

Minutes
Regular Town Board Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
July 25, 2023

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor Bachran calls the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call

Mayor Bachran
Mayor Pro-Tem Markle (Zoom)
Trustee Stelter
Trustee Smith
Trustee Valentine
Trustee Knutson
Trustee MacInnis

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, Seconded by Trustee Stelter to approve the agenda.

Motion carries unanimously.

Announcements

Happy 5 years for Amanda Mojarro on July 28
Chief Laiminger introduces Corporal Gilliam
Corner of Third and Grand, the new wayfinding sign is up and complete! Thank you, Amy DeLuca, North Fork Valley Creative Coalition and Ira Houseweart.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis, to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carries unanimously.

Staff Reports

Administrator Wynn explains the new Departmental Scorecard and how it will make it easier for both the public and the Board to see what is happening in Town.

Actions & Presentations

1. Consideration of Approval of Western Slope Conservation Centers request for a donation of \$2000 for repair of damages to the school loop trails

Administrator Wynn introduces the new staff reporting and gives a summary of the Western Slope Conservations Center request.

Kathy Swartz gives an update of where they are in their fundraising efforts and Ben Graves explains that they have moved the trail over about 20 ft to help alleviate flood issues in the future.

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Knutson, to approve a donation of \$2000.00 to the WSCC for repair of flooding damage to the school loop trails.

Motion carries unanimously.

2. Discussion and Decisions on parking at the top of Pan American and Vista Drive

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter to continue this discussion while the Town Administrator does some research so he can make a recommendation.

Motion carries unanimously.

3. Consideration of Approval of the Mountain Harvest Festival Request for longer Street Closure

Administrator Wynn talks about ways to streamline the Special Event Permit process and explains that a 17-hour closure is needed instead of the stated 14-hours but all of the required elements are met.

Public Comment:

S. Watson: asks about park use and applications.

Trustee Smith asks about the actual hours of operation. Amy DeLuca explains that the added time is for a buffer for safety more than anything.

Trustee Knutson asks about alcohol control, correct dates (Sept 22, 23, 24), hours of operation (7 a - 12 a), Poulos Park is a part of the liquor control area not activity based, meeting with staff is already scheduled and all legal requirements are met.

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, Seconded by Trustee Valentine, to approve Special Event Application 2023-06 the 22nd Annual Mountain Harvest Festival pending the timely payment of fees & deposits associated with the permit; and the successful outcome of a public hearing for a special event permit with alcohol after adequate notice pursuant to 44-5-106 C.R.S.

Motion carries unanimously.

4. Discussion on possible mobility route from Town Park to Downtown

Trustee Knutson talks about a mobility route being a thing that has often been brought up by the disabled and people with strollers, needing a safe route for them to get from downtown to the park.

Discussion includes Third St north side for sunlight in the winter, using 4th street as part of it, 4th street having less sidewalk and a ditch to contend with, vegetation causing people to go from sidewalk to street, the need for maintenance and code enforcement, defining relationships along that route and liabilities associated with both sides, actually a part of the Master Plan and a Strategic Plan element that should be dealt with.

5. Approval of Opting into Proposition 123 to Increase Affordable Housing

The Board needs to give the Town Administrator authority to opt in to Proposition 123. Administrator Wynn is working with Urban Rural Continuum to establish needs and assess the requirements. The Town is also looking at the USDA requirements for grants and we will continue work closing with DOLA and Urban Rural Continuum to establish whether it is a good idea.

(Mayor Pro-Tem Markle leaves at 7:15 pm due to technical issues)

Public Comment:

S. Watson comments about more research being needed to see if it will benefit the people of Paonia.

Board discussion includes the need for affordable housing, the funding is available but opting in is needed, can the Town define affordability, parameters of affordable, bare minimums of

housing unit needed, using funds for development or land banking, opting in is key to eligibility, possible partnerships after funding, USDA tables meaning, private/public partnership, staff time needed, building processes, contractors.

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter to authorize the Town Administrator to opt-in to Proposition 123 to increase affordable housing.

Motion passes unanimously.

6. Discussion and direction for Urban Rural Continuum about optional add-ons to contract.

Administrator Wynn explains why Urban Rural Continuum is asking about the optional add-ons and that they need to know if they need to schedule time for these.

Board discussion includes funding, time constraints, where funding from in budget.

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter to approve both optional add ins, not to exceed \$8,760.00.

Motion carries unanimously.

7. Consideration of approval of engagement letter for Sherry Caloia as water counsel.

Administrator Wynn explains that our water rights are complicated an Attorney Caloia already has knowledge of the agreements and has agreed to be retained and not raise her rates for \$5000 for the rest of the year, at which time an RFQ will be put out.

Trustee Smith makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis to approve engaging Sherry Caloia as water counsel for the rest of the year.

Motion carries unanimously.

8. Consideration of Approval of sponsoring a Cadet in the Police Academy for employment commitment

Chief Laiminger explains how this type of agreement can help offset recruiting issues and not being able to compete with larger departments, salary-wise.

Board discussion includes whether this is an administrative decision, Chief shouldn't have to come ask for this every time if he is operating within his budget, purchasing policy, education line item would help with that in the next budget, procurement policies, prorated payback clause included in contract.

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Valentine, to approve sponsoring a cadet un the Police Academy in the fall in return for an employment commitment.

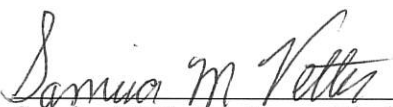
Motion carries unanimously.

Mayor & Trustee Reports


Trustee MacInnis makes a statement that it is important to have the Town define affordable housing to fit our community and find help to get existing homes updated, let's keep that in our sights.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourns at 7:45 pm.


Samira M Vetter, Town Clerk




Mary Bachran, Mayor

