



**Town of Alpine**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

\*\* Minutes are a brief summery only of a tape recorded meeting \*\*

**DATE:** *June 30, 2010*  
**TIME:** *7:00 p.m.*

**PLACE:** *Town Hall*  
**TYPE:** *Regular Meeting*

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Victoria DeCora called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
  - (a) Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor DeCora led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  
2. **Roll Call:** Office Assistant Christine Wagner conducted roll call: Present: Troy Johnson, Don Jorgensen and Mayor Victoria DeCora. Absent and excused were Shirley Brown and Beau Taylor. A quorum was established. Also in attendance was Town Administrator Deb Wolfley.
  
3. **New Business:**
  - (a) **#202 Ordinance No. 2010 – 04 ~ New Budget – Town of Alpine General Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** –Mayor reviewed for the public the changes that were made from the previous reading. They were items changed in the general budget were increasing the Alpine Fire Department budget to forty-five (45) thousand dollars, the council decided to eliminated one (1) administrative salary and benefits; eliminate one (1) police officer position and benefits, after September 30, 2010; eliminate Town Administrator position after four hundred sixteen hours (416) hours and Town Council meeting will reduce to one (1) meeting per month. Councilman Johnson addressed the public on the income and expenditures for the Town Business licenses. Stating that the income will go towards advertising for the business in the Town. Council reviewed and discussed the items on the proposed budget for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Councilman Jorgensen commented that he would like to see the Fire Department get the forty-eight (48) thousand that they asked for, he has stated his position on this issue previously and that position still stands. Town Administrator asked the Council to consider increasing the hours for the part-time office staff to twenty-five (25) hours per week. The thought of out-sourcing some jobs to free up the staff for the increase in workload. The jobs to be out sourced would be payroll and water/sewer monthly billing. Town Administrator also discussed the snow removal contract, which they are still working on the performance bond issues. Councilman Johnson commented that reduction in the contract would go to the Fire Department. Council discussed the figures for out-sourcing of the payroll and water/sewer billing. Mayor DeCora asked Councilman Jorgensen if he had any other suggestions for the budget. Councilman Jorgensen commented that he has made his recommendations known to the Council regarding the Town Administrator position. Council discussed this. Mayor DeCora commented that the budget has been cut down as far as it can possible get cut down.

Public Comments: Mr. Kennis Lutz asked if the deficit from the previous year (2009/2010) has been addressed in this budget. Mayor DeCora commented that at this point it has not been addressed. Mr. Lutz stated that you have to work with the real numbers. Mayor DeCora commented that the deficit has got to come out of the reserves and after this next year there will be pretty much no reserves left after this year. Mr. Lutz further addressed the snow removal contract that needs to be re-addressed. Mr. Lutz and Council discussed this subject, addressing that this council cannot bind a new administration into an existing contract. A snow removal contract for fall 2011 will have to be re-bid. (Refer to audio for complete details.) Discussion on the revenue and expense budget and monies that are deposited in the balance sheet for reserves, in which are to cover the water/sewer reserves as requested by the State.

Ms. Marilyn Perkins commented on the budget, asking why there is a raise in advertising, dues/memberships and business and community development. She further asked why the Council would dismiss all the years of service by one (1) employee, who has work hard on grants, town projects and is very knowledgeable in all the office functions. She feels those years of

service would have priority over the other employees! Councilman Johnson addressed the budget line items for advertising and dues/memberships; by stating the advertising costs were increased because of the business license requirements and putting those monies back into promoting the town; that would come out the advertising line items and continuing memberships also to promote the town. As for increasing the business and community development he will have to look into that item. Mayor DeCora commented that the Council was faced with some very difficult decisions, salaries and benefits are some of the biggest costs to the town, the release of the administrative staff was due to the fact that employee was the highest paid employee, the Council had to removed the human element from the situation and made the decision.

Mr. Bryan Pack asked the Council for some figures regarding the reduction of the snow removal contract. Council discussed the reduction with regards to the performance bond. Mr. Pack further discussed the proposed budget for the Fire Department regarding the fire truck payment. Council discussed this; Mr. Pack reiterated to the Council they are also working on their budget and they have to figure out their budget for the year with this money. The forty-eight (48) thousand is where they are going to have to be. If that is not the case he does not know how long this service will be able to continue. He further commented that he does not know what happens to the municipality if the town can no longer provide Fire and EMS services to the Town.

Ms. Terri Potter commented on the proposed cut as stated earlier in the month by Mr. Deb Wolfley (Town Administrator) to the amount of a seventy (70) percent cut. This was stated to the department twice! That is why they are here. She further stated she tried to discuss this issue with the Council in a private way, this was pushed back in her face, that it was not the truth. Forty eight (48) is what they agree upon and what we are asking for and is what they want. They are volunteers and can walk away with not liability.

Mr. Tony Scaffide commented to the Council that it seems that the department is hard nosed on this issue, Council body language speaks volumes, he knows that this is frustrating, it is just as frustrating for them as well. They **ALSO** are taking the human element out of this! They are running this department and they are going to run it safe, or it won't run. They will do it when it is politically inconvenient for anyone that has politics involved. Councilman Jorgensen commented on the amount of funds that the Town of Star Valley Ranch just gave the Thayne Fire/EMS services in the amount of sixty two (62) thousand dollars.

Ms. Marilyn Perkins reiterated her comments on the business and community development budget line item. That could be a place to reduce funds and increase the fire/ems budget. If we do not have a fire department we will not have a business and community development. Do you really feel comfortable reducing the salaries, taking the human element out of it, dismissing the experience alone on what that one person can give with experience from the many years of service; she feels that is a major mistake!

Council discussed budget issues determinations were made where items could be cut. Business and Community development should be lowered to seven (7) thousand; work on the snow removal contract bonding issues; out-sourcing payroll and water/sewer billing only if it is done locally; increasing the part time staff to twenty five (25) hours per week and raising the Fire department budget to forty eight (48) thousand dollars.

**Councilman Johnson motioned to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of #202 Ordinance No. 2010 – 04 ~ New Budget – Town of Alpine General Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011 with the changes discussed this evening. Councilman Jorgensen seconded the motion.**

**Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 2 absent (Brown & Taylor). Motion carried.**

**Councilman Johnson motion to recess the regular public meeting at 7:53 pm and move into executive session pursuant to Wyoming State Statutes, Section 16-4-405 (a) (ii).**

**Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 2 absent (Brown & Taylor). Motion carried.**

Mayor DeCora reconvened the public meeting at 8:21 pm.

**Councilman Johnson motioned to ratify decisions made in executive session. Councilman Jorgensen seconded the motion.**

**Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 2 absent (Brown & Taylor). Motion carried.**

**Councilman Jorgensen motioned to adjourn the public meeting. Councilman Johnson seconded the motion.**

**Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 2 absent (Brown & Taylor). Motion carried.**

Mayor DeCora adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.



*Victoria DeCora*  
Victoria DeCora, Mayor

7-8-2010  
Date

Minutes taken and transcribed by:

*Christine Wagner*  
Christine Wagner

7/13/10  
Date

ATTEST:

*Teresa Miller*

Clerk/Treasurer

7/13/10  
Date