

**MONTVERDE TOWN COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2024, AT 6:30 P.M.**

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Joe Wynkoop, Mayor
Jim Peacock, Vice Mayor
Jim Ley Councilmember
Allan Hartle, Councilmember
Carol Womack, Councilmember

STAFF PRESENT

Paul Larino, Town Manager
Anita Geraci-Carver, Town Attorney
Sean Parks, Town Planner
Lisa Busto, Associate Planner
Sandra Johnson, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING CEREMONIES

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Roll Call

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM

Open discussion on the 2025 budget and projects

Town Manager Larino handed out a salary survey for the town employees. Said that the Cost of Living range for this year is 5.5% to 6%.

Councilmember Ley wants budget level before looking at salaries. Wants to know what the revenues will be before you ask for increase.

Town Manager Larino stated that he isn't asking for this he is presenting this and will request in the budget after he gets the preliminary figures from the county.

Councilmember Hartle asked if it is feasible to use temps for mowing, trimming etc. instead of town staff.

Town Manager Larino stated that he looks at what the cost is of each before making that decision.

There was extensive discussion.

Town Manager Larino stated the 3-year lease on the bobcat is up and I would like to flip the bobcat. Will look at leasing and out right purchase to see what is best.

Town Manager Larino explained that with the new water grants we just received, it will free up \$750,000 in water impact fees. One of the items you can use impact fees for is new vehicles. I would like to look at purchasing 2 vehicles, a pick-up truck with dumping ability and a light duty pick-up.

Does the Council have any priorities that they would like to see in the computer.

Councilmember Hartle would like to make sure there is landscaping done after projects are complete, so the areas don't look unfinished.

Discussion on wastewater project

Town Manager Larino passed out a letter from St. Johns River Management District regarding the CUP.

There was brief discussion.

Town Manager Larino said that as the engineers looked closer at the Stecher property it is not the most suitable property for the wastewater treatment plant. The property located at Ridgewood and Lake Street is going to be the best fit for the treatment plant. The property owner has been contacted and is not interested in selling the property. The Town Attorney will be handling the purchase of this property, if that is what the Council approves.

Reclaimed water was discussed to see if that would be an option to sell to residents.

Town Manager Larino stated that the only problem with this is if the residents don't choose to use reclaimed water, it will not pay for itself.

There was extensive discussion.

The council was agreeable to the site.

Town Attorney Geraci-Carver explained the process of Eminent Domain.

Town Entrance Signs

Town Manager Larino asked for some direction on what the Council wants for entrance signs to the Town. We will be adding one on Fosgate just east of the Hills of Montverde. Little sign or larger sign.

Mayor Wynkoop said that the sign should have the logo.

Vice Mayor Peacock you don't need the tile mosaic.

Mayor Wynkoop stated the signs have had no upkeep and they are still in good shape. Keep the towers that they are on. You can move it down Fosgate.

There was brief discussion.

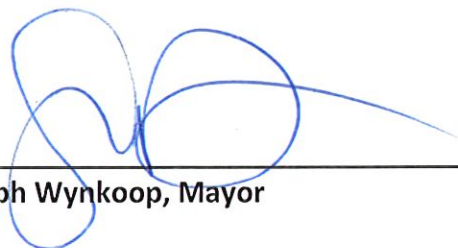
The council stated that they would like the towers to stay but can be located. Would like the logo incorporated into the sign. Maybe want to do some landscaping around the sign or lit at night.

REMINDERS AND ADJOURNMENT

Any further business from Town Manager or Councilmembers

Mayor Wynkoop moved to adjourn. Councilmember Womack seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Joseph Wynkoop, Mayor

ATTEST

Sandy Johnson, Town Clerk