



## **Town Council of Mammoth Lakes**

### **Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**April 5, 2023, 4:00 p.m.**

**437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes**

Members Present: Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser,  
Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea,  
Councilmember Amanda Rice

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Councilmember Chris Bubser will be participating remotely from 56 Ainger Road, Flat 4, London, England NW3 3AH.**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes.

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Alisa Mokler Harper led the flag salute.

#### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Alisa Mokler Harper, owner of the Warming Hut restaurant, said that Old Mammoth Road was closed down today during business hours, and she requested communication from the Town regarding road closures ahead of time so that she could plan her business accordingly.

**4. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**5. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONS AND/OR DEPARTMENTS (AS NEEDED)**

Town Manager Daniel C. Holler gave an update regarding the response to the current emergency. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

Councilmember Rea arrived at 4:05 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Director Stuart Brown gave an update regarding current parks and recreation activities. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

**5.1 Did you Know? Update.**

Town Manager Daniel C. Holler outlined information in the Did You Know attachments. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

**6. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

**6.1 Proclamation declaring April 2023 as Fair Housing Month.**

Mayor Wentworth read a portion of the proposed proclamation.

Mammoth Lakes Housing Executive Director Patricia Robertson, speaking on behalf of the Mammoth Lakes Board of Realtors and Mammoth Lakes Housing, spoke in support of the proclamation.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser

Seconded by Councilmember Amanda Rice

Approve the proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**6.2 Proclamation declaring April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.**

Mayor Wentworth read a portion of the proposed proclamation.

Kevin Lian and Michelle Raust, Mono County Office of Education, spoke in support of the proclamation and announced activities taking place in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Moved by Councilmember Amanda Rice  
Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser

Approve the proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**6.3 Proclamation declaring April 2023 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.**

Mayor Wentworth read a portion of the proposed proclamation.

Vanessa Hays, Executive Director for Wild Iris, spoke in support of the proclamation.

Moved by Councilmember Sarah Rea

Approve the proclamation declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**6.4 Update on the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF).**

Stacy Corless, Sierra Business Council Government and Community Affairs Director, Magnolia Barra CERF Project Navigator, and Erica Harvey, Project Director, gave a presentation regarding an update on the Eastern Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF). There was discussion among members of Council and Sierra Business Council staff.

## **7. WORKSHOP**

### **7.1 Joint Meeting with Mammoth Lakes Tourism – Tourism Business Improvement (TBID) Focus.**

Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT) Board President Jeremy Goico, Vice President Pat Foster, Secretary John Mendel, Board Member Eric Clark, and Board Member Bill Sauser were in attendance. MLT Board Members Deb Radcliff and Darlene Magner were absent.

Town Manager Daniel C. Holler outlined the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council, members of the MLT Board, MLT Executive Director John Urdi, consultant John Lambeth from Civitas, and staff regarding the discussion questions.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Dawn Vereuck said that she listened to the MLT meeting and said she was glad to hear their discussion about funding infrastructure. She said that a lot of people in the community did not have a say in the TBID. She outlined her concerns regarding the TBID renewal.

Tom Cage said he answered yes to question number one. He said that he had previously supported the TBID and renewal. He said that he supported the TBID renewal but not for 10 years.

Ron Cohen, Mammoth Mountain, spoke in support of the TBID renewal and the proposed 10-year term.

Alisa Mokler Harper, Warming Hut restaurant, spoke in support of the TBID renewal and the addition of infrastructure funding.

Emily Bryant spoke in support of the TBID renewal and in support of the Town building infrastructure with the extra funding that the TBID provided to the Town.

Mr. Cohen said his business felt the benefit of the TBID. He recommended having small business owner representation on the MLT Board.

Ms. Harper said that there was a need for infrastructure to support visitorship but that the funds should come from the Town and TOT and not the TBID.

Chris, employee at DIY, spoke about her concerns with the DIY building being closed.

The Mayor called a recess at 7:12 p.m. and the Council reconvened at 7:26 p.m.

**8. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser  
Seconded by Councilmember Amanda Rice

Approve the Consent Agenda.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**8.1 Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 15, 2023.**

**8.2 Approve the minutes of the special meeting of March 22, 2023.**

**8.3 Accept the 2022 Annual Planning Report.**

**8.4 Accept Check Register 2/23/2023 in the amount of \$1,483,715.93. Accept Check Register 3/3/2023 in the amount of \$313,443.60. Accept Check Register 3/8/2023 in the amount of \$132,279.23. Accept Check Register 3/16/2023 in the amount of \$1,993,830.66. Accept Check Register 3/23/2023 in the amount of \$61,306.12.**

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**9.1 Consider approval of Zoning Code Amendment 23-001 to update Municipal Code Section 17.52.055, Accessory Dwelling Units, Section 17.52.100 Child Day Care Facilities, and Municipal Code Chapter 17.40, Water Efficient Landscape Regulations including finding the project is exempt from additional environmental analysis pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.3 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.**

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Senior Planner Kim Cooke gave a presentation outlining the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

With no members of the public coming forward to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:42 p.m.

Moved by Councilmember Amanda Rice  
Seconded by Councilmember Sarah Rea

Waive the first reading and introduce by title only the Ordinance making the required CEQA and Municipal Code findings and approving Zoning Amendment 23-001 as recommended by the Planning and Economic Development Commission.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**9.2 Town of Mammoth Lakes Maintenance Community Facilities District (CFD) 2023-1 Formation.**

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:44 p.m.

No written protests were filed with the Town Clerk.

Town Manager Daniel C. Holler outlined the information in the staff report.

With no members of the public coming forward to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:46 p.m.

Moved by Mayor John Wentworth  
Seconded by Councilmember Amanda Rice

Adopt the resolution establishing the formation of a Community Facilities District, authorizing the levy of a special tax, and submitting the levy of a special tax to qualified electors.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

Moved by Mayor John Wentworth  
Seconded by Councilmember Amanda Rice

Adopt the resolution calling a special election for a Community Facilities District.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

Town Clerk Jamie Gray announced the results of the election.

Moved by Mayor John Wentworth  
Seconded by Councilmember Sarah Rea

Adopt the resolution declaring results of a special election and directing the recording of a special tax lien.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

Moved by Mayor John Wentworth  
Seconded by Councilmember Sarah Rea

Waive the first reading and introduce by title only the ordinance authorizing the levy of special taxes in Community Facilities District.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

Moved by Mayor John Wentworth  
Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser

Adopt the resolution declaring the intention to order the detachment of territory from the North Village Benefit Assessment District 2002-2.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**10. POLICY MATTERS**

**10.1 Approve the resolution adopting Town of Mammoth Lakes Legislative Platform.**

Assistant to the Town Manager Pam Kobylarz outlined the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

Moved by Councilmember Amanda Rice  
Seconded by Councilmember Sarah Rea

Approve the resolution adopting the Town of Mammoth Lakes Legislative Platform.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**10.2 Resolution of Intention to Modify the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Business Improvement District Management District Plan.**

Town Manager Daniel C. Holler outlined the information in the staff report.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Executive Director John Urdi outlined the need for the amendment. There was discussion among members of Council and Mr. Urdi.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser  
Seconded by Councilmember Amanda Rice

Adopt the Resolution with the intent to modify the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Business Improvement District (MLTBID) Management District Plan (MDP) to address a recent opinion on the taxability of certain elements of the plan. Adoption of this resolution will result in a public hearing on April 19, 2023 on the Management District Plan.

For (5): Mayor John Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Sauser, Councilmember Chris Bubser, Councilmember Sarah Rea, and Councilmember Amanda Rice

Carried (5 to 0)

**10.3 Update and Council Direction on Management Response to Extreme Weather Emergency.**

Town Manager Daniel C. Holler, Public Works Director Haislip Hayes, Town Attorney Andrew Morris, and Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District Fire Chief Ales Tomaier gave an update regarding the current emergency.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Patricia Robertson, Executive Director of Mammoth Lakes Housing, asked why Mono County and the Town were not included in the federal emergency declaration, and why we have to pay our taxes on time but Inyo and Alpine counties do not. Mr. Holler responded to her questions.

**11. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

Councilmember Rice attended the Mammoth Lakes Housing Board meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Sauser attended the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meeting and met with the Town Manager and FBO Operator Pat Foster at the Mammoth Airport.

Mayor Wentworth met with State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil.

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:45 p.m. the Mayor announced that the Council would be entering into closed session for the purposes as stated on the agenda.

**12.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph 1 of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Name of case: Main Street Taxpayer Association v. Town of Mammoth Lakes (Case No. : 23UCM82)**

**12.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph 1 of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Name of case: Stephanie Thompson. v. Town of Mammoth Lakes (Case No: 23UCM14)**

**13. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN AFTER CLOSED SESSION**

The Council reconvened from closed session at 8:55 p.m. and announced that there was no reportable action taken.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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Jamie Gray, Town Clerk