

Minutes
Regular Town Board Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
February 13, 2024

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Public Participation: Must raise hand and be recognized by the Mayor, come to the podium and state your name and the street on which you live. Time limit is 3 minutes, one time per item.

Direct all comments to the Mayor. No responses will be made by staff or Board during the meeting. No derogatory or demeaning statements or public displays. Please be respectful.

Roll Call

Mayor Bachran calls meeting to order at 6:30 pm

PRESENT

Mayor Mary Bachran
Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Knutson
Trustee John Valentine
Trustee Rick Stelter
Trustee Morgan MacInnis
Trustee Kathy Swartz

ABSENT

Trustee Paige Smith (Excused)

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Valentine to approve the agenda. The motion carries unanimously.

Announcements

There will be a Planning Commission Work Session, with Phoenix Rising Resources LLC, at the Blue Sage Center for the Arts, on Sunday March 3rd, 2024 from 1:30 to 3:30pm. This Work Session is specifically focused on the Future Land Use Element of the Comprehensive (Master) Plan. The public is encouraged to attend and comment and one or more members of the Board of Trustees may also be in attendance.

Friday, May 17th, there will be a Dark Sky Film Festival

Trustee MacInnis announces that Cole Berger, who is running for this district will be at Espresso Paonia Time to be announced.

Public Comment

Any topic not included under Actions & Presentations; 3-minute time limit.

Trustee Swartz asks about the skid steer damage at the Town Skate Park.

Consent Agenda

Trustee Swartz makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to approve the consent agenda with the January 23rd Regular Meeting Minutes removed.

The motion carries unanimously.

1. LL 2024-103 Brossanova LLC dba Liquor License Renewal
2. January 23, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
3. Disbursements

Staff Reports

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Wynn goes through his Administrators report with highlights on the 5th and Grand project and playing dodgeball.

Trustee Swartz asks if it is necessary to set a special meeting for the audit.

Police Chief

Chief Laiminger announces that School Resource Officer Training for Officer Heiniger is complete. He is the first nationally certified SRO for Paonia Police Department, this has been a goal for the department since 2022.

February 15th is School Resource Officer Day.

Chief Laiminger also gives a reminder about clearing snow from sidewalks and being watchful for wildlife in town right now.

Mayor Bachran asks about the new speed sign progress and the Chief gives an update.

Actions & Presentations

Public comments must be related to the agenda item, 3-minute time limit.

Presentation: Western Colorado Trust - Libby Collins

This item was Postponed until another meeting.

Agenda Item 1: Consideration of Approval of Town's Response to the Resource Management Plan Amendment for the Uncompahgre Field Office

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson wants to recognize the work that Natasha Leger and Trustee Smith did to complete all of the research and write the letter presented.

Trustee Swartz is very happy with the letter, feels personal.

Cody Perry and Ben Katz are both recognized for their work on the final letter as well.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis to approve the Mayor signing the Town's response to the Resource Management Plan amendment for the Uncompahgre Field Office.

The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of Recommendation of an Ordinance Being Developed to Set a Process for the Board of Trustees to Approve Legal Fees Incurred by the Board.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson gives background on his time on the Board and how easy it is to incur legal fees. He explains what he would like the Town Attorney to develop an official process for Board assignments to be given to the Town Attorney.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis to direct the Town Attorney to develop an Ordinance or Resolution setting a process for the Board of Trustees to Approve Legal fees incurred by the Board of Trustees.

The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion and Possible Approval of Congressionally Directed Spending Requests

Mayor Bachran gives some background on the discussion and the idea of turning the school building into a municipal complex.

Board discussion includes congressional funding and how it works, historical building funds, uses of the building for police, public works and administration, senior center, business incubator, daycare, community center, freeing up space in the Downtown District and Second Street, repairs needed and work to be done, asbestos, leak in roof and many

Public Comment:

J. McGavin: Hidden Valley: Comments on resources already available to the community, and that the Town should focus on water infrastructure.

L. McCone: comments on the need for a bigger Senior Center

S. Keenan: Comments on other school buildings in Town

C. Patterson: Comments on the idea going to the voters.

Board Discussion includes asbestos remediation, staff resources, competing with the private sector, process for purchase and remodeling, opportunity, more than one request at a time, benefits to consolidating Town Staff and equipment, work load, development of property, current building needing renovations, police needing more room but nowhere to grow,

Trustee Swartz makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Valentine, to move forward with requesting Congressionally Directed Spending for 1.5 Million dollars to purchase the School building on Fourth and Grand.

Voting Yea: Trustee Valentine, Trustee Stelter, Trustee MacInnis, Trustee Swartz

Voting Nay: Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson

The motion carries.

Agenda Item 4: Consideration of Approval of Purchase of IWorQ Systems for Public Works

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson to approve the purchase of IWorQ Systems for Public Works.

The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda Item 5: Consideration of Approval of Ordinance 2024-01 Amending Chapters 7 and 10 of the Paonia Municipal Code

The Board discusses the proposed changes and suggest other changes to Chief Laiminger and the Town Attorney.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter to bring the Ordinance back at the next meeting with the proposed changes.

The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda Item 6: Consideration to Approve Submission of Safe Pathways for Paonia RAISE Grant to the US Department of Transportation

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis, to approve submission of Safe Pathways for Paonia Raise Grant to the US Department of Transportation.

The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration of Appointing Town Administrator to Represent the Town at the Pan American Property Owner's Association

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter to appoint the Town Administrator to represent the Town at the Pan American Property Owner's Association

The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda Item 8: Consideration of Appointing the Town Administrator as the Town Representative for the Paonia Ditch Company Annual Meeting

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, Seconded by Trustee Stelter to appoint the Town Administrator as the Town Representative for the Paonia Ditch Company Annual Meeting.

The motion carries unanimously.

Mayor & Trustee Reports

The Town Administrator provides an update on the Skate Park damage.

Adjournment

Mayor Bachran adjourns the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Samira M Vetter, Town Clerk

Mary Bachran, Mayor