

## **WORK SESSION – Thursday, January 5, 2023**

**Minutes of the Huntsville Town Council work session held at the Ogden Valley Library, 131 South 7400 East, Huntsville, 6:00 p.m.**

**The work session was scheduled prior to the regular meeting to plan park improvements.**

**Attending: TC Members Sandy Hunter, Bruce Ahlstrom, Artie Powell, Mayor Sorensen, Beckki Endicott - Clerk**

Mayor Sorensen called the meeting to order and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He turned the time over to TC Member Artie Powell to discuss the direction of the Ogden Valley Parks Board.

TCM Artie Powell announced that the Ogden Valley Parks Board was meeting together on March 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss future plans for the board and the valley parks. The board is a nine-member board. There are many representatives for the Eden and Liberty parks, but TCM Powell is the only appointed representative on the board from Huntsville Town. The OVPB wants to develop the Eden and Liberty Parks more fully. The OVPB (Ogden Valley Parks Board) is currently laying out a schedule of projects and planning for funds for both Eden and Liberty Parks.

There is a contract between Huntsville and the Ogden Valley Parks District. Beckki will send a copy of the agreement to the Town Council.

TCM Powell stated that Huntsville Town receives \$43,000 a year from the Parks District through taxes. Each of the Ogden Valley Parks receives the same amount. There is a recognition that Huntsville Town receives additional taxpayer dollars through property taxes. The OVPD has between \$300-400,000 that has been received but frozen at the Lt. Governor's office because of paperwork filing issues. That has now been corrected. The OVPD would like to receive presentations about projects that would benefit the parks. The OVPD is making plans to submit to RAMP for matching funds for these projects.

TCM Powell posed the question to the other Council Members about whether or not the new community center will be a part of Huntsville Park which could make it eligible for OVPD (Ogden Valley Park District). He gave the example of the Eden Community Center. The Eden Community Center is part of Eden Park. Does Huntsville Town want to consider the new Community Center part of Huntsville Park? Does the Town Council need to do something to include the Community Center in Huntsville Park Plans? Beckki asked if it was dependent on zoning. The block where the Community Center is going to be located is zoned C-1, commercial.

The OVPD (Ogden Valley Park District) are also discussing standardizing fees throughout the valley. After some discussion, the TC decided it would be good to review our interlocal

agreement to see if this is a part of the agreement. Several TC Members are concerned about giving up control over Huntsville Park.

TCM Powell raised concerns about the condition of Huntsville Park and the reservation communication. There was a reservation miscommunication last year and TCM Powell is concerned about the process of reserving a bowery. TCM Hunter pointed out that this is not a regular occurrence. The conflict in 2022 was with a family group and Ragnar. The cleanliness of the bowery's need to be address. TCM Powell stated he had received complaints about condition of the bowery's and the bathrooms in the 2022 season.

TCM Powell addressed Huntsville Town's expenses for the trees that are being removed due to the beetle infection. He stated he has proposed the OVPD contribute to Huntsville's tree maintenance. He stated that this should be a formal proposal to the OVPD, they are not entertaining paying the maintenance of the trees based on regular maintenance of Huntsville Park. Mayor Sorensen expressed his frustration in this philosophy. If the OVPD has \$300,000 in the bank and they are planning to RAMP for additional projects which are eligible for grants, then some of the money saved should be used to maintain the trees at Huntsville Parks, especially since maintenance is not eligible for grant funds. Huntsville Town has \$50,000 in invoices for Huntsville Park that OVPD is not considering.

The Huntsville Town Council needs to bring a list of improvements back to the OVPD to consider. TCM Powell asked for ideas from other Council Members. Beckki asked if there was a form or process laid out for the expenses. We have submitted an invoice of \$50,000 and the OVPD has not accepted the request. Several ideas were discussed for minor improvements: mulch, latch or gate on the pickleball courts, etc.

The idea of rezoning the land for the new community center was discussed. The rezone would be to P-1 or parks.

There was a discussion about the manpower needed to check the condition of the bowery's on the weekends. In addition, the Town Council would like to see reservation forms put up on the bowery's. There was a discussion regarding a requirement for a cleaning deposit for the bowery's and even making that a non-refundable deposit. Mayor Sorensen asked the TC Members to think about how this procedure would work.

Open and Public Meeting Training was discussed for January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**TCM Artie Powell motioned to adjourn the meeting.** TCM Bruce Ahlstrom seconded the motion. All votes Aye. Motion passed.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.**



Beckki Endicott, Huntsville Town Clerk