



Town Council of Mammoth Lakes
Minutes of Regular Meeting

June 18, 2025, 4:00 p.m.
437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes

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

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Janet Hatfield led the flag salute.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Betsy Truax, Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT) Vice President of Community Engagement, gave an update regarding upcoming MLT events.

David Eichman, Interim Director of the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce, gave an update regarding current Chamber activities.

Pat Foster, Hot Creek Aviation, announced that he brokered a deal with the Bishop Flying Club to base an airplane in Mammoth for rent to learn to fly.

Trails Program Manager Andrew Mulford gave an update regarding the Sherwins Area Recreation Plan.

Stacy Corless outlined her concerns regarding the proposal in the federal budget reconciliation bill to make public lands eligible for sale to balance the federal budget. She urged the Town Council to communicate with federal leaders about the negative effects this proposal would have on our area.

Ann Gimpel said that she agreed with Ms. Corless.

Carrie Guerriero said that she agreed with Ms. Corless.

4. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined the need for the addition of an urgency item. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice, seconded by Councilmember John Wentworth, and carried by a 5-0 vote that, pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2b2, the Council hereby determines that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the Town subsequent to the agenda being posted as specified in subdivision a, said item being

Federal Land sell off proposal.

Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined potential items to be addressed in a letter to our federal legislators. There was discussion among members of Council

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ann Gimpel said that there were impacts to public lands all around us so we should coordinate with area partners on our response.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice

Seconded by Councilmember John Wentworth

Direct staff to draft a letter signed by the Mayor in opposition to any federal land sale and to be forwarded to our federal representatives.

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

Carried (5 to 0)

There was discussion among members of Council.

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

Parks and Recreation Director Stuart Brown handed out the new Summer Recreation Guide and gave an update regarding current parks and recreation activities.

Airport Operations Manager Soibian Spring gave an update regarding current activities at the Airport.

Town Manager Rob Patterson said that Forest Service staff requested that the Town fund the Forest Service contracts for pumping out the vault toilets on federal lands in our area. Mr. Patterson said that he approved the request and used Camp Like a Pro funds and Town funds to pay for the services. There was discussion among members of Council, staff, and Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District Fire Chief Ales Tomaier.

Janet Hatfield, Whitebark Institute Resilience Program Director, gave an update regarding the status of their forest thinning projects around our area. There was discussion among members of Council, Ms. Hatfield, and Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District Fire Chief Ales Tomaier.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember John Wentworth
Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice

Approve the Consent Agenda.

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

Carried (5 to 0)

6.1 Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 4, 2025.

6.2 Approve the Resolution Adopting the Amended Town of Mammoth Lakes Sustainable Purchasing and Practices Policy.

6.3 Approve the resolution authorizing the temporary closure of certain Town roads for the Fourth of July Parade and Freedom Mile Run on July 4, 2025.

6.4 Accept the Project Closeout Report for S.H.A.R.P. (Sherwins Area Recreation Plan) Trailhead Facilities Project.

6.5 Accept the Project Closeout Report for the Childcare Center Project.

6.6 Award Architectural and Consultant Design Services Contract for the Childcare Center Tenant Improvement (TI) project to HMC Architects.

6.7 Accept Check Register 6/12/25 in the amount of \$1,220,891.97.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.1 Town of Mammoth Lakes Fiscal Year 2025-26 Master Fee Schedule Update.

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 5:21 p.m.

Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined 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 5:27 p.m.

Moved by Councilmember John Wentworth

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice

Adopt the resolution establishing and updating a master schedule of fees and charges for Town services for FY25-26.

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

Carried (5 to 0)

7.2 Approval of Appropriations Limit, Investment Policy, Reserve Policy, Debt Policy, and Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 5:28 p.m.

Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council, staff, and Mammoth Lakes Tourism Executive Director John Urdi.

With no members of the public coming forward to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:23 p.m.

There was discussion among members of Council.

Moved by Councilmember John Wentworth
Seconded by Councilmember Bill Sauser

Adopt a resolution establishing the Town of Mammoth Lakes appropriations limit for Fiscal Year 25-26. Adopt a resolution reaffirming the Town of Mammoth Lakes Investment Policy for Fiscal Year 25-26. Adopt a resolution reaffirming the Town of Mammoth Lakes Reserve Policy for Fiscal Year 25-26. Adopt a resolution reaffirming the Town of Mammoth Lakes Debt Policy for Fiscal Year 25-26. Adopt a resolution approving the Annual Budget for the Town of Mammoth Lakes for Fiscal Year 25-26, as presented.

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

Carried (5 to 0)

The Mayor called a recess at 6:26 p.m. and the Council reconvened at 6:31 p.m.

8. POLICY MATTERS

8.1 Agreement with Mammoth Lakes Performing Arts Foundation to administer an endowment to support operations and management of the Performing Arts Facility.

Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jo Bacon, Secretary of the Mammoth Lakes Performing Arts Foundation, offered to answer questions from Council. She announced the names of the Board of the Foundation.

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

Approve the agreement with the Mammoth Lakes Performing Arts Foundation to perform fundraising efforts for and administer an endowment fund to support operations and maintenance of the McCoy Arts and Cultural Center (MACC), pending final legal review by Mammoth Lakes Performing Arts Foundation Board or legal representation.

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

Carried (5 to 0)

8.2 Consideration of the Ordinance adopting the State Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Community and Economic Development Director Nolan Bobroff and Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District Division Chief Mike McCarthy outlined the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice
Seconded by Councilmember John Wentworth

Waive the first reading and introduce by title only an ordinance adopting the State Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps for the Town of Mammoth Lakes and finding that the ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15378 because the activity is not considered to be a project.

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

Carried (5 to 0)

8.3 Consider an extension to the Lease to Locals program operated under contract with Placemate and the commitment of a maximum \$30,000 in additional administrative fees.

Community and Economic Development Director Nolan Bobroff and Isaac Landman, Placemate, outlined the information in the staff report. There was discussion among members of Council and staff.

Moved by Councilmember John Wentworth
Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice

Approve an amendment to the Placemate contract to extend the operating term of the Lease to Locals program to December 31, 2025, and to commit a maximum of \$30,000 in additional administrative fees, which will

be paid out on a performance-based structure of \$1,667 per property that enters the Lease to Locals program during the extended term.

For (3): Mayor Chris Bubser, Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Rice, and Councilmember John Wentworth

Against (2): Councilmember Bill Sauser, and Councilmember Brent Truax

Carried (3 to 2)

9. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Wentworth attended the SHARP trailhead ribbon cutting ceremony, the California Natural Resources Agency leadership recreation focused meeting in Sacramento, and the meeting of the Governing Council of the Sierra Jobs First Collaborative.

Mayor Pro Tem Rice attended Kidapalooza.

Councilmember Truax attended the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting, his daughter's graduation, the Mono County Supervisor's meeting, the Al Davis memorial, and the opening for public swim at Whitmore Pool.

Mayor Bubser attended the LAFCO meeting, the first Trashy Thursday, the SNARL lectures, and Eastern Sierra Pride events held at Canyon Lodge.

10. CLOSED SESSION

10.1 Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6.(a), Conference with Labor Negotiators, the Council will meet with its representatives, Town Manager Rob Patterson, Community and Economic Development Director Nolan Bobroff, and Human Resources Manager Amanda Pelham with respect to the following Employee Organizations: Mammoth Lakes Police Officers Association and the Mammoth Lakes Supervisory Association.

At 7:23 p.m. the Mayor announced that the Council would be entering into closed session for the purposes as stated in the agenda.

11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN AFTER CLOSED SESSION

The Council reconvened from closed session at 7:50 p.m. and announced that there was no reportable action taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Jamie Gray, Town Clerk