

Minutes
Regular Town Board Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
October 24, 2023

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor calls meeting to order at 6:30PM

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Mary Bachran
Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Knutson
Trustee Paige Smith
Trustee John Valentine
Trustee Rick Stelter
Trustee Kathy Swartz

ABSENT

Trustee Morgan MacInnis

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Smith, to accept approval of agenda.

Motion carries unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson announces a reminder of the Planning Commission meeting to be held on November 1, 2023.

Mayor Bachran announces an opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals & Adjustments- Accepting applications and letters of interest for a 3-year term seat, until November 10, 2023. Position will be appointed at the November 14th, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment

M. Heepke – Thanked the Town and Public Works for the successful Pickle Fest event held at Apple Valley. He provides an update on the skate park work starting 10/25.

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M. Nierenberger –Asking for trash & graffiti to be removed from town park.

Consent Agenda

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

Trustee Smith suggested clarification on page 10, Ms. Watson resigned from Zoning Board of Adjustments since she's been appointed to the Planning Commission.

Motion carries unanimously.

Staff Reports

Departmental Scorecard

Town Administrator Wynn updates the Board on progress made on projects, moving forward with 2022 fiscal audit, signed contract for 'Safe Pathways', and leaf pickup schedules.

Housing Needs Assessment Update

Town Administrator Wynn updates board on project. The final document goes to the Planning Commission on November 1st and they will make a recommendation to the Board at the next regular meeting on November 14th.

Actions & Presentations

Presentation of the DRAFT 2024 Budget to the Board of Trustees

Town Administrator Wynn advises that on 10/15 the draft budget was completed, the timeline is presented for review & edits of budget, and walks through an overview of what he has presented.

Trustee Stelter asks about dog licenses fees and feels amount of dogs are way more than recorded and Administrator Wynn agrees that enforcement is needed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson asks about the sidewalk fee expiring this year. Mayor Bachran explains that was a mistake and it expires in December of 2024.

Town Administrator Wynn continues to go through budget line items.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson questions if the overtime numbers listed are based on last year and Administrator Wynn answers no, that is to-date. As of September, used as a forecast.

Trustee Smith asks about the status of the Town's agreement with Delta County about the building inspector. Town Administrator Wynn explains that that Delta County is in the process of interviewing.

Town Administrator Wynn proceeds to discuss rate increases and 20-year forecast.

Trustee Smith asks about any wage increases since they were not listed in the draft budget. Town Administrator Wynn response that there are no salary increases planned for 2024. Maybe one additional person for Public Works is a possibly. Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson speaks to the importance of being competitive in salary to retain talent. Administrator Wynn asks for suggestions of where to cut within the budget to provide increases so everything balances.

Public Comments:

M. Nierenberger speaks about her Mesa County Landfill experience where she was told by the operator it was limited to locals of that town.

Disclosure of the Police Chief's Interest in Contract with the Town of Paonia

Town Attorney Cotton-Baez speaks to the disclosure of the Police Chief's interest in a 'contract' since he and his wife have purchased the Paonia Car Wash. Police vehicles make up about 8-9% of the car wash business. He doesn't see a conflict but felt a disclosure to the Board was warranted. The car wash bills the town monthly, but he sees exception with state of ethics since there is no other car wash in town to service as competition. The Town Attorney's opinion is that the Town can continue to use the car wash. The Board has right to terminate the contract at any time.

Public comments:

C. Patterson – wonders how much is spent on car wash.

Board Discussion:

Trustee Stelter states it doesn't make sense to travel to another town to use a car wash and wait in line since car wash in the other town is busy. We are not spending a lot of money, then there's the added expense of fuel to drive to another town, it's only one in town. He suggests continues usage.

Town Administrator Wynn explains that it is not only vehicles washed, but also heavy equipment by Public Works. And given convenient location next to the shop, it can become a formalized agreement with the town.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson feels uncomfortable proceeding unless the town has a written contract with the car wash and suggests Chief Laiminger bring something to the Board. Town Attorney Cotton-Baez states a written contract is what is preferred.

Trustee Swartz asks how much the Town spends per year at the car wash. Town Administrator Wynn responds that \$734 to be paid is forecast for 2023.


Mayor Bachran states that a letter formalizing an agreement would be appropriate instead of a contract. The Mayor agrees that driving trucks/equipment to another town is a big difference compared to in-town in regard to fuel costs.

Mayor & Trustee Reports

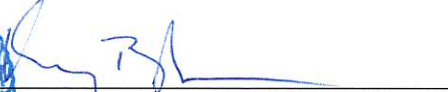
None

Adjournment

Mayor Bachran adjourns the meeting at 8:24PM


Ruben Santiago, Deputy Clerk




Mary Bachran, Mayor

