



AMARGOSA VALLEY TOWN BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

By: Rebecca Lucas

5/3/24

AGENDA

Amargosa Community Center

1640 E. Farm Road, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020

Thursday April 25, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

**Carolyn Allen Chairman
Brenda Dymond, Vice Chairman
Mike Cottingim, Town Clerk
Sara Rivers, Member**

NOTE: All items are approximate except for items on the agenda at a specific time. Items on the agenda without a time designation may not necessarily be considered in the order in which they appear on the agenda. The items may be combined. The items may be removed. The discussion of an item may be delayed. **NOTICE: It is anticipated that the items of business before the Town Board April 25, 2024 will be fully completed on that date. However, should item(s) not be completed, it is item(s) could be carried over and be heard before the Town Board beginning at 8:30 a.m. on the next day.**

Public Comment during the Town Board Meeting on **April 25, 2024**, will be for all matters, off the agenda, and heard during individual action items. The Town Board reserves the right to reduce the time or limit the total time allowed for public comment. The Town Board may prohibit comment if the content of the comments is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Town Board, or if the content of the comments is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers. Persons are invited to submit comments in writing on the agenda items and/or attend and make comment on that item at the Town Board meeting.

Pursuant to NRS 241.020, the Agenda for the Town Board Meeting has been posted at the following locations. Amargosa Community Center 1640 E. Farm Road, ~ Amargosa Library 1660 E. Farm Road, ~ Amargosa Clinic 1690 E. Farm Road, ~ American First National Bank, 1600 S. Highway 373, ~ U.S. Post Office 750 E. Sage Avenue, ~ Amargosa Senior Center, 880 E. Desert Seniors Lane, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020. Support documentation for the items on the agenda, provided to the Town Board is available to members of the public upon request, contact Rebecca Lucas @ (775) 372-5459 or Town@townofAmargosa.com Amargosa Valley Town Office, 1640 E. Farm Road, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020,

NOTE: All times are approximate except for bid openings, public hearings, and any other items agenzized at a specific time. Action may be taken on all items except where otherwise indicated. Items not scheduled for a specific time may be considered at any time and in any order. Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time.

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Special Note: Any member of the public who is disabled and requires accommodation or assistance at this meeting is requested to notify the Amargosa Valley Town Office @ (775) 372-5459 prior to the meeting. You can also watch us live streaming thru YouTube on our own Amargosa Valley Town Office Channel

AMARGOSA VALLEY TOWN BOARD

- 1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. **Approval of the Agenda for April 25, 2024** (Non-action item)
- 3. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** (up to three-minute time limit per person.) Action will not be taken on matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item (FIRST). PLEASE STATE AND SPELL YOUR LAST NAME

Joe Labassorie: American Legion doing a cemetery clean up on May 18th @ 9am. Memorial Day on the 27th @ 11am in the cemetery.

Pat Minshall: 1/3 of the Sheriff’s Auxiliary unit has quit and I do not think it will make us safer I think it will put us at higher risk. Bruce Jabbour was advocating for our Emergency Response Unit and we got it.

4. Reports

A. Town Office Report (Vouchers, Employment, Email) Approval of Vouchers Presented by Deputy Town Clerk.

Rebecca Lucas: Total for approval: \$16,816.36

Mike Cottingim: Recurring has been input and approved I have not had time to create the spreadsheet.

Motion: Mike Cottingim

Second: Sara Rivers

Vote: 4-0 Pass

B. Fire Department Report (Monthly Report and other concerns regarding Town Office)

Bruce Jensen: This will be my last report as an employee of the Town. This is a list of everyone I need to thank during my time here. Bruce Jabbour went to bat for us and fought hard for us to get a quarter million to get a new piece of fire equipment and for the BOCC donating us various pieces of equipment, Nye County Dispatch we deal with on every call when we have an emergency, PV Fire Chief have assisted with us moving forward in our department, Mercy Air for flying our patients out of Amargosa, Beatty Fire Chief and Ambulance Service Director, businesses and individuals, AVTB, lastly our volunteers are some of the best people I have met in my life. I hope that the town members support them.

D. Planning Committee (Past or Future Meetings and topics)

No Meeting

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F. Tourism and Economic Committee (past events, future events)

Rebecca Lucas: Major event is AV Days. We have 40-45 vendors of both craft and food vendors. If weather is crappy, we have a plan to move craft vendors indoors. If weather permits, we will have fireworks on Friday. Saturday we will have a parade @ 9am, t-shirts and gun raffle tickets will be for sale at info booth. Lastly there will be a blood drive on May 30th flyers will be coming.

G. Senior Center Report (Monthly Report and/or other concerns)

Dave Hall: Commodities distribution was 102 people because it was the same day as the eclipse. Quilts of Valor ceremony came out on the 19th. Amargosa Days this weekend with our Chinese raffle, 50/50 raffle, and plant sale. Put in a new leech field for the old senior center. Our commodities building will have community bathrooms and laundromat. Leeward invested some money into the senior center which paid for the new septic system. All grants are up to date and we are looking into some great opportunities.

- 5. Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation.

Pulled

- 6. For Possible Action – Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with the AVTB’s management representatives regarding labor negotiations, issues and other personnel matters.

Pulled

- 7. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation on conference with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation presented in closed meeting.

Pulled

- 8. For Possible Action – Discussion and Deliberation to approve, amend or deny minutes from AVTB meeting on March 28, 2024.

Motion: Carolyn Allen

Second: Mike Cottingim

Vote: 4-0 Pass

- 9. For Possible Action – Discussion and Deliberation to approve, amend or deny P.S.S.T. expenditure amount \$125,000 for a 2,000-gallon water tender and advertisement for bids. This is to replace the current tender that is difficult to operate and outdated.

Motion: Carolyn Allen

Second: Brenda Dymond

Vote: 4-0 Pass

Mike Cottingim: There is plenty enough money in the PSST fund to do this.

- 10. For Possible Action – Discussion and Deliberation to approve, amend or deny to form permitted EMS service for Non-Transport Ambulance/QRV. Fiscal Impact: \$1,000 for permit fingerprinting that is required to license the 2014 Ford Expedition as a Quick Response Vehicle.

Motion: Brenda Dymond

Second: Mike Cottingim

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Vote: 4-0 Pass

Bruce Jensen: This is to use the vehicle donated by the Pahrump Valley Fire and register it as a non-transport ambulance for medical services we have been lacking, also opens the door for when we do get an ambulance service.

- 11.** For Possible Action – Discussion and Deliberation to approve, amend or deny NRS.678B.510-3 All cultivation or production of cannabis that a cannabis cultivation facility carries out or causes to be carried out must take place in an enclosed, locked facility at the physical address provided to the Amargosa Valley Town Board during the licensing process for the cannabis cultivation facility. Such an enclosed, locked facility must be accessible only by cannabis establishment agents who are lawfully associated with the cannabis cultivation facility, except that limited access by persons necessary to perform construction or repairs or provide other labor is permissible if such persons are supervised by a cannabis establishment agent.

Motion: Carolyn Allen

Second: Sara Rivers

Vote: 3-0 Pass

Mike Cottingim: Recuses himself from agenda item.

Carolyn Allen: I think access from the fire department is a big thing for me.

Bruce Jensen: I believe NRS takes care of that. They allow us access for inspections and emergencies. I don't think they can stop us from entering.

Dave Hall: Bruce is right on that. In cases of emergency no place can keep first responders out.

- 12.** For Possible Action – Discussion and Deliberation to approve, amend or deny AVTB to request from Nye County Board of Commissioners funding to complete expansion of Town of Amargosa Public Library. Up to \$250,000 to go with the \$750,000 grant that was awarded from the Community Project Fund.

Motion: Brenda Dymond

Second: Mike Cottingim

Vote: 4-0 Pass

Joe Labassorie: By July 1st if we have \$250,000 in matching funds, we will get \$750,000 in grant funds. The BOCC said we needed to come to you first. We were expecting to be in the 2nd tier but we are in the 1st tier and need money by July 1st.

Carolyn Allen: IF this is not from the Community Project Fund, we will need to table this.

Joe Labassorie: If we don't get this passed now, we will not get any money and we won't get the expansion. This is federal money not state money. I need AVTB to approve so I can go before the BOCC. This is off the Senate Bill. We have 90 days and I have no idea if this is 90 days from the pass of the bill or 90 days from July 1st. We don't have the right paperwork for the BOCC yet anyway and we are going to the BOCC as soon as we can.

- 13.** For Possible Action – Discussion and Deliberation to approve, amend or deny Motion: AVTB to issue a letter of support for the Draft Ash Meadows Mineral Withdrawal Boundary Area for the Administrative Mineral Withdrawal that is being proposed for Ash Meadows by the Amargosa Conservancy. Administrative mineral withdrawals do not restrict existing mining operations already occurring on lands managed by the BLM in this area. An administrative mineral

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withdrawal only restricts new mining claims from being filed in a defined area for a period of 20 years.

Motion: Carolyn Allen

Second: Brenda Dymond

Vote: 4-0 Pass

Colette Johnson: What is the boundary for this mineral withdrawal?

Mike Cottingim: Amargosa Valley to Crystal to Johnny to the California Boarder. They have started filing claims in out back yard. We are up against big money.

Judy Faber: I found stakes from Desert Storm to Miner to a ¼ mile down IMV rd. They are mining claims from Rover Metals. You don't Lithium here it destroys the land and town. Lithium depletes all the water to the point where to ground starts to crack. Lithium with Chemicals is airborne and it is highly, highly toxic.

Joe Labassorie: My well has dropped 70ft and I live on that side of town.

Colette Johnson: They are playing fast and furious with semantics trying to screw our valley. I don't think we will have a community if we have an open pit mine here.

Carolyn Allen: We have been working on this for 9 months and have been working with all the agencies. Rover Metals is just one of many. This is why we want this mining withdrawal. What we have managed to put together is some kind of record. We are all on the same page and were not fighting each other. We have to beat Rover to the punch.

Mike Cottingim: IT takes 500,000 gallons of water to process Lithium. They have claims North of Beatty. They plan to brine process the Lithium.

14. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (up to three-minute time limit per person.) Action will not be taken on matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item (FIRST). PLEASE STATE AND SPELL YOUR LAST NAME

Rebecca Lucas: The library is having a Food Festival on May 10-11th all proceeds go to Library expansion project.

15. Board Members Comments (This item is limited to announcements or topic proposed for future workshops/agendas)

Mike Cottingim: Tentative Budget has been submitted and approved. We need a business like the marijuana to come in and pay their fees to make us float.

Brenda Dymond: New signs and brochures for the Town will be out soon.

Carolyn Allen: Senator Cortez Masto on mineral withdrawal all good news and need to put pedal to the metal to get in there first. Devils Hole and Beyond symposium is this weekend. June the Board Meeting change will be 6:30pm not 7pm. Bruce you will be missed and I hope we will find someone as passionate and dedicated as you.

16. Adjourn