



# City of South Lake Tahoe

*"making a positive difference now"*

May 3, 2016

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

RE: Minute Order from City Council Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2016 Regarding Annual Public Hearing for Continued Snow Removal Equipment Purchase Funded through the Existing County Service Area #3 (CSA#3) Parcel Fee

Enclosed please find an original Minute Order regarding the above-referenced public hearing.

If you have any question, please call or email me.

Sincerely,

Susan Alessi  
City Clerk

Enclosure

c: Ron Corbett  
Andra Burnam



# City of South Lake Tahoe

*"making a positive difference now"*

## MINUTE ORDER

**CITY OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 9:00 a.m.**

**City Council Chambers, 1901 Airport Rd.**

**South Lake Tahoe, California 96150**

### BY THE ORDER OF THE CITY OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE CITY COUNCIL:

#### PUBLIC HEARING:

- (a) **Annual Public Hearing for Continued Snow Removal Equipment Purchase Funded through the Existing County Service Area No. 3 (CSA #3) Parcel Assessment**

*[Note: City Clerk Alessi noted that some staff and Councilmember discussion on this public hearing item had incorrectly referenced 1983 as the establishment year of the Zone of Benefit within County Service Area No. 3 (CSA #3). She advised that the correct year was 1989.]*

At 11:26 a.m., Public Works Operations Manager Ron Corbett provided the staff report and explained that in 1983 [sic] (1989) a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was executed between the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County (EDC) to form a Zone of Benefit within County Service Area No. 3 (CSA #3) which was entirely within the municipal boundaries of the City of South Lake Tahoe. He indicated that this agreement allowed EDC to levy a \$20 per improved parcel charge on behalf of the City and that all funds collected less one (1) percent for administrative costs were dedicated to the purchase of new snow removal equipment for the City of South Lake Tahoe. Corbett stated that the agreement had a 10-year sunset clause and he described the March 1999 extension agreement and said pursuant to the JPA that the City acting as the advisory board to the CSA was required to hold one public hearing annually regarding the levy and to forward to EDC its recommendations and the substance of the testimony, if any, for EDC to review.

Corbett reported that the most recent snow removal equipment purchases by the City were in 2007 and said the financing on that equipment would be paid in full this December 2016. He indicated that there were no CSA #3 derived funds available for any future equipment purchases until the 2007 purchases were paid in full and acknowledged that the funds derived from the \$20 per improved parcel charge went much further in the 1980s than in 2016. Corbett said that funds derived from CSA #3 were sufficient only to make payments on a loan which the City would need to secure and remarked that the monies that were intended to outright purchase snow removal equipment no longer could extend that far.

Corbett discussed the 2015-2016 snow season which was the first time in five (5) years the snowfall had been average versus being well below average. He advised that the City's old snow removal equipment had been stressed to a point that four (4) pieces of equipment were lost and said that equipment would be needed for the next snow season.

Councilmember Davis stated that due to those equipment losses the City had to pay to rent a John Deere front loader and he inquired on the cost and the duration of that rental.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Item (a): (Continued)**

Corbett said the rental cost was \$7,000 per month, that the City had presently been renting it for approximately five (5) months, and that the City needed to continue renting that unit because it was the only machine that could carry certain other equipment while also having the bucket size needed for maintenance to the roads. He remarked that the City had the opportunity of purchasing that unit which was something he highly suggested since there was a chance to buy it for less than the usual \$400,000 selling price.

Davis referenced the upcoming New Business Item (b) discussion on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and acknowledged the snow removal equipment emergency replacement topic which would be discussed. He requested confirmation that the current \$20 parcel assessment was presently encumbered by leases or purchases and specifically when that would conclude.

Corbett indicated there were no leases, that the encumbrance was for three equipment purchases which had been made approximately eight (8) years prior, and that the encumbrance would conclude in December 2016.

Councilmember Cole stated that the voters of South Lake Tahoe had demonstrated that they thought it was appropriate to pay for the purchase of snow removal equipment by voting for and approving an annual \$20 assessment. He stated that the approved assessment was for the purchase of snow removal equipment only and it had not been for the maintenance costs or any of the operation costs associated with that snow removal equipment. Cole noted the approved assessment had been passed with no CPI and no possibility of increasing the assessment amount and he acknowledged that the costs for everything had increased substantially during the past 27-years. He indicated that the cost for purchasing snow removal equipment had increased like everything else and said the purchasing power of the assessment had severely diminished. Cole stated that while an increase in parcel assessment to purchase snow removal equipment had been placed on ballot (in 2005) that there were some Councilmembers and citizens who'd opposed its passage since there was a CPI attached and it had been defeated. He said that the City's snow removal equipment was old and failing and he suggested attempting to reaffirm what the public had voted for in the 1980s and if it was still appropriate to have a parcel assessment pay for snow removal equipment.

Public Works Director Jarvis stated that staff was currently working on the vehicle and equipment program and said they would report back further on the Asset Management and Replacement Plan. He indicated that the catastrophic failures to snow removal equipment that had been experienced this past winter would be discussed during New Business Item (b) and indicated that the immediate concern was that some snow removal equipment needed to be ordered very soon to be available next winter.

Assistant City Manager/Administrative Services Director Carlson indicated while funds from the parcel assessment would not be available until December to make payments, that there were mechanisms by which the City could arrange for a loan to have deferred payments that would not begin until December.

City Manager Kerry remarked that this agenda item was the Annual Public Hearing for continued snow removal equipment purchases that were funded through the Existing County Service Area No. 3 (CSA #3) Parcel Assessment and said an in-depth discussion on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and snow removal equipment replacement would be conducted during the New Business Item (b) discussion.

Councilmembers and staff conducted discussion.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Item (a): (Continued)**

At 11:38 a.m., Mayor David asked if anyone in the audience wished to provide comment on the Public Hearing item. No one appeared in order to be heard and Mayor David closed the public comment period on the Public Hearing.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER SASS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVIS TO RECOMMEND CONTINUATION OF THE ANNUAL \$20 PARCEL FEE ASSESSMENT, AND TO DIRECT THE CITY CLERK TO FORWARD THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EL DORADO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS VIA MINUTE ORDER.**

Davis stated that surveys had shown that the local voters would not support any increase in property tax or sales tax with a CPI which was the reason he did not support the parcel assessment to purchase snow removal equipment that had been placed on the ballot. He said that it could still be reviewed but that he thought there was probably another way to do that.

Cole remarked that snow removal was at or near the top of what the public expected from the City and it was one of the original reasons for the City's incorporation. He indicated that being able to perform snow removal was why the voters in 1989 were so willing to place that assessment on their property so that the City could purchase snow removal equipment. Cole said what had now happened was that those funds were not adequate to purchase everything that needed replacing.

Davis indicated that the City had other priorities that also needed discussing and addressing.

Cole stated that the parcel assessment was independent and stood alone.

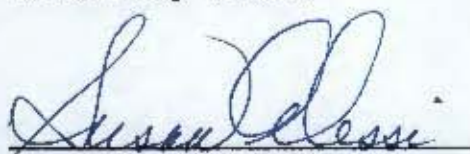
Councilmember Conner stated her agreement with Councilmember Davis and said the people were feeling over taxed.

**MAYOR DAVID CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

=====

I, Susan Alessi, City Clerk for the City of South Lake Tahoe, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct excerpt of the April 19, 2016 regular City Council meeting minutes which were approved by the City Council on May 3, 2016.

Dated: May 4, 2016.



Susan Alessi, City Clerk  
City of South Lake Tahoe

