

**HOWELL TOWN CORPORATION**

Minutes of the Howell Town Council Meeting held March 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sgt. Rocky D. Payne Memorial Center.

Present:	Brad Hawkes	Mayor
	Rex Nessen	Council Member
	Josh Anderson	Council Member
	Craig Hawkes	Council Member
	Mark Sorensen	Council Member

Others Present:	H. Leon Kotter	Town Clerk
	Shelly Logan	Town Treasurer

Call to Order: Mayor Brad Hawkes

**Welcome, roll call, prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, Approve the Agenda.**

Mayor Hawkes welcomed everyone to the Howell Town Council Meeting.

Prayer: Mayor Brad Hawkes

Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Mayor Brad Hawkes

**Approve the agenda:**

MOTION Council Member Rex Nessen moved to approve the March 12, 2024, Howell Town Council meeting agenda. Council Member Josh Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approve minutes of the Howell Town Council Meeting.**

MOTION Council Member Craig Hawkes moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024, Howell Town Council Meeting. Council Member Mark Sorensen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Follow up to the minutes.**

**Deputy Sheriff Merkley**

- Reported that there was not much going on in Howell. There were no calls.

**Shelly Logan, Town Treasurer– Financial Reports**

- Our interest income is increasing.
- The budget is in good shape.
- Amounts received in our road fund have increased.

**Greg Stevens: Engineer for Beehive Broadband Plans for installing fiber optics in Howell.**

Cameron Francis, CEO Beehive Broadband, reviewed the history of Beehive Broadband. They are in sixteen counties in Utah. Their start was in Nevada. Through grants from the Federal Government and Utah State Government, they were awarded the contract in Box Elder County to provide high speed internet access to rural Box Elder County.

Rebecca Dilg, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity Broadband Office, reviewed the State's involvement in getting high speed internet to all rural Utah.

Greg Stevens, Head of Engineering Beehive Broadband, reported that they could not go overhead with their broadband cable. It will all be underground. The engineering is done. They will start installing the main lines at the end of May. In the Jul/Sep time frame they will be installing broadband in residences. There will be a deadline to sign up for a broadband connection. While the crews are here in the valley the installation in residences will be free. If someone decides to get a connection after the deadline and the crews have left the valley, there will be an additional charge.

Kyle Jon Carter, from RMWT, will be installing the cable. They will be burying the cable thirty-six inches deep. They will need to know where all the water lines are and where the Frontier phone lines are. Mayor Hawkes stated that our water lines are three feet to four feet deep. If they buried the cable at 24 inches, they should be okay. Councilmember Craig Hawkes asked if they hit a water line would they repair it. There was no definitive answer.

Mr. Stevens stated that in other communities a town hall meeting was held where all the town's residents were invited to see what is available.

After the Beehive Broadband Representatives and RMWT representatives left the Town Council decided to hold a town hall meeting June 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. here at the Community Center to let the town's residents know what is available. Costs and other information will be available at that time.

**Scott Anderson – RWUA – Maps of town's water system**

Scott Anderson from Rural Water Association of Utah explained what he did for the town's water system. He worked with Council Member Craig Hawkes in locating all the valves and meters in the system. He made maps showing the location of all the valves and meters and water lines. Mr. Anderson also gave his recommendations on what the water system should be doing.

Mr. Anderson said he would appreciate it if the Town would send a letter to RWUA thanking them for the work he did for the town.

**Council Member Craig Hawkes: (1) Water Chlorination system; (2) Backflow Prevention.**

Council Member Hawkes stated that it is a challenge to keep our water samples good. The way he chlorinates our water system is not recommended. He has been looking into a gas chlorination system. It would be installed in the pump house and the chlorine would be injected into water as the pump is running. He is going to get more information.

Another item he is concerned about is about backflow prevention. Even though there are backflow preventors on our meter, things can still get by them.

**Bear River Water Conservancy District: Creating County Wide water master plan.**

Stefanie Tugaw Madson from the Bear River Water Conservancy District explained that the County Commissioners want to create a County Water Master Plan. There is a meeting scheduled for April 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the USU Brigham Multipurpose Room at 989 S Main St, Brigham City, Utah. Everyone is invited to go to the presentation, which will be followed by an open house. Aggie ice cream to be served.

**One Planning Commission member's term is up: Appoint a new member or reappoint current member.**

DaKota Tuck's term is up. Mayor Hawkes reported that talked with DaKota. She said she would continue as a commission member.

MOTION Council Member Rex Nessen moved to reappoint DaKota Tuck to the Howell Town Planning Commission. Council Member Mark Sorensen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Clerk Leon Kotter: Discontinue paper copy of town newsletter.**

Clerk Leon Kotter presented the idea of discontinuing the paper copy of the town newsletter as it can be posted to the town's website: howelltown.org. It was mentioned that are some of the residents who have access to the internet. It was suggested that a survey be sent out so residents could indicate how they wanted to receive the newsletter. It was also noted that there were quite a few residents that received their newsletter via email.

**Mayor, Council Member Reports**

**Mayor Brad Hawkes:**

- The roads need to be graded.
- Park Clean Up March 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- Garbage cans need to be relocated closer to the Community Center.

**Council Member Rex Nessen:**

- Will get the roads graded.
- Still working getting a culvert moved.

**Council Member Josh Anderson:**

- Getting the septic tank cleaned out.
- Waiting for a bid on new floor covering in the Post Office.

**Council Member Craig Hawkes:**

- We have our Consumer Confidence Report on our water system and would like a copy sent to each resident.

**Council Member Mark Sorensen:** Nothing

**Approve Payment Vouchers and Bills**

Payment Vouchers and Paid Bills were reviewed.

MOTION Council Member Mark Sorensen moved to approve vouchers and paid bills. Council Member Rex Nessen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

MOTION Council Member Mark Sorensen moved to adjourn. Council Member Rex Nessen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at: 9:30 p.m.

Approved: April 9, 2024

  
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H. Leon Kotter, Town Clerk

