

TOWN OF MERINO

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date March 11, 2024 | Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM | Meeting called to order by Carol Nye

In Attendance

Carol Nye Ken Salmon Craig Cook Adam Krier Chad Wettstein
Garie County Bob Jones – late arrival 7:09
Guests in attendance were Steve Curtis, Sheila Hewitt, and Dan Wiebers

Approval of Agenda, Minutes and Bills

Agenda was reviewed and approved by all in attendance. Ken made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Ken 1st Adam 2nd Passed.

February 12, 2024, minutes were reviewed and approved by all in attendance. Chad made a motion to accept the February 12th minutes as presented. Chad 1st Ken 2nd Passed.

Last meeting's minutes for February 26, 2024, were reviewed and approved by all in attendance. Ken made a motion to accept the February 26th minutes. Ken 1st Adam 2nd Passed.

Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved by all in attendance. Craig made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Craig 1st Chad 2nd Passed.

Approval of Bills: Adam made a motion to pay the bills as stated. Adam 1st Craig 2nd Roll Call Carol-yes Ken-yes Craig-yes Adam-yes Chad-yes Garie-yes Passed.

Payments by checks:

Colorado Analytical	\$62.00	KCI	\$95.28
Makai Water	\$10,146.00	Marick's Waste Disposal	\$45.00
Marsau's	\$226.95	Northeast CO Health Dept.	\$20.00
Shipping and Stuff LLC	\$289.63	Sportdecals	\$483.15
UNCC	\$3.87	USABlueBook	\$301.10
Williamson Lowery Fredregill	\$336.00		
	Total		\$12,008.98

Expenditures:

Xcel Energy	\$981.91	Xcel Energy	\$558.52
Xcel Energy	\$888.31		
	Total		\$ 2,428.74
	Grand Total		\$14,437.72

Payroll Approval of Employee Time Sheets: Chad made a motion to accept the payroll as presented. Chad 1st Ken 2nd Roll Call: Carol-yes Ken-yes Craig-yes Adam-yes Chad-yes Garie-abstained Passed.

Committee Reports

- Water/Sewer Report- Terry reported that the sanitary survey was received from the state. Drinking water information will be sent out with the water bills. Corrections will be made by July 4th, 2024. Carol presented a graph sample for the board to review for future use.
- Fire Department Report- Chief Dan Wiebers reported that the MVFD received a new ISO rating of 5/10. They are still working on the Willard truck; the pump was dropped off in Nebraska to be rebuilt and Marsau's is going to tune up the engine. He still hasn't heard anything from Ford about the F550 with the bad motor. They will be meeting with the Rural Fire Protection board next week and might have some news then. Dan also reported that he and the assistant fire chief will try to get the fire pension check for Mark taken care of and supply the town with a record of the 2023 payment. Carol reported that she is working on getting the pension account moved to be managed by a third party.
- Streets/Alleys Report – Ken reported that the town hadn't received the dirt that was approved in the February 12th meeting. It was also reported that there are a few alleys that have a lot of holes that need to be filled with dirt. Carol said the hole by Faith Tabernacle Church needs to be filled when the dirt is delivered. Ken also brought to the board's attention that there is a hole in the pavement on the southeast corner of Logan Avenue and County Road 25 that Logan County needs to have repaired. Carol said that she would contact the County.
- Clerks Reports – Pam reported that there was an issue with a Community Center rental where they didn't clean everything that is required, but no damage deposit was received. Carol said that if we get a damage deposit from everyone else then anyone renting the facility should pay a damage deposit. Pam also presented a letter to the board for the opportunity to donate to Baby Bear Hugs. The board thinks it is a worthy cause, but if they donate to one group, then they would need to donate to all groups, and it may not be possible to spend tax money to donate. So, the board declined. She also asked the board about putting a reconnect time frame on the disconnect letter for past due accounts. They said that it could be added to the notice.
Terry reported that her items are on the agenda.

Old Business

- Water/Sewer Project Update – Terry reported that she and Carol are still working on getting the books straightened out for USDA approval. They will be meeting with the Auditor and Accountant on Friday to reconcile the books. Terry also said that she is working on the Federal report for the American Recovery money.
- Election Items –
 - Mayoral Election – April 2, 2024
 - Meet the Candidates Meeting – Terry reported that both Carol and Sheila agreed to meet on March 21st from 6-8 pm at the Community Center. It will be posted around town and in the newsletter.
 - Sales Tax Fund – November 2024 Ballot-Terry reported that she hasn't heard anything from the lawyer on this item and will contact her again.
- KCI Agreement Recommended Lawyer – Carol reported that Russell Sprague was recommended to her and she left a message for him to call her. Dan Wiebers let Carol know that KCI sold to Garden Valley Cooperative Telephone out of Minnesota and will keep the registered trademark name of KCI.
- Noise Ordinance Second Reading – Carol read Ordinance 2024-2. It will be published in the newspaper and becomes effective 30 days after the posting. Adam made a motion to accept Ordinance 2024-2 as

read. Adam 1st Craig 2nd Roll Call: Carol-yes Ken-yes Craig-yes Adam-yes Chad-yes Garie-no Bob-no Passed with majority vote.

- Fence Ordinance Second Reading – Carol read Ordinance 2024-1. Ken made a motion to accept 2024-1 Ordinance as read. Ken 1st Bob 2nd Roll Call: Carol-yes Ken-yes Craig-yes Adam-no Chad-no Garie-no Bob-yes Passed with majority vote.
- Annex of Property by Hwy 6 Update – Carol reported that she spoke to Rob Quint and he said that the town would need to work with the attorney to get this done. The board discussed why the city limit sign for Merino is farther out than where the city limit lies. A board member said that the State came to move the speed limit signs out to slow incoming traffic and they moved the city limit sign also.
- Spring Cleanup Date – Pam reported that she spoke to Marick's and they said they can do Town Cleanup on April 12th. Pam will call Marick's about the Town Cleanup fee and the guidelines.
- Public Place for Donations Update – Pam reported to the board that she met with a Family Resource Center representative to learn more about the program. People have been leaving items outside of the post office and the postmaster asked if the town could do something to help prevent this from happening. After much discussion the board decided to have Pam send a letter to the local churches to see if they were interested in starting the project and managing it with community assistance.
- Letter to Judy Erickson on Camper – Terry reported that she had updated the letter with what the board wanted. Ken made a motion to accept the letter to Judy Erickson about the camper stating the town's ordinances. Ken 1st Adam 2nd Passed.
- Letter to Curt Hutchison on Bill – Pam reported that she had two letters and had received some more information to include, so she will update them and send them out with the water bills.
- MVFD Pension Options – This item was reported in the Fire Department Report.
- Meter Readers – Ken said that the board needed to make some guidelines about how the meters are installed. He said that some of them readers are laying on the ground, some of them are in the pits, and some you can't find. The town board talked about having Jeremiah install remote readers two feet from the ground on the post by each water pit in the subdivision. The board also talked about using remote readers at some residences in town.

Executive Session

No executive session was needed.

New Business

- Rental House Water Heater – Ken reported that when the propane was delivered, the delivery man tried to light the pilot light on the water heater, but the mice had chewed through the wires, and it wouldn't light. The furnace wouldn't light either. Both are old and might need to be replaced. The board said that they will look at replacing them after the remodel is further along.
- Damage Deposits for Political Meetings – This item was covered in the Clerk's Report.

Board Discussion Items

Items discussed by the board: The board discussed the street by Faith Tabernacle Church. They seemed to think the street was more domed when they put in the cement at the church. Now the road is spread out and causing a water issue in the parking area. The road used to be lower around the cement. Ken asked what the board wanted to do with the mosquito sprayer. The board said it was too expensive to fix.

Public Discussion Items

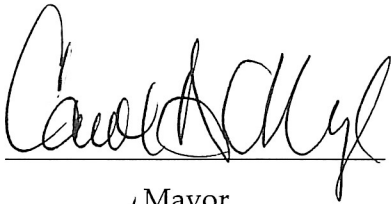
Comments from the Public: Steve asked about the limb pile on the town property and if the fire department was going to be able to burn it soon. Dan Wiebers said he would get some volunteers to help burn it.

Steve also asked if the town could get some gravel to put in the alleys. He thinks it will take about three loads to start with and possibly another three. The board said to put it on the March 25th agenda.

Adjournment

Date: March 11, 2024, at Merino Town Hall

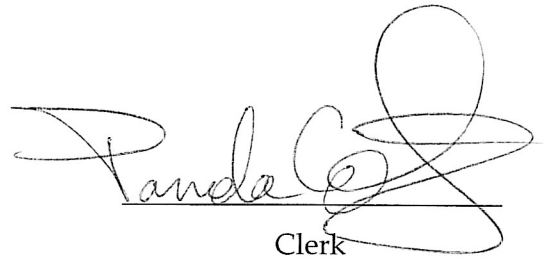
Motion to adjourn was made at 8:33PM by Adam and seconded by Chad and was passed unanimously.



Mayor

4/8/24

Date



Clerk

4-8-24

Date

