

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 4, 2010**

The Monte Vista City Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 4, 2010, at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 4 Chico Camino, Monte Vista, CO.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Medina called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilor Almquist led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Members present were Mayor Jose "Art" Medina, Councilor Lynn Sandusky, Councilor Jay Almquist, Councilor Debbie Garcia and Councilor Rose Wilson. Record to indicate a quorum was present.

Others present were City Manager Don Van Wormer, City Attorney Eugene Farish, Community Development Director Alisha Reis, Acting Chief of Police Rick Needham, City Clerk Rhonda Valdez, member of the press and guests.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. The Consent Agenda consisted of the February 18, 2010 Council Minutes and Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Comments/ Special Presentations**

City Manager Van Wormer – We concluded our search for a Police Chief and Rick Needham has rose above in all categories, and I would like Council's confirmation on my choice. Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to confirm the appointment of Rick Needham as the Chief of Police. Motion carried unanimously. Chief Needham – Thank you. It's a great honor and I'm looking forward to the challenge.

Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Garcia seconded, to appoint Gayla Lobato to the Board of Adjustment. Motion carried unanimously.

**Commission Reports/Recommendations**

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to approve the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the Special Review application submitted by Tommy Cantor to place a Manufactured Home Class A at 1705 Newcomb Avenue based on the finding of fact that the plan: complies with all requirements imposed by this article and with all applicable written rules; is consistent with the objectives and purposes of the city's master plan; and is designed to be compatible with surrounding land uses. Motion carried unanimously.

**Licenses/Liquor Renewal**

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Garcia seconded, to approve the Monte Vista Golf Club 3.2 Percent Beer Retail License renewal. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Sandusky seconded, to approve the Report of Changes on the Monte Vista Golf Club liquor license to replace Matthew Deacon with Michelle R David as Director. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Contracts/Agreements/Leases**

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to approve the Grant Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration to install the airport beacon, phase I. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Citizen Comments**

Mayor Medina – I passed citizen comments; now is the time to approach City Council if you would like. Jose Zamora – I have a question for yourself or for anyone on City Council, you have already approved your budget, define “miscellaneous” for me. Last year, you had \$10,000 and now it jumped to \$52,000, it would fall under operating expenditures. Councilor Garcia – The budget workshop is open to the public and the Finance Director Debbie Phillips gives about a 3 hour presentation and explains everything. I’m sure we can find the answer for you; Debbie Phillips does a very good job of explaining everything. Councilor Wilson – I believe we had \$40,000 put aside for a GIS system for the infrastructure, and we put that aside in miscellaneous so we would have the funds when we needed them, we had something else. . .and we put that aside for when we needed it. Does that kind of help you? Mr. Zamora – What you said could be one item, when “miscellaneous” comes up, it should be broke down. Thank you. Mayor Medina – The One Percent Committee appointments will be at our next meeting in March.

### **Reports**

City Manager Van Wormer –CML sent out a letter of inquiry to municipalities to discuss how to deal with railroads, this will take place on March 24, 2010. In the fall of last year the City of Monte Vista and City of Alamosa were going to work with Alamosa County to use some leftover funds to do a housing assessment. The contract expired and those funds were no longer available. However, DOLA and the Department of Housing have been able to free up funds, and working with Alamosa County on an existing contract, to do an in-depth housing assessment study in the amount of \$52,029 for Monte Vista and Alamosa. The Governor’s Energy Office will be meeting here Friday, March 12, 2010, from 10:00 AM-Noon at the Information Center. The topic will be What is Main Street Energy Initiative: Tuesday 7:00 AM, I have a meeting with Upper Rio Grande EDC; Wednesday 3:00 PM at Eugene’s office; Eugene, Randy and I will meet with Colorado Water Conservation Board, and I have a Health Board Meeting on Tuesday.

Chief Needham –(In comparison from February of this year to February of last year)burglaries are up. We had 5 this year and we had an arrest in one case; last year, we had none. Assaults we had 1 last year; this year, we had 3 and one was a serious assault and that one is still under investigation. Domestic violence is the same, at 7 this year, as well as last year. Sex assaults zero this year; we had 2 last year DUI are up by 4 for this

year, last year, we had 7. We had 130 calls for service this year; last year, we had 80 - that is up substantially.

Councilor Almquist – I have taken the time to walk the streets downtown and talk with the merchant owners this past week, letting them know who I am and I believe it was very positive.

Councilor Sandusky – I am the event chair for the Relay for Life and we are bringing it to the Monte Vista High School (football field), and it goes from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM. I want the city to know we will have cars parked at the high school. We will notify the neighbors that live close to the high school that we will be playing music, we will have the lights on, we will be walking all night long.

Councilor Wilson – The URA met and we have a little bit of money in our URA checking account, and Marilyn the president of the URA asked if we could buy paint and paint the outside of the Monte Vista Journal building. We are looking for approval to buy the paint. Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Sandusky seconded, to purchase paint (from the URA checking account) to spruce up the old Monte Vista Journal building. Motion carried unanimously. Councilor Wilson – It will be a few months before we will actually do the painting, when it warms up outside and it will all be done by volunteers.

Councilor Garcia – Fast Friends swap meet is this Saturday, and I would encourage everyone to attend. The public hearing for the chickens was cancelled.

Mayor Medina - Fast Friends use the funds strictly for kids that are terminally ill to help them with expenses. I attended a meeting with the National League of Cities. Everyone is hurting for money, the state is hurting for money and they are concentrating on more jobs, they did talk about affordable housing and how that can stimulate jobs.

Councilor Garcia – The Monte Vista School District is also hurting for money, they are looking at cutting \$650,000 from their budget next year, so they are looking at the possibility of a 4- day school week.

### **Executive Session**

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to go into executive session for a conference with the City Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b); for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e); to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of real, personal, or other property interested under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(a). Motion carried unanimously.

### **Upon adjournment from Executive Session**

Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to return to regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the contract with Sun Peaks Land Co. for the acquisition of water rights. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recessed/Adjournment of Meeting**

Meeting was adjourned.

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Jose "Art" Medina, Mayor

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Rhonda Valdez, City Clerk