

**COUNCIL MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 15, 2007**

The Monte Vista City Council met in recessed session of their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room, 4 Chico Camino, Monte Vista, CO. 81144.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Don Schall called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

City Attorney Eugene Farish led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Members present Councilor Art Medina, Councilor Charles Spielman, Councilor Rose Wilson and Mayor Don Schall. Record to indicate a quorum was present. Councilor Gabe Duran was absent.

Others present City Attorney Eugene Farish, City Manager Don Van Wormer, City Clerk Lucille Duran, Public Works Supervisor Randy Martinez and guests.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

Councilor Spielman made a motion, and Councilor Medina seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Consent agenda consisted only of approval of November 1, 2007 Council Minutes and approval of Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

**Proclamations, Communications and Appointments**

Councilor Medina made a motion, and Councilor Wilson seconded, to reappoint Dennis Murphy, Hope Peckumn and Christine Wright to the Rio Grande County Library Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Comments/Special Presentations**

Mayor Pro tem Medina presented Arnold DeHerrera with a Certificate of Appreciation for 10 years of service to the City of Monte Vista.

**Ordinances**

Eugene Farish read Ordinance No. 799 on second reading – An Ordinance Vacating a Strip of Street Right-of-Way in the city of Monte Vista, Colorado. Councilor Medina made a motion, and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 799 on second and final reading. Motion carried unanimously.

**Contracts/Agreements/Leases**

Councilor Medina made a motion, and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the Investment Banking Agreement with Stifel Nicolaus & Co., Inc. Councilor Spielman – I have been convinced that Baum and Associates would do a better job, and I want to make sure that Council understands where I stand on this. So, I am going

to vote against this. Councilor Spielman voted nay. Remaining Councilors voted in favor. Motion carried.

## **Reports**

### **City Manager**

- We received grant letters from the State awarding us a grant from the Energy and Mineral Impact Funds for \$500,000 for the Ski Hi Project. We are still waiting on the GOCO Grant.
- I met with the Stampede Committee members today to talk about creating a project team made up of city staff and a couple of members from the Stampede Committee to develop a work plan and take care of the project for Phase 1. Ski Hi Stampede approached me about looking at trying to enter into a long-term lease agreement of the Ski Hi Facility. They, obviously, would be interested in a 20-year lease. I told them that our policy is one-year automatic renewals. Ski Hi Stampede wants to pay a flat fee every year; half of that in cash and half in in-kind services for projects needed out there. Ski Hi Stampede is working in trying to negotiate a lease with the City to lock up their rates instead of coming in every year and going through the process. They have a commitment to long term renting of the Ski Hi Park.
- City Manager handed out the sales tax update. City sales tax is down \$452.00 through September of this year. The county's contribution is down \$766.00.
- December 1, 2007 is the Holiday Festival. Downtown Main Street Program has been looking for groups or individuals to man the fire pits. Need to know if council is interested in doing it. Councilor Spielman – Mirco Tonon is taking over the chestnut roasting. I will talk to him; he can let them know.
- City Manager received a letter and flyer from San Luis Valley Resource Conservation & Development Council. They are having a meeting at Adams State College on December 1, 2007. Need to RSVP by November 15, 2007. Councilor Wilson and Councilor Spielman are going.
- We need to send a letter to Senator Salazar thanking him for his support on the GOCO Grant. We have five firms that responded to the Comp Plan. Alisha and I will be looking at those next week.
- I will be out of the office on November 28, 2007 and December 4, 2007 for a CCRA meeting. In the Denver Post, the Republican side of the State House wants to give control of State Highways to cities. I have mixed feelings on that. We are doing a lot of the surface maintenance now as far as sweeping the streets and snow plow removal to some degree, and we are not getting compensated. The downside of it, we would be responsible for overlays and everything else. The upside would be, if for whatever reason, we were to get control of the highway, the city would not have to mess around with CDOT.

### **Staff**

Randy Martinez – Half of my guys will be gone over the next two months. We are getting ready for the winter.

## Council

Councilor Wilson – The South Fork Library is opening up on December 20, 2007. We had our URA meeting; and they talked about the lights on the buildings and that the bricks on the crosswalks that need to be replaced downtown are in the budget. Don Van Wormer – It's in the budget for 2008. Councilor Wilson - The Valley Food Coop store in Alamosa are trying to find a new building to move to. They were very receptive to coming to the city of Monte Vista. We have a meeting on the December 3, and they will make up their mind on what they are going to do. The Mayor and I met with Valley Wide. They are moving back to Monte Vista. They need land to build a new clinic.

Councilor Medina – The benches in the parking lot across from the Monte Villa there is only one bench left. They took one off. Somebody took it off. There are two bolts sticking above. Someone needs to go over there and take those two bolts off. Don will check to see what is going on.

Mayor Schall – The administrator of the Alamosa Hospital wants to put an x-ray unit in Monte Vista, and he will be looking for somewhere to put that.

Councilor Spielman – For our next City Council meeting; when GreenPlay started working on our comprehensive recreation plan, I submitted some ideas at that time about a bicycle path in the city. The ideas became part of their plan. Part of that plan was the site on Mallard Avenue, in the northeast part of the town. Part of that site trip was a little nature observation on the slough on the northeast corner. I ran into John Ritchey again. About a year and a half ago he volunteered to donate, I think, about two or three city lots to just give the City for this. I just wanted from council to know if they are interested, so he doesn't give them away to somebody else. I will have more information at the next meeting.

Don Van Wormer – The Upper Rio Grande EDC is working to put a community center with a swimming pool in Del Norte. It will go to the vote of the people. They want to form a district on this. It will be very interesting for the City of Monte Vista.

## **Recess/Adjournment of Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Donald Schall, Mayor  
Lucille Duran, City Clerk  
Approved December 6, 2007