

Minutes
Regular Town Board Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
September 12, 2023

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Mary Bachran
Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Knutson
Trustee Paige Smith
Trustee John Valentine
Trustee Rick Stelter
Trustee Morgan MacInnis

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Smith asks a question about Tree Board appointments and suggests due to citizen comments that they extend the application time.

Town Attorney Cotten-Baez is asked for his opinion on renewing appointments for committees.

Trustee Smith makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to approve the agenda.

The motion carries unanimously.

Announcements

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Bachran reads the proclamation aloud before signing it.

Trustee Stelter announces a COVID Outbreak in Delta County and encourages people to wash hands, social distance and consider masks with symptoms.

Trustee Knutson announces that a decision was released on BLM and expresses his thanks for the transparency and response to public comment on the Jumbo Mountain Travel Plan.

Trustee Smith thanks community member Christina Patterson for coordinating the beautiful mural of peonies next to Town Hall.

Public Comment

J. Nall: Project Engineer for 133 Bridge Project gave an update on the repairs and completion date.

C. Simon: Tri-County Health Network, thanks Paonia for Proclamation.

N. Leger: Citizens for a Healthy Community makes a comment about BLM rulemaking in progress and asking Board of Trustees to send a comment letter.

P. Kolbenschlag: makes comment on climate change and crisis in the Gunnison Basin and North Fork Valley.

S. Watson: comments about community buy in for committees.

J. Roth: comments about boards and committees and availability.

Consent Agenda

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carries unanimously.

Staff Reports

Town Administrator

Town Administrator Wynn reports on his successful family move and gives some basic information and promises a more thorough report at the next meeting.

Paonia Police Department

Police Chief Laiminger requests careful and courteous driving for the bridge project and adds detail to his written report.

Public Works

Public Works Director Heiniger reports that Public Works is tackling some large projects, hydrant flow testing and painting, Apple Valley Park retaining wall fixed and shed removed, installing railings for dangerous spots on Paonia Ditch, temporary caps were installed on the walls around the Miner's Statue at Town Park while we wait for granite for permanent repair.

Actions & Presentations

01. Swearing in of Deputy Clerk, Ruben Santiago

Deputy Clerk Santiago is sworn in by Town Clerk Vetter.

02. Board Appointment to the Vacant Trustee Seat

Kathy Swartz introduces herself as an interested community member in the vacant Trustee seat.

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Smith, to appoint Kathy Swartz to the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Swartz was given the oath of office by Town Clerk Vetter.

03. Appointment to the Planning Commission by the Board of Trustees

The only applicant to this position withdrew their application so no appointment was made.

04. Appointment to the Paonia Tree Board by the Board of Trustees

Board discussion ensued over protocol, policies and the appearance of seats not being available for the public to serve.

Public Comment:

S. Zeiman: comment on multiple interested parties just in the room.

C. Patterson: comment on transparency for boards and committees

S. Watson: comment on make-up of Tree Board and Ordinance.

S. Patterson: comment on action to appointment tonight

Trustee Smith makes a motion to advertise the open seat and have applications in by first meeting in October.

Motion dies for lack of a second.

Board discussion: rewriting the ordinance, Arbor Day, sick tree day, matrix rewrite, term limits, duties, responsibilities, and how to fix omissions.

Town Administrator Wynn makes a suggestion how to solve the problem.

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis. to reappoint Paula Martin until January 2024

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson, Trustee Valentine, Trustee Stelter, Trustee MacInnis, Trustee Swartz

Voting Nay: Trustee Smith

The motion carries.

Trustee Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to take a five-minute recess.

Motion carries unanimously.

The meeting resumes at 8:02 pm

Trustee Smith makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis, to have the Town Administrator clarify 2-7-20 of the Paonia Municipal Code: Membership; Terms of the Tree Board.

The motion carries unanimously.

Trustee Smith makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Valentine, to also clarify 2-7-30 to clarify private versus public right of way.

Voting Aye: Trustee Smith, Trustee Valentine, Trustee Stelter, Trustee Swartz, Trustee MacInnis

Abstained: Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson

The motion carries.

05. Consideration of \$25,000 match for a DOLA Admin Grant for Municipal Code Rewrite

Town Administrator Wynn provides background on the project and thoughts behind the code rewrite and process.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to approve the Town Administrator to submit an Admin Grant request to DOLA with the understanding that a minimum of \$25,000 will be required as a match from the Town to complete a Municipal Code Rewrite.

The motion carries unanimously.

Board discussion includes budget year, amendments, line items, RFP's, RFQ's

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Smith, to put out an RFQ for the Code Rewrite.

Town Attorney Cotton-Baez asks that the Board consider the working relationship of RFQ's with the Town of Paonia and the Town Attorney.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson, Trustee Valentine, Trustee Stelter, Trustee MacInnis and Trustee Swartz

Voting Nay: Trustee Smith

The motion carries.

06. Consideration of Ordinance 2023 - 06 Amending Chapter 8 Article 1 of the Town Code and Adopting Traffic Schedules

Town Administrator Wynn provides background on the citizen driven look at the traffic code, speeds, signage, crosswalks, and safety schedules.

Public Comment:

S. Watson: comments on the attention to detail in the Ordinance and OHV's.

Board discussion: wording in ordinance, enforceability, differences in laws to each vehicle, parking restrictions comments and questions, future hopes for parking issues, police, and public works on board, getting the word out, traffic studies, different, clarification of additions.

07. Consideration of Approval: Resolution 2023-15 Authorized Signatories

Motion made by Trustee Stelter, Seconded by Trustee Smith, to approve Resolution 2023-15 Authorized Signatories.

The motion carries unanimously.

Trustee Valentine makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis to extend the meeting to 9:45 pm.

The motion carries unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter to go into Executive Session, pursuant to C.R.S. Sections 24-6-402(4)(a) and (4)(e)(I), for the purposes of considering the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest, and determining positions, developing strategy and instructing negotiators relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation; specifically pertaining to a proposed amendment to the existing tower lease with SBA Communications concerning Town-owned property located on Cemetery Circle Drive.

Motion carries unanimously.

Executive Session begins: 9:01pm

Executive Session ends: 9:33 pm

Attending the Executive Session were Mayor Bachran, Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson, Trustees Smith, Trustee Valentine, Trustee MacInnis, Trustee Swartz, Trustee Stelter, Town Administrator Wynn and Town Attorney Cotton-Baez.

No concerns were stated for the record.

Mayor & Trustee Reports

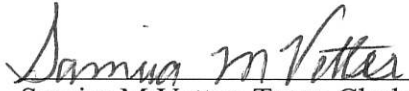
Housing Project Update from Urban Rural Continuum

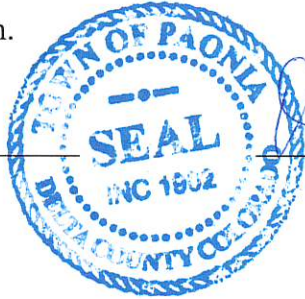
Trustees shared some of the hot topics from the work session for fellow Trustees unable to attend and the public.


Town Clerk Vetter made a note that the Work Session was available to view on the town's YouTube page.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourns at 9:40 pm.


Samira M Vetter, Town Clerk




Mary Bachran, Mayor

