

**City Council Meeting
March 18, 2010**

The Monte Vista City Council met in recessed session of their regular monthly meeting on Thursday March 18, 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 Garcia led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Others present were City Manager Don Van Wormer, City Attorney Eugene Farish, Chief of Police Rick Needham, Recreational Director Jay Cochran, Main Street Director John Lyons, City Clerk Rhonda Valdez, member of the press and guests.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. The Consent Agenda consisted of the March 4, 2010 Council Minutes and Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments / Special Presentations

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to appoint the following to the 1% Committee; district one Marie Torres, district two Robert Byrning, district three Phinel Garcia, district four Rodney Salazar, district five Grace Davidson and the at large member is Neil Seneff. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Medina— We will set up a meeting for April the 13th at 6:00 P.M. **Councilor Wilson, Attorney Eugene Farish, Finance Director Debbie Phillips and the Mayor will attend the meeting.**

Donna Wehe, Director of the San Luis Valley Small Business Development Center – Provided Council with an update of SBDC and advised of the programs that offer. Donna – We had a big business deal that happened in Alamosa so our numbers look really good this year. I have 3 businesses from Monte Vista that are enrolled in my Leading Edge Class. We cover a lot of material in the 12 weeks and they graduate with a business plan.

Councilor Sandusky made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the request for discount at Ski Hi Park for Templo Sion Assembly of God on April 3, 2010, in the amount of \$200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Licenses/Liquor Renewals

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to approve Southwest Liquor Renewal on a Retail Liquor Store License Malt, Vinous, and Spirituous Liquor License. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Sandusky seconded, to approve Alibi's Sports Bar and Grill Inc. application to modify premises from May 1st thru September 30, 2010. Councilor Garcia abstained. Motion carried.

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Garcia seconded, to approve the Monte Vista Elks Special Event Permit on April 10, 2010 at 121 Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the San Luis Valley Ski- Hi Stampede, Inc. Special Events Permit from July 29th thru August 1st 2010 at Ski Hi Park. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports

City Manager Van Wormer – The Department of Local Affairs has asked if we would write a letter of support for them. They are looking at trying to obtain a Main Street Coordination grant from the State Historical Society.

Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Garcia seconded, to approve the letter of support for the Department of Local Affairs. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Van Wormer – The Governor's Energy Office has launched a "Main Street Energy Efficiency" program. Next week I have a meeting with the Main Street Director and the Community Development Director to ascertain whether or not we have the resources and the ability to put together a competitive grant and a successful program. We have received the site plans for the new Valley Wide Clinic it looks very exciting. The company that is running the animal shelter has been ordered to put up fencing around their facility by May. We have some fencing at the Valley Wide site that will have to be removed and we will not have any need for it. The conscience of City Council is to donate the fence to the animal shelter. The Finance Department now has the ability of taking payments by credit cards, debit cards and payments on line as well as over the phone. We will launch a media campaign the first part of April. It looks like the Water Conservation Board is going to approve our water conservation plan. This will open up a number of doors for financial assistance to implement the recommendations in the water conservation plan. It will reduce our amount of water usage in turn it will reduce the amount of water we need to acquire. This grant request is close to \$38,000 we have a \$3,000 cash match, plus our in-kind service.

Recreation Director Jay Cochran – Jay provided Council with an update of the recreational programs, Ski Hi Park Policy and Procedures. Mayor Medina – With the Ski Hi Policy you are just tightening things up and making things clearer? Jay – Yes. Councilor Wilson – Good job.

Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the \$10.00 late registration fee for recreational sports to be implemented on April 1, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

Main Street Director John Lyons – Provided a written report to Council for review and he will come before Council on April 1st. We are ready to move out with a much clearer vision and a voice. In June we are bring in a group facilitator that works with civic groups to help with organization. We want everyone at some level working towards the same goal, and DIC is paying for the speaker.

Chief Rick Needham – I did a spot on KNEY TV and encouraged people to attend a Community Watch Meeting. I met with the representatives of the USDA they do the low-income and multi-funding housing in our area. I am hoping that they encourage their managers to be block captains. I met with the Rally in the Valley folks. We did get our grant for Cop Link.

City Attorney Eugene Farish – At the next meeting I will have an ordinance extending the moratorium on medical marijuana. I have a webcast coming into my office on Monday on *Medical Marijuana in the Work Place*, at noon for those of you that would like to attend.

Councilor Almquist – I met with the John & the Main Street Committee. I have ideas for the Valley Publishing Building it would be nice to develop that as a Monte Art District. There are a number of artist in our area. We have the building, money for paint, just dreaming up ideas, I would like the building named The Full Monte's Center for the Arts. If we don't take the first step we won't get anywhere.

Councilor Sandusky – As I had mentioned before I am the Event Chair for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life here in the San Luis Valley. We are moving the event to the City of Monte Vista and I have written a formal letter, and I am hoping that you would want to sponsor at the \$250.00 level. At that level you do get a team registration fee. I would like to see possibly City Council, staff, police department, and attorneys all volunteer to walk. I am willing to be the team captain. From 5 AM to 7 AM we are doing a Bark for Life so people can bring their dogs.

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Garcia seconded, to sponsor the Cancer Relay for Life at the \$250.00 amount the event is July 9, 2010 from 7PM to 7AM. Councilor Sandusky abstained. Motion carried.

Councilor Wilson – I did speak with the City Manager about the Health Care Board and Councilor Almquist is willing to take his place on the Health Care Board so Don can devote more time with our water issues.

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Sandusky seconded, to replace the City Manager with Councilor Almquist as the representative on the Public Health Care Board, giving the City Manager more time to devote to the City's water issues. Councilor Almquist abstained. Motion carried.

Councilor Wilson – I would also like it noted that we had 2 new art galleries open this weekend. Please go by and see them. I was approached by Peg Schall and Peggy Barr next year is the 125th anniversary of the City of Monte Vista they gave me a plan for a walking tour that they did 25 years ago. They would like help from the Council. John – Peg gave me a copy of that and we would like to do this big.

City Manager Van Wormer –**Chlorination** - We do need to make a decision as to what direction we want to take. In talking with our attorneys it could cost us as much as \$10,000.00 or more in order to contest this and the outcome will be unknown. We have had a very preliminary report from our engineers that suggest, and this is without final engineering that we could potentially come into compliance for about \$150,000.00. There are some variable to be worked out engineering wise, but it is very possible that we would be able to put in a very minuscule amount of chlorine in order to meet the state requirements. Even if we were to contest this and win would be reasonable to assume that the Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of Health would eventually prevail in their effort to eliminate any potential for any contamination (mandatory chlorination for all municipalities) in the State of Colorado.

Councilor Almquist made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to proceed with giving the City Manager authority to pursue chlorination of our water per the states mandate. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Almquist – We received a breakdown of the missaleous filed in the budget that Mr. Zamora addressed at the last meeting. If no one has communicated with him about this I will contact him.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk