

TOWN OF PAONIA



**Regular Town Board Meeting, November 23, 2021**

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Mayor Bachran  
Trustee Knutson  
Trustee Budinger  
Trustee Johnson  
Trustee Meck**

**November 23, 2021,**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**6:30 pm**

**Mayor Mary Bachran** called the Regular Meeting of the Town of Paonia to order at 6:30 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Mayor Bachran** asked **Deputy Clerk Amanda Mojarro** to call the roll.

**Deputy Clerk Mojarro** called the roll and those present were **Mayor Bachran, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Meck, Trustee Budinger and Trustee Knutson.**

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Trustee Knutson moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

**Announcements:**

None.

**Visitors and Guest:**

- Delta County Chamber representative Mitchell Gronenthal introduced himself to the community and board members. Mr. Gronenthal spoke regarding that the Delta County Chamber of Commerce has merged with the Paonia Chamber Commerce
- Page Smith stated if the Tree Board and Water Advisory Committee reports could be added back on the agenda.
- Thomas Markle made a comment regarding the letters in support of the administrator.
- Chris Kendall commented that the Board should hold off on increasing the water rated until the section of the water budget is resolved.

**Staff Reports:**

**Town Administrator Corinne Ferguson** report was included and answered question.

**Town Attorney Nerlin** no report was provided.

**Public Work & Utilities Director Travis Loberg** report was included and answered questions.

**Finance Director Cindy Jones** report was included. Town Administrator Ferguson answered questions.

**Disbursements:** Trustee Knutson moved to approve disbursements as presented, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

**Consent Agenda**

Regular Minutes – 11/9/2021

Special Minutes – 11/16/2021

Suzanne Watson stated that she would like for her comment on page 40 of the regular minutes 11/9/2021 clarified to state her comment “nothing about public hearing in the ordinance.”

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Page Smith stated that she would like her suggestion on page 39 regarding the addition of the allocation table as a motion by Trustee Pattison and be added to the minutes.

Page Smith suggested to appropriately reflect in the minutes that the executive session on page 42 was not held.

Trustee Meck moved to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Meck moved to amend the motion to approve the consent agenda with the recommended changes on pages 39, 40 & 42 as recommended by citizens Page Smith and Suzanne Watson, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

### Unfinished Business

**Resolution 2021-08 Town Participation in the National Opioid Settlement Support of The State of Colorado:** Trustee Knutson moved to recommend approval of resolution 2021-08 resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Paonia approving Colorado's opioid settlement and recovery and add Mayor Bachran be authorized to enter into the agreement to sign, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

**Town of Paonia Purchasing Policy Updates including Non-Essential Purchases:** Trustee Meck moved that section C of the process be changed to read that advertising should read; at a minimum, all formal bids and RFP's will be advertised in the Town paper of record and other publications of limited circulation or trade journal, or electronic purchasing websites, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Knutson moved to eliminate paragraph E, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion failed.

Trustee Johnson moved to amend the motion to keep as is and add N/A, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Voting aye Trustee Johnson. Voting nay Trustees Knutson, Meck and Budinger. Motion failed.

Trustee Meck moved to table the consideration of the purchasing policy updated until the newly appointed members are seated and after they are seated this be brought back to the Board with the old policy to be included in the packet, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

**Town Treasurer Position – Continued:** Trustee Budinger moved to send out letters requesting letter of interest from people who are interested, but not asking them for how much they want, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Meck moved to amend the motion to add the Treasurer job description and be brought back to the Board, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously failed.

### Public Hearing

**Public Hearing – 2022 Proposed Budget:** The Finance Director provided a quick training on ClearGov to the public and board members.

Mayor Bachran opened the budget hearing at 7:48 pm.

Finance Officer Cindy Jones went over the 2022 draft budget.

Trustee Meck made a comment regarding the 44.73% calculation and staff demonstrated how and why this is the calculation.

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Trustee Meck moved to allow public comment of five (5) minutes per person, seconded by Trustee Knuston. Motion unanimously passed.

### Public Comment:

- Bill Brunner in not in favor of the percentage increase and the purchasing on new vehicles.
- Thomas Markle emailed a spreadsheet he created to Town Administrator Ferguson during the meeting to present his findings on the increases from 2008 through 2022.
- Melissa Munoz made a comment regarding if the marijuana money will be projected and broken down in the budget, Mayor Bacharan stated that it has been presented in previous meeting packet.
- Kris Kendall suggested not to count on the marijuana or grant money.
- Page Smith made comment regarding how the budget numbers have been changing consistently.
- Suzanne Watson commented regarding not having any public or strategic budget planning over the summer, reflect the language regarding pruning of trees Watson is not agreement with the 2022 percent increase and suggested having flat rate increases across the board for the water another suggestion made was to include a better description of the Back the Badge agreement and clarification of why the police department budget can not be lowered.

Trustee Meck moved to reject the 2022 draft budget. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Trustee Meck moved that no vehicles be purchased in 2022. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Trustee Knuston moved to accept the budget as submitted and amended with two (2) half days' planning sessions in the month of January 2022, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion passed with one (1) nay by Trustee Meck and three (3) ayes.

Trustee Knuston moved to amend the motion to reflect the comments the board heard on explanations on Marijuana, Back the Badge and Water, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

### New Business

**Grand Avenue Street Closure Request:** The North Fork Valley Creative Coalition representative Amy Deluca presented the board with the request to close of the 200 block of Grand Ave between second and third street for the Paonia Creative District Holiday Art Fair held December 4<sup>th</sup>. With additional request to have two (2) food trucks and the Town Hall restrooms open to the public and have the streets either plowed if there is snow or swept before the day of the event.

Trustee Meck moved to grant the request for December 4<sup>th</sup> to include the restrooms of Town Hall be open to public and allow for two (2) food trucks, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion passed unanimously,

**Community Member Request – Permission to Place Giving Library in Poulos Park – Ms. B. Chambles:** Trustee Knuston moved to table this item, seconded by Trustee Meck. Motion unanimously passed.

**Community Member Request – Discussion of Multiple Items Attributed to Members of the Town Staff and Mayor Bachran – Mr. W. Brunner:** Mr. W. Brunner asked the mayor to relinquish the gavel for this item. Mr. W. Brunner commented on the Town Administrator letters of interest and the process of the grant process. Mayor Bachran respond to Mr. W. Brunner comments. Mr. W. Brunner's request to the board is to direct the mayor to study the meeting minutes, town ordinance and state statutes and to report back to the board on her duties, privileges and limits of her office, and the board make a resolution clarifying what factors are admissible in performance reviews.

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Trustee Meck moved to put the grant process on an agenda with in the first quarter of the new year, seconded Trustee Johnson. Motion was rescinded by Trustee Meck.

Trustee Meck moved to extend the meeting for forty-five (45) minutes, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Meck moved to direct the mayor to study the meeting minutes, agendas, town ordinance, state statutes and to report to the board her duty to follow direct or directives the privileges and limits of her office, and that the board pass a resolution clarifying what directives are admissible in staff performance and administration performance reviews. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Trustee Meck moved that the board consider a resolution clarifying what factors are admissible in the performance reviews. Motion failed for lack of a second.

**Delta County School District 50J Amended Contract for Apple Valley Tennis Courts Use:** Trustee Budinger moved to approve the updated agreement for the Delta County School District 50J Amended Contract for Apple Valley Tennis Courts Use, seconded by Trustee Johnson. Motion unanimously passed.

**Resolution 2021-09 Water Rates and Charges:** Trustee Knuston moved to approve the resolution 2021-09 water rates and charges, seconded by Trustee Johnson. Motion passed with one (1) nay by Trustee Meck and three (3) ayes.

**Board Consideration of Mayor Pro-Tem Appointment:** Trustee Meck moved to appoint Trustee Knuston as Mayor Pro-Tem, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Knuston abstained himself from voting.

**Board Consideration of Trustee Open Seats:** Trustee Budinger moved to accept letters of interest until December 2<sup>nd</sup> until 4:30pm and set a special meeting for December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

**Board Consideration of CIRSA Optional Coverages:** Trustee Budinger moved to approve the purchase of additional coverage for no-fault water line and excess liability crime, seconded by Trustee Johnson. Motion unanimously passed.

Bill Brunner suggested looking into a volunteer coverage. Trustee Knuston agreed. Town Administrator will be looking into it.

**Board Consideration of DOLA Housing Assessment Grant Application and Board Clarification of the Grant Review Process:** Trustee Knuston moved to reject the DOLA housing assessment grant application, seconded by Trustee Meck. Motion failed with two (2) ayes by Trustees Knuston and Meck, and two (2) nays by Trustees Budinger and Johnson, and Mayor Bachran abstained. Motion failed.

Trustee Knuston moved to table this item for the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting until there is a full board, seconded by Trustee Johnson. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Meck moved to extend the meeting for another twenty (20) minutes, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

**Letter of Support Request – RCAC Federal Grant Through USDA:** Trustee Meck moved to replace the wording in the last paragraph second sentence to replace “don’t have” with “lack either,” seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

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Trustee Budinger moved to approve the letter of support request – RCAC federal grant through USDA, seconded by Trustee Knuston. Motion passed with two (2) ayes and two (2) nays with Mayor Bachran voting aye.

**Police Chief Recruiter Update and Recommendation Moving Forward:** Trustee Meck moved to accept the proposal from Government Professional Solutions (GPS) at a cost for no more than fifteen-thousand five hundred dollars (\$15,500) for the proposal to provide professional executive search services for the chief position, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Knuston stated that he would volunteer his time in the recruiting process.

Trustee Meck moved to allow Trustee Knuston to volunteer his time the recruiting process of the new chief, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion unanimously passed.

Trustee Knuston abstained from voting.

**Board Consideration of Town Attorney Proposal:** Trustee Knuston moved to extend the recruitment for the attorney, seconded by Trustee Johnson. Motion unanimously passed.

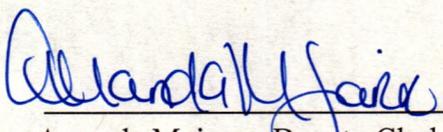
Trustee Meck moved to extend the meeting another five (5) minutes, seconded by Trustee Knutson. Motion unanimously passed.

**Town Hall Holiday Closure Request:** Trustee Knuston moved to approve the holiday closure request from Town Hall, seconded by Trustee Johnson. Motion unanimously passed.

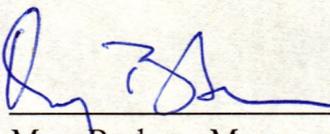
Trustee Knuston moved to approve the expenditure in the police department budget in the amount for the recruiter, seconded by Trustee Budinger. Motion passed with one (1) nay by Trustee Meck and three (3) ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Regular Council Meeting was adjourned at 10:39 pm.

  
Amanda Mojarro, Deputy Clerk



  
Mary Bachran, Mayor