

CITY OF MONTE VISTA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers – 95 W. 1st Avenue

Monte Vista City Council met in regular session on the above date and time in Council Chambers located at 95 W. 1st Avenue, Monte Vista, Colorado.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Becker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DJ Enderle led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilor Howard led the prayer

C. ROLL CALL

Members present: Mayor Dale Becker, Councilor Loren Howard and Councilor Martha Lock, Councilor Jason Lorenz appeared by zoom and Mayor Pro Tem Victor Sigala was excused. A quorum was declared.

Staff present: City Manager Gigi Dennis, City Attorney Gene Farish, Deputy City Clerk Lorena Gallegos, Recreation Director Dervin Taylor, Ski Hi Manager Stephanie Ruybal, and Planner DJ Enderle

D. MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA - None

E. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting March 2, 2023
2. Review and Approval of Accounts Payable

Councilor Howard moved to approve the consent agenda and the review and approval of accounts payable, Councilor Lock seconded, motion carried unanimously.

F. PROCLAMATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Letter of Intent from BJ Bumgardner to serve on the Planning & Zoning Board

Councilor Howard moved to approve the appointment of BJ Bumgardner to the Planning & Zoning Board, Councilor Lock seconded, motion carried unanimously.

2. Letter of Intent from Sandra Varner to serve on the URA

Councilor Howard moved to approve the appointment of Sandra Varner to the URA, Councilor Lock seconded, motion carried unanimously.

3. Letter of Intent from Cameron Roberts to serve on the URA

Councilor Howard moved to approve the appointment of Cameron Roberts to the URA, Councilor Lock seconded, motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to allow for Unita Vance to sit on the URA as voting member – There was discussion on whether or not this would follow the statute and asked for City Attorney Gene Farish to look into it.

Councilor Lock moved to approve the appointment of Unita Vance to the URA pending Mr. Farishs research, Councilor Howard seconded, motion carried with a three to one vote, Councilor Lorenz voting no.

G. CITIZEN COMMENTS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Citizen Comments - None

2. Scheduled Appearances - None

- a. Monte Vista Mini Cheerleaders preformed for City Council. The Cheerleaders is part of the Recreation program and directed by parents.
- b. Vali 3 Theater – Buffalo Broadcasting, Bob Richards
- c. Vali 3 Theater – Nazarene Church, Barb Sears

Bob Richards with Buffalo Broadcasting and Barb Sears with the Nazarene Church presented their RFPs for the Vali 3 Theater. Council discussed the presentations and would like to soak in the presentation and make their decision at the next Council meeting. Mayor Becker stated that he would like for staff to get the information out to the public and get public comment for the next meeting.

Councilor Howard moved to have Planner DJ Enderle to move forward with the IGA with Willdan for the water, Councilor Lock seconded, motion carried unanimously.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

I. LICENSES/LIQUOR RENEWALS - None

J. RESOLUTIONS - None

K. ORDINANCES - None

L. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/LEASES

1. Willdan IGA - Planner DJ Enderle stated to Council that after the work session with Willdan he is asking if Council wants to move forward. Mr. Enderle stated that he would like to see the water side move forward but hold off on the electrical after speaking to Councilor Howard, who has extensive knowledge with solar and electric. City Manager Gigi Dennis stated that at this time we owe Willdan nothing but once we go under contract and if we back out then we would owe them for any work completed, this is one reason we would like to split it up and work just on the water right now.

M. RECEIVE AND APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORTS - None

N. STAFF PROPOSALS, REPORTS, AND ACTIONS

1. Recreation – Director Dervin Taylor and Ski Hi Manager Stephanie Ruybal stated that they only received on bid on the basketball courts and would like to reject the bid and look for other alternative. City Manager Gigi Dennis stated that there could possibly be several groups that would like to build a building for just recreation and the courts could be the Cities contribution with Councils approval. Mr. Taylor stated that private citizens are looking to do this and asked for DJ Enderle to explain. Mr. Enderle is spoke as a citizen not the City Planner and stated that several of the traveling sports groups, basketball, wrestling and others are looking at purchasing the old boys and girls club building and looking for a 10% matching grant through a 501 (c)3 that would help with this project. Councilor Lorenz is concerned about rejecting the bid will continue the process and we may not have another bid. Councilor Howard stated that

Councilor Howard moved to reject the bids for the basketball courts and look for other alternatives, Councilor Lock seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor continued with his staff report, reporting on the sports that are currently in progress and also stated that they will have youth soccer and that he is looking to expand the recreation program with, line dancing and Zumba.

2. Ski Hi – Director Stephanie Ruybal reported on the events at Ski Hi and reported that there were approximately 3000 people over a three-day period for Crane Fest including 120 vendors. Ms. Ruybal stated that they will be hosting the Rocky Mountain Southern Regional Wrestling Tournament. Ms. Ruybal stated they ended February with 44 events and March is scheduled for 48 events. Ms. Ruybal also stated that they will be holding a homeland security training.
 3. Planning – Planner DJ Enderle stated that he is currently working on updating the ordinance for the new building code, the nuisance code and dangerous building code. Mr. Enderle also stated that the Planning & Zoning meeting on March 23, 2023 will be cancelled. Mr. Enderle also reported on the URA.
 4. City Attorney – Mr. Farish reported on his work with council and with the municipal courts. Mr. Farish stated that the city needs to have a backup judge when Judge Zollars is not available. Mr. Farish has also attended the COG meeting and they are working on an IGA for the cities. Mr. Farish is working with City Planner DJ Enderle on updating the codes and feels that this is where a lot of his time will be spent in the next few months.
 5. City Manager – Gigi Dennis reported on the water lease that was put into place earlier this week and these are some of the high lights.
- City executed a water lease with the Rio Grande Water Conservation District to sell the District excess water owned by the City that is currently stored in Rio Grande Reservoir. This is water that the City does not immediately need (because we have contracts with two sub districts to meet our augmentation obligations), so at Council Member Lorenz's suggestion we pursued a lease.
 - Timing was critical because the District needs to finalize annual replacement plans for each of its sub districts by April 1. So in order to make this usable for the District this year, we needed to get an agreement in place.
 - It was also necessary to incorporate the lease into our annual substitute water supply plan renewal to the Division of Water Resources (DWR) and before the irrigation season, which is when we can store additional Anderson Ditch Water in the reservoir.
 - The agreement is for a one-time sale of 260 acre-feet of water, to be transferred from the City's storage account to the District's storage account in the reservoir.
 - The District is paying the City \$250 per acre-foot, for a total of \$65,000. This will be paid in two lump sum payments on a schedule in the coming months. For context: this price per AF is at the high end of the range of lease rates that we have seen recently in the Valley, and is the same as a recent lease between the District and Town of Del Norte.

- The District cannot use the water until approved by DWR under our substitute water supply plan request, which we submitted to DWR yesterday. We expect that will be approved by late April.

Mrs. Dennis gave them permission to execute the lease and move forward. Mrs. Dennis thanked the Crane Festival for a fantastic job and thanks to the Ski Hi staff for all the work they do. Mrs. Dennis stated that the One Cent Committee that was appointed by Council is also supposed to have one member of the Council to sit on the board, Councilor Howard has volunteered to sit on the board. Mrs. Dennis talked about the CML Conference and that it is in the budget for all Council members to attend. Mrs. Dennis also thanked Bob and Barb for the Vali 3 Theater presentations.

O. COUNCIL COMMITTEE, CITY COMMISSION AND COUNCILOR REPORTS

1. Councilor Lock stated that the Crane Fest was spectacular and was impressed with how many people attended. Councilor Lock thanked Mr. Taylor for finding the mini cheerleaders a home and other programs that he is working on. Councilor Lock stated that she likes seeing all the diversity of the meetings that are being taken place. Councilor Lock also stated that she would like to see more teeth in removing the vehicles from the downtown when events are taking place. Councilor Lock then stated that she is happy with the way the zoom is working.
2. Councilor Howard stated that the Vali 3 Theaters presentations were both great and is a hard choice. Councilor Howard thanked staff for all that they do.
3. Mayor Becker stated that he is thankful that we have the zoom access that it is a help when it is needed to make a quorum. Mayor Becker also thanked Bob and Barb for the great Vali 3 presentations. Crane Festival was a great event and thanked staff at Ski Hi for a great job that they do with the events. As always "Monte Strong".

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Q. RECESSED & ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING – Recessed

Attest:

Dale Becker, Mayor

Unita Vance, City Clerk