

Town Council Regular Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
February 12, 2013

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council held Tuesday, February 12, 2013 was called to order at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Neal Schwieterman, Trustees Corinne Ferguson, Ross King, Eric Goold, Amber Kleinman and Larry Wissbeck; Chief Scott Leon; Attorney James Briscoe and Town Clerk Barbara Peterson. Trustee Brian Ayers was absent.

Mayor Schwieterman determined a quorum was present and proceeded with the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Ferguson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustees Kleinman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

- None

Visitors

Unfinished Business

New Business

People Emergency Action Team - Update

No one was available. This item held over until the next meeting

Delta Conservation District – Invasive Species Removal Request

Ralph D'Alessandro, Delta Conservation District, noted the District received a grant to remove invasive weeds along the river corridor. The District has completed approximately 200 acres on both sides of the river to remove Russian olive trees and tamarisk at no cost to landowners, utilizing the Youth Corps. Mr. D'Alessandro observed that the Town owns property along the river and is requesting permission to enter and remove the invasive species from the Town property. Mr. D'Alessandro holds the opinion that there is not enough of the invasive species to warrant reseeding after removal, however, if, when on site, it is determined that it will be necessary, reseeding will occur. The herbicides are safe to use on water and the application is specific, not broad use. The District is following the parcel map provided by Delta County. Trustee Wissbeck moved to approve the invasive weed removal as presented by the Delta Conservation District. Trustee Kleinman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Complaint Policy

Mayor Schwieterman reminded everyone that the Town does not pursue unsigned complaints against employees as a matter of policy. If the complaint is signed and a telephone number given, the Town will follow up.

Park Maintenance Contract - Award

A copy of the contract was provided in Council packets. Trustee Goold noted the Parks Committee and Clerk Peterson considered all six (6) bids and moved to award the one-year contract to Mikel Altenhofen in the amount of \$32,844. Trustee Wissbeck seconded. Trustee Goold thought all the bids were good and the Town was happy to receive that many. Everyone had the basic capabilities, but Trustee Goold's preference was for Mr. Altenhofen because of his experience, already possesses the equipment, and has been satisfied with his work. Trustee Goold also noted that several citizens indicated satisfaction with his performance. Motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2013-01 – Flood Plain Regulations

Mayor Schwieterman noted this proposed ordinance does not vary much from the one passed in 2010, but it is a requirement in order to receive federal funding. Clerk Peterson indicated that it was reviewed by legal, and minor housekeeping changes were made. Trustee King moved to accept Ordinance 2013-01 as presented. Trustees Kleinman and Wissbeck seconded. Paper maps of the flood plain are available at Town Hall, or online at www.fema.gov. Discussion regarding local floods caused by debris buildup ensued. It is unsure if FEMA (Flood Emergency Management Agency) has funding sources for preventative measure projects. Motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

Letters of Support - Ratification

Mayor Schwieterman stated that two (2) time-sensitive letters were sent out. A voice poll was taken to verify support. One (1) letter went to Secretary Salazar regarding the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) oil and gas lease parcels for sale in the North Fork Valley, and the other letter to the El Pomar Foundation in support of the Blue Sage Center for the Arts. Trustee Kleinman moved to ratify the letter to Secretary Salazar. Trustee Goold seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Trustee Kleinman moved to ratify the letter to the El Pomar Foundation. Trustee Goold seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Additional Business

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Schwieterman reported the Creative Coalition is pursuing State designation for the North Fork area. Trustees Goold and King attended the meeting with Mayor Schwieterman, although to reduce the appearance of impropriety, Mayor Schwieterman sat with Delta County Reporter, Kathy Browning. The Coalition will be requesting that a trustee to sit on their board in the near future. The Western Slope Conservation Center (WSSC) unexpectedly received a \$10,000 grant for landscaping. Trustees Goold and Kleinman will meet with WSSC to determine long range plans for the river park. The Paonia Senior Center, KVNF, Paonia Chamber of Commerce, and the Center for Mental Health all sent thank-you letters for donations. Bresnan cable rates are increasing. The Town will be soliciting letters of interest for an in-town citizen to sit on a committee that will arbitrate personnel issues. The position is volunteer and unpaid.

Public Works: Mayor Schwieterman noted that Public Works Director Loberg in Denver for required training. Third Street repairs will start tomorrow. Curtis Adams has been hired in Public Works.

Police Report: Chief Leon submitted a written report. Chief Leon indicated he will be following up with the emergency committee and the schools to move forward with emergency management plans.

Finance Report: Trustee Wissbeck reported Trustee Ayers is out of town, so the Mayor will be the second signature on the checks. Trustee Wissbeck detailed how money will be transferred out of the operating account to open other accounts for direct deposit/payroll purposes, and to open another investment account to diversify funds. Trustee Wissbeck stated the next court date regarding Ms. Chesnik will be March 11, 2013.

Parks Report: Trustee Goold reported having preliminary discussions regarding the river park. Trustee Kleinman reported contacting the Teen Center group to get on their agenda in March.

Public Safety Report: Trustees Goold reported maintaining frequent contact with Chief Leon.

Street Report: Trustee King noted receiving the energy report from TerraVision. The Streets Committee will meet with Trustee Ferguson to transfer information regarding the street light evaluation.

Water/Sewer Report: Trustees King and Ferguson had nothing to report.

Personnel Report: Trustee Ferguson reported her and Trustee Goold are working on updating the job description and proposal for hiring of a Town Manager.

Minutes:

Corrections noted. Trustee King moved to approve the minutes of January 22, 2013 as amended. Trustee Wissbeck seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Disbursements:

Trustee Wissbeck moved to pay the bills ending February 12, 2013. Trustee Goold seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7:43 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Town Clerk, Barbara Peterson

Mayor, Neal Schwieterman