

ASPEN SPRINGS METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
PO Box 488
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A regular meeting of the Board of Directors, Aspen Springs Metropolitan District was convened on October 10th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Aspen Springs Metropolitan District building located on Metro Drive in Unit 5 Aspen Springs Subdivision. Elected board members Kenneth Barber (Chair), Pam Wallis, Kelly Evans, & appointee Chris DeVries were in attendance. Eric Davidson was excused absent. Two employees attended. No owners attended. The following minutes were transcribed from the regular meeting audio recording on 18 October, 2023 by Eric Davidson:

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 18:00 by Kenneth Barber

Approval of previous Minutes

- September’s minutes were approved. – **Motion**: Kelly, 2nd: Pam, Passed unanimous (Kenneth abstaining as per usual except in cases where a tie-breaking vote is required)

Public Works

- Carey: Quote for \$11k for motor grader periodic maintenance in Durango. Approved to keep it running until a replacement can be funded.
- Culvert extensions added in Aspen 6 – look for material’s costs from that activity.
- Requesting increased funding for Mag & gravel. Kenneth: We have \$5k additional in ’24 budget for Mag, \$15k for gravel, and \$20k for diesel.
- Steam cleaner for shop is worn out. Do not need steam cleaner function but hot water pressure washer is necessary (220V) for truck cleaning – especially after mag application: \$5.5k est. Kenneth: Purchase thru the “Equipment” budget line in 2024.
- Pam – No further info

Treasurer's Report

- Kelly presented last month’s financial data:

September	2023		
Total Cash Assets: \$412,234		Total Assets: \$2,138,867	
	MTD (\$)	YTD (\$)	% of Budget
Total Income	11,959	382,189	83
Property tax income		266,438	95.53
Water Depot Income		18,635	74.54
HUTF income		0*	69.37
Total Expenses	51,743	367,712	87

Primary/Major monthly expenses:	Basin Coop	\$3,798.28	
	CHP (H Ins)	\$1,158.56	
	Desert Mtn.	\$21,102.48**	

- * = No HUTF income for September, 2x for next month
- ** = See Desert Mountain (DM) discussion in “Old Business”
- **Motion** to approve September’s Treasurer’s Report: Pam, 2nd: Chris, Passed unanimous

Review SDA calendar

- Budget proposal to be posted for public comment: Legal notice in Pagosa Sun, and copies posted at Metro Building & Buttercup water station.
 - Eric to post ad in paper & copies of budget (**Chris** to email)

Budget / Election

- Chris is working with the spreadsheet provided by Kelly to develop the 2024 budget. Initial draft ready for public review. In addition to budget increases listed above, a 5% overall payroll increase was proposed.
- Carey is training Ryan to fill the role of Maintenance Manager, so that in ~ 1.5 years Carey can move to 2-day week & perhaps consulting. Ryan is progressing well, but increased responsibilities should come with increased pay. Health insurance coverage is the biggest hurdle (over \$3k/month). If we provide Ryan with “too many hours” or “too much pay” he falls into a situation where his subsidized insurance is cut off.
- Kenneth: Let’s decide at the next meeting the path forward and the budget impact(s) that path represents.

Park

- No comments

Old Business

- Chris: Cameras installed at Buttercup. Check for invoice in-hand, but sales tax was included (Accounting error). Chris directed to use check, and ask for additional services in lieu of tax value.
 - Invoice needed to apply for grant for the safety funds (50% reimbursement)
 - Next year we should address Metro Building security.
- Kelly: We have a check available for Desert Mountain (DM) for \$21k for the “missing funds”. We received \$5k from insurance (note: actually \$4k from insurance payout and ASMD \$1k deductible), but we still “owe” over \$16k and DM is starting to ask for the re-payment. So far, no interest from CBI, affected counties (3), and no movement/interest from attorneys over the past three months. DM says they weren’t hacked, and the alternative Cornerstone Accounting is uninterested in taking our business.

Kenneth: Can we get a reliable source of Mag from elsewhere? Should we approach DM’s competition with a 5-yr contract? **Carey to make initial inquiries and Kenneth to follow-up.**

What is the decision? Table the discussion until next month. Until then, **Pam & Kelly** to compose a letter to DM offering the \$5k insurance pay-out, but nothing more. If they want the balance of funds, they should approach their insurance carrier. **We did nothing wrong.**

The fault lies with the accounting firm who responded to a fraudulent invoice.

All budget impacts regarding this fraudulent activity will be addressed via the “Mag Chloride” budget line, no special budget lines to be added.

Lot Consolidations

- Lot Consolidation Requests this month.
 - Aspen 1, 440 Petitt’s Circle: Approved
 - Aspen 3, 452 Summit Trail: Approved
 - Two Notice of Property at Tax Lien Sale received & filed

New Business

- Kelly: It is time to renew our Group Health insurance as well as Liability insurance. She found that going to a \$500 deductible as opposed to a \$0 will greatly reduce our liability rates. All agreed saving the taxpayer money is a good idea.

Property Owners’ Concerns

- No property owners’ concerns were raised.

Meeting adjourned at 18:56 by Kenneth Barber