

**EUREKA CITY
TOWN MEETING
MARCH 8, 2018 7:00 P.M.**

The purpose of the meeting is to inform the citizens of:

- What has taken place with the local ambulance service.
- Present a plan to the Eureka, Mammoth and Tintic Junction Citizens on keeping the ambulance service in Eureka fully staffed and under the direction of Eureka City instead of Juab County, and;
- Take public comment from the citizens of these areas on how they would like Eureka City Council to proceed.

This decision will affect all of Eureka, Mammoth, Tintic Junction, and Silver City, as well as some of the surrounding communities like Vernon and Goshen due to families traveling back and forth for school and church functions.

Our main goal is to protect the citizens of this community, those of the surrounding communities and those passing through, and provide the necessary care that they deserve in a timely manner.

Mayor Castleton conducted the meeting.

Mayor Castleton said that this all started with Juab County saying our ambulance association had not been doing their run reports. This issue has been corrected. The County then terminated two of our EMT's leaving the Association short an intermediate EMT. He then went on to discuss the options we have. Eureka City is looking into the possibility of applying with the State to get our own ambulance. This option could take several months and at any time in the process it could be denied. If the City does apply for their own ambulance the County said they would contest it. The County wants to keep Little Sahara Sand Dunes for Nephi.

Judy Jones asked if the ambulance shed was owed by the City or County. The City paid to have the building built, but when the County combined East and West Juab Ambulance they took possession of the building. The County will not sell the building or the ambulances to the City.

Steve Higgs asked for Mayor Castleton to clarify what he was saying does the City have an ambulance. Mayor Castleton said we have an ambulance with 3 EMT's and 2 trainees. The County asked for advanced volunteers to come up to Eureka to be on call. This will not be the case all the time.

Patricia Wahlberg asked if the City took over the ambulance would the residents still have to pay the EMS tax to the County. The tax would still need to be paid.

Mayor Castleton stated EMS Director, Mika Sperry, has handed out applications for EMT's and had 5 people turn them in.

Laura Kirgan, a former EMT, got up and explained why she and the other EMT's left. They had been trying to get the County to make improvements to the ambulance shed for at least 7 years. Station Manager, Kyle Bigler, attended an Executive Session with the County to bring up the fact the washer & dryer had not been hooked up, the heat had not been fixed. Nothing was done. The EMS Director brought up expired drugs for the ambulance the day before a State Inspection, which we failed because of the expired drugs. The County Commissioners said that Mika doesn't have time to come up to Eureka even though that is part of her job. Any one of the EMT's that spoke out were fired. Laura contacted the State before she went to her last Executive Session with the County Commissioners. She was told EMS Director Sperry had applied for Eureka's ambulance to have a First Responders License. This means the EMT's would respond to the scene to help but would not be able to transport. They would need to wait for Nephi or Santaquin who would then transport the patient.

Bruce Rowley was asked to stand up and explain how Levan was able to get their own ambulance. They were also told by the County that their ambulance was located in Nephi. That is when they decided to get their own ambulance. It does work having your own ambulance. He said that Levan has had its own ambulance for 16 or 17 years. The Mayor of Levan set up the budget that whatever the ambulance earns is what they must work with and the City does not give them any money. It runs and functions on its own. They have applied for grant money along the way. He said Levan City does not pay for the ambulance only the people who use it pay for it. The former EMT's that were present at the meeting and the Mayor thanked Bruce for coming and talking to everyone.

Nina Higgs asked about future development such as getting a clinic or other medical services from the County. Kyle Bigler said he was told that now that the clinic was being built in Santaquin then Eureka would not be getting it. This could affect what the County would do. Brian Underwood spoke up and said he had talked to the County and they will be moving forward with the clinic and new ambulance shed if the ambulance stays with the County.

Bruce Rowley made a point and said if the ambulance was not working out here and making money then why does the County want it. The Mayor said that no matter what there will be an ambulance in Eureka.

The Council will have to have a regular meeting and a decision can be made at that meeting. A Public Hearing would need to be set up, the budget for the year would need to be amended, and finally the City would apply for the license. The Mayor figures it would take about a year to get everything done.

The Mayor thanked everyone from coming and closed the meeting.