and garbage cans in the park.

Rick Fannesbeck reported that the water meter at Joel Jeppson's home was replaced. This involved replacing some of the water line servicing his home. Rick noted that work is still underway on the town water system improvements. They are also still working on the water meter for Schreiber Foods. The system is operating on the new electronic controls. Rick noted that the town is still getting artesian flow from the new 16" water well. Rick is still working with Rocky Mountain Power to solve an electrical problem at the new well. One of the water system pumps needed bearings repaired. The pumps will continue to need periodic maintenance.

Rick discussed a project to extend and loop a main water line near Shane Perking home. This work will be done while UDOT is doing construction work on highway 218. Rick will have contractors bid on the project. Discussed needing to get some information on liability insurance carried by Shane Perkins for work he does as a contractor for the town water system. Rick will check with Shane about his insurance coverage.

Scott Gittins is working with Schreiber Foods about billing for their water use while the meters are being repaired. Scott noted that payments were received last month on two past due utility accounts. There haven't been payments on these accounts yet this month. Scott will work on getting payment contracts in place on these accounts. He will also work with LeAnn to get the new water rates programmed into the billing system.

The Utah League of Cities and Towns Convention will be held this year on September 14 – 16th.

The council reviewed town disbursements for July. Scott made a motion to approve the disbursements. John seconded the motion and all voted in favor of approving the disbursements.

John noted that the Planning and Zoning Committee will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed annexation policy at their next meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Rick. The motion was seconded by John and all voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.