

WORK SESSION—JANUARY 6th, 2018

Minutes of the Huntsville Town Council Work Session, held at the Huntsville Town Hall at 9:00 a.m. January 6th, 2018.

Name	Title	Status
James A. Truett	Mayor	Present
Bill Wangsgard	Council Member	Present
Max Ferre'	Council Member	Present
Bill White	Council Member	Excused
Wendy McKay	Council Member	Present
Gail Ahlstrom	Recording	Present
William Morris	Legal Counsel	Excused

Citizens: Jake Songer Richard Sorensen Sam Bellarosa

CM Wangsgard called the meeting about the Huntsville Ice Rink to order. CM Wangsgard thanked everyone for coming. CM Wangsgard has been assigned the Ice Rink as a new Council Member responsibility and he wants to get caught up on how things have been running. It was so nice when the BBQ was renting out the skates for the town. Sam Bellarosa procured the ice skates for the Town a few years back and has been working on the Town's ice rink for years. Jake Songer built an addition on the ice shack this fall for the storage of ice skates.

CM Wangsgard stated that now that the Town is renting the skates, he would like to keep track of the rentals and the money so there is a record. CM Wangsgard passed out a tracking form for the kids to use when they rent the skates out and check them back in. There are a couple of young teenagers renting the skates out; Julie Fraijo, Truman Songer, and Solin Songer. CM Ferre' asked to be updated about the ice rink. (See Attachments)

Richard Sorensen said history of the ice rink. The town has had an ice rink off and on since before the 1960's. Richard said the ice rink has been operating for decades, at least since the 1960's, and possibly even before that. Someone would take over the spraying of the ice, lose interest, and then a few years later it would be brought back. Dee Bell and Sam Bellarosa got it going again in the 1990's. Kenton Peterson and Sam Bellarosa have been at it the longest. Since 14 years ago there was never a Council Member over ice rink, it was always a skating enthusiast, basically skaters wanting support from the town. Richard Sorensen said 14 years ago, when he became a Council Member, he was put in charge of the ice rink, this was the first time a Council member was charged with overseeing the rink.

Richard stated that over the past few years a lot of improvements have taken place at the ice rink. A new tractor and sweeper were purchased, the hydrant was replaced, the north and south side of the park has been leveled, and new grass put in. They also built an ice shack next to the ice rink to store the tractor in. Ron Gault and Richard Sorensen wrote grants in order to get money for the town for these improvements. The Town has spent a lot of money on the ice rink the past few years.

Richard remarked that Sam Bellarosa had connections with the Ogden Ice Rink and they have donated used skates to the Town a couple of times. The skates are pretty worn out, but they let the town use the ice sharpener. Jake stated that they love the fact that the town has an outdoor rink. Sam has been taking skates down to the Ice Sheet one box at a time to get them sharpened. Jake noticed through the rentals that none of the women or children complain about the skates, it's mostly the men. So they have concentrated their efforts on the men's skates. Wendy said she would like to apply for an EZ RAMP grant to purchase a skate sharpener. Wendy has already written the grant, a table top sharpener will cost about \$1400.

Jake said he built an addition on the west side of the ice shack; this will be locked all year and used during ice season. Wendy suggesting putting in a slot that would allow people to deposit the skates in when they are done using them. Jake said when he was building the addition he couldn't think of a design that would allow people to put skates in, but not reach in and take them out. There is a small electric heater in the shack to dry the skates because they get wet and it provides a warming area for the kids. Jake said he plans to build an exterior box with a slot big enough for skates, but difficult to take them out. They don't want the skates to be stolen, but they are not in good shape, if someone took off with a pair, it's not a great loss.

Wendy mentioned that Jim Truett brought up a great idea of giving a free pair of skates to the town kids if they want. Jake replied that there are a lots of little kid sizes. This would be a neat gesture. Jake said he would like to get a vent-less, thermostat controlled gas heater with a visible flame for ice shack, they cost about \$300. There is a gas pipe already in place. The problem with the vent-less fireplaces is that they put off water, a vented fireplace would be better but they cost too much.

Max wanted to suggest that the renting of skate becomes a learning tool for the kids. Bill asked about the money from the skate rentals. Jake explained they were having a hard time getting people to work at the ice shack. They tried to get adults to do the rentals and no one was interested. There was some talk about giving the town \$1 back from each \$3 rental. Bill talked to Louis and his kids were interested in making a little money. Bill White told the kids that they could keep all of the money they made while renting the skates. Louis's kids showed up that Saturday before New Year's and they made \$118 that day. Jake thought his kids would like to participate. They seem to be the only ones willing to do the rentals. Right now it's exciting and worth it for the kids.

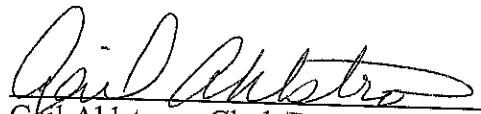
Richard said the donation box for the rink was a great idea. Greg Farley kept the money from the skate rentals. If they can find kids willing to rent the skates out that's a good thing. Jake explained the process for skate rentals. The kid's phone numbers are on the window of the ice shack, you call the kids, and they come over and rent the skates out and go back home. Wendy like the idea that the people involved in working the rink can have their kids come first. CM Ferre' suggested keeping track of all the volunteer hours for future grant applications. Volunteer hours really help grant applications. The kids take their own money to provide the change.

There was some discussion about the Huntsville Ice Rink Face Book page that was taken down. The decision was made that we don't want the Town rink to be advertised. The Town has a Face book page where info on rentals, rules, and protocol for the ice rink can be posted. Sam commented that the closing of the Facebook page wasn't even discussed.

Approved on January 18, 2018

The issue is when the rink is super crowded, which is the exception. Jake said the ice has been reliable and has lasted a long time this year. Bill White said the Town isn't about providing a rink for hockey teams to practice, that's why he wanted the Facebook page taken down, however, we do need a place for information. Having info on the Town's website still doesn't solve the problem with all of us getting phone calls. Wendy cautioned that if the Town is receiving public funds, (from RAMP grants) the Town needs to encourage the use of the ice. To Sam said it shouldn't matter where you live, it's whether your respectful or not. People vacation here now, but we don't want to provide service to people who overwhelm and abuse the rink. Wendy doesn't have a problem with a Facebook page as long as the ice rink isn't advertising the rink.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.


Gail Ahlstrom, Clerk/Recorder

**** ATTENTION HOCKEY PLAYERS ****

Welcome to Huntsville Rink. Please keep all hockey games/goals East of the Giant Light Pole (30 feet east of the tree) Half the rink is for hockey. Half the rink is for casual skaters and families. Thanks and have fun.

RENTING SKATES:

Skate rental information, schedule, and contact numbers change weekly. An updated information sheet can be found posted on the ice shack near the rink.

Skates will 'generally' be available Mon-Fri 4pm-8pm Sat 9am-8pm but not always.

Please do not call the town hall. If you want updated information about rentals, come in person and read the posted information.

Thank you.



Huntsville Town Ice Rink

2000s Huntsville

Skate Rentals

Weekdays after 3pm

Monday: 801-645-3413 Truman (text)

Tuesday: 801-645-3413 Truman (text)

Wednesday: 347-797-2884 Juli 3pm-8pm

or 801-388-9385 Luis

Thursday: 801-645-3413 (text)

FRI 3pm-8pm

Jan 5th 347-797-2884 or 801-388-9385 Juli

Jan 12th 801-645-4650 Solenne

Jan 19th 347-797-2884 or 801-388-9385 Juli

SAT 9am-8pm

Jan 6th 347-797-2884 or 801-388-9385 Juli

Jan 13th 801-645-4650 Solenne

Jan 20th 347-797-2884 or 801-388-9385 Juli