

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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council held Tuesday, March 12, 2013 was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Neal Schwieterman, Trustees Brian Ayers, Corinne Ferguson, Eric Goold, Ross King and Larry Wissbeck; Chief Scott Leon; Public Works Director Travis Loberg; Attorney James Briscoe and Town Clerk Barbara Peterson. Trustee Amber Kleinman was absent.

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

Approval of Agenda

Trustee King moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustees Wissbeck seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Paonia High School

Mandy Bushta and Ty Coats reported that standardized testing would be happening for the next two (2) weeks. The Dinner show will be held on March 29 and 30, 2013. Joanna Godwin has tickets available for anyone interested. The wrestlers added another state title. Boys' basketball did well at regionals. Tennis, track and baseball seasons just started and there are a couple of students going to Delta to participate in soccer.

Announcements

- The North Fork Valley Heart and Soul collaboration simulation for the Trustees of Paonia, Hotchkiss and Crawford is set for March 19, 2013 in Crawford. Dinner is at 5:00 p.m. and the program should be over by 8:00 p.m. RSVP to Clerk Peterson.
- Trustee Ferguson has laryngitis.

Visitors

Cindy Schwartzendruber of the Paonia High School Facilities Committee, along with Joanna Godwin and Shelly Clemens, reported receiving a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) planning grant for \$75,000 with matching funds in the amount of \$25,000 from Bear Ranch to plan for a sport facility complex at the Paonia High School. Thank you Bear Ranch! Ms. Schwartzendruber extended an invitation to Council and the community to attend the public meetings to submit ideas. The first meeting is on Monday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Paonia High School. Shannon Weber of Design Concepts is the architect for the project and will be at the meeting. The Delta County School District has provided parameters. The second meeting on May 29, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. should have preliminary drawings available and a design presentation. The final meeting will be either July 18, or 19, 2013 with a barbeque and hoping to have the designs roped off in the actual areas to show the design on the grounds.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Pickin' Productions – Concert Series Request

Trustee Goold noted he would not be voting on this issue due to a possible conflict of interest. Rob Miller thanked the Board for five (5) great years of Pickin' in the Park. Mr. Miller indicated the numbers were not quite adding up for last year and community help was requested. Sharon Kropp is a new partner and the concert series is doing all right with sponsors for the upcoming year. Mr. Miller did not come during budget time because of the unsure nature of the program at that time. Mayor Schwieterman noted that this was discussed at the staff meeting where staff had tried to find someplace to squeeze some funding, but the budget is very tight. Mayor Schwieterman asked if there were any other in-kind activities the Town may be able to provide. Mr. Miller noted that the Town has been great in supporting the concert series via parks maintenance, accessibility, etcetera and the intent is to start fundraising in the fall. 2012 was just a wacky year. Mayor Schwieterman noted this is a great community event and thank you.

Littlejohn – Recommendation Request

Mayor Schwieterman noted Tristan Littlejohn is a junior at Paonia High School who is seeking an appointment to a military academy. Mayor Schwieterman read the proposed letter of support for visitor benefit. Trustee Goold moved to endorse the letter being sent on behalf of Tristan Littlejohn as presented. Trustee Ferguson seconded. Discussion ensued regarding military academy verbiage. Trustee Ayers commented on Boy's State being very worthwhile and admission into a military academy is competitive. Motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

North Fork Valley Airport – Update

Mayor Schwieterman provided a brief history, noting that according to the 2009 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), local cost shares for capital improvements are calculated according to ownership; Paonia at 75% and Delta County 25%. Mike Clausen, the Fixed Base Operator, noted recent amenities such as the courtesy car and bikes and a campsite area that have helped to increase pilots stopping there. Fuel sales in the last two (2) years have almost doubled. The Colorado Pilots Association think highly of the airport enough to give an Outstanding Airport Award. Mr. Clausen noted that pilots come not just for the low fuel costs, but because of the amenities offered. The airport is seeing more pleasure than business trips. North Fork Aviation will also be installing a new windsock. The North Fork Airport, designated code 7V2, shows an economic impact (multiplier number) of \$587,300. Mr. Larry Garrett noted local uses for the airport include medivac services, crop seeding, fire spotting, fire control/management, mountain rescue services, lost cattle, wildlife trail and route reconnaissance. Tourists are coming in to attend festivals, concerts and some are just on scenic tours. This airport could handle 40 planes a day. The diversity of uses at the airport contributes to the economic diversity of the valley, which helped to lessen the impacts of the recent recession. Mr. Garrett has spoken at career days and noted other military and commercial applications. A capital improvements list was included in Board packets. The current proposal is to add a taxiway for owner funded new hangers. The hanger owners are providing the matching funds of \$40,000 for the \$400,000 project. The MOU requires that both the Town of Paonia and Delta County approve of any capital requests. The airport is already working with Delta Montrose Electric Association for electrical services to the new hangers. Attorney Briscoe has done some research on public/private partnerships, noting several have been successful. Usually these agreements have a provision for escrowed amounts with no public entity liability. Trustee King would like to see a formal proposal with the elements outlined rather than voting on a budgeted line item. This item was continued to the next meeting.

Additional Business

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Schwieterman intended to appoint Trustee Kleinman, at her request, to the Creative Coalition Board as requested at the last meeting. Trustee Kleinman was so appointed. There is information in Board packets from the Colorado Municipal League (CML) regarding Amendment 64. The Department of Revenue should be coming out with regulation in July, and the Board will need to decide if this is going to be a ballot issue at the same time. Mayor Schwieterman and Trustee Wissbeck went to the Chesnik arraignment, which was continued until April. Trustee Wissbeck spoke with Assistant District Attorney Kerri Yoder and the hearing on April 29th should be more substantive.

Public Works: Public Works Director Loberg noted the Third Street sewer project is on hold for a week due to parts being ordered. The project will start back up on March 18, 2013. So far, the projected expenses are under budget. Mayor Schwieterman noted the trench walls were collapsing and the most important thing is the safety of the workers.

Police Report: Chief Leon submitted a written report.

Finance Report: Trustee Wissbeck assured the Board that the committee is paying strict attention to the bills.

Parks Report: Trustee Goold reported he would meet with Trustee Kleinman upon her return. Mayor Schwieterman reported the Ellen Hansen Smith Center sign was installed and over the main door. The tennis courts are slated for completion in September. Clerk Peterson noted that some aspects of the Apple Valley park renovation would wait until after the tennis courts are complete due to construction requirements. Mayor Schwieterman reported receiving a telephone call about the Frisbee golf course at Apple Valley Park and the possibility of infants being killed by Frisbees. This person had complained to Town Hall, but the person had not seen anything done to date. Clerk Peterson noted the person had called regarding Frisbee player trespass issues, whereby Trustee Kleinman and former Trustee Lucien Pevec were contacted to move to station away from the property owner. A written complaint received on the parks maintenance contract will be addressed upon Trustee Kleinman's return.

Public Safety Report: Trustees Ayers and Goold had nothing to report.

Street Report: Trustee King reported waiting for the street lighting and railroad reports.

Water/Sewer Report: Trustees King asked about research on the Gunnison water attorney's information. Attorney Briscoe to schedule a meeting with the Water Committee. Trustee Goold asked about the Upper Treatment (2MG) water project application. Clerk Peterson indicated that both the Water and Power Authority, and Rural Development have copies of the Preliminary Engineering Report for review. A time extension has been requested by the Department of Health and Public Welfare to complete the project. The Town was commended for reading the Rural Development documents and the fine print requires some preliminary actions that Clerk Peterson is working to complete. A pre-application meeting has been scheduled with the Water and Power Authority for March 28, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., which the Water Committee is invited.

Personnel Report: Trustee Ferguson reported reviewing promising material on employee retirement plans and continue meetings regarding a Town Manager.

Minutes:

Corrections noted. Trustee King moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2013 as amended. Trustee Goold seconded and the motion passed with an abstention from Trustee Ferguson.

Disbursements:

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

8:38 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Town Clerk, Barbara Peterson

Mayor, Neal Schwieterman