

Town Council Regular Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
November 25, 2014

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council held Tuesday, November 25, 2014 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Neal Schwieterman, Trustees David Bradford, Ross King, Amber Kleinman, Charles Stewart, and Suzanne Watson; Town Manager Jane Berry; Chief Scott Leon; Public Works Director Travis Loberg; Finance Officer Cindy Jones; and Town Clerk Barbara Peterson.

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

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Schwieterman suggested adding an executive session after Disbursements for personnel reasons. Trustee King moved to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Schwieterman announced Trustee Goold was caught by inclement weather and was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Congratulations to the Paonia Eagles High School football team for winning the 1A State Championship over Buena Vista last Saturday.

Mayor Schwieterman left the football game to attend the Select Band concert in Montrose. It was a great concert and amazing to see what successful band teachers can do with students. The conductor indicated surprise at the superior ability of the students.

Sunday had the encore play performance of "Hippies and Rednecks Unite!" This play incorporated area kids' perspective and ideas translated into a worthwhile and poignant production.

Monday night, the Paonia High School performed the play "13 Worst Break-ups of All Time" and finished the evening with hilarious improvisational renditions from students.

Visitors

None

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 2014-04 - Codification

A work session was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. before the next meeting on December 9, 2014.

New Business

Budget – Public Hearing

Manager Berry noted the Board has been considering the proposed 2015 budget. Copies are available in the front office for public perusal. Although the staff has been reviewing how to reduce expenses, the General Fund still has deficit spending, and Manager Berry is still addressing serious concerns regarding staffing and service levels. The proposed budget maintains the existing mill levy. Rate increases in sewer and trash are being considered to keep the Enterprise Fund in balance. All major capital projects are being continued. No comments from the public. Hearing concluded.

Additional Business

Mayor's Report: Mayor Schwieterman noted the abstract from the election provided in the packets.

Charter Communications is increasing the television surcharge effective January 2015.

Last Friday, the Creative District held a stakeholder meeting. Over 50 people attended. The North Fork Creative District is one of two non-profits in the state. The goal was to get leaders together.

Last Tuesday, Delta County Economic Development (DCED) organized a meeting with Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) to discuss broadband. Government, businesses, community leaders including the hospital and school district voiced the needs of their respective entities. DMEA is bringing the fiber optics to rural areas, with the intent to be completed by the end of 2015. The question becomes as to whom will bring the service from the substations to the consumers for faster internet; which is rapidly becoming a necessity in this area.

Town Manager: Manager Berry met with website designer Christie Eller and Deputy Clerk Ferguson today. Manager Berry will meet with Trustees Watson and Goold upon their return. The Town is anticipating the new site being live by the end of January 2015. Manager Berry will be working with the Board for content. The Town owns the domain, has full access and full control with no copyright issues. Manager Berry may be asking residents for photos to give credit on the website. The design is intended to be user friendly with scrolling to allow for viewing on other types of devices.

After the beginning of the year, Manager Berry will be working on formalizing the Board committee structure as it is an essential communication tool.

DMEA will be installing the street Christmas lights on December 9, 2015.

An audit Request for Proposal (RFP) was mailed out to 11 firms that will be due on December 30, 2014. The Finance Committee will put the results in a spreadsheet and make a recommendation to the Board for contract award.

The Town offices are closed the Friday after Thanksgiving.

Public Works: Director Loberg reported the construction on the One-Million Gallon (1MG) water tank roof is underway. The Reynolds Spring raw water line has approximately 650 feet left to do on the main project and the change orders projects may start by the end of this week.

Police Report: Chief Leon submitted a written report. Last meeting, Chief Leon was unavailable due to an infant death investigation. Regarding the Paonia Library burglary, Officer Ferguson received information that was substantiated enough to obtain arrest warrants. This case may tie into a number of other incidents that happened around the same time, but not the Catholic Church case.

The department has received the latest version of emergency response plan from the schools. Chief Leon will be talking with the Delta County School Superintendent regarding a school safety program to implement.

Finance: Trustees Stewart and Bradford had nothing to report.

Parks: Trustees Kleinman and Watson had nothing to report.

Personnel: Trustee Kleinman had nothing to report.

Public Safety: Trustee Stewart had nothing to report.

Streets: Trustees King and Bradford had nothing to report.

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

Minutes:

Correction noted. Trustee King moved to accept the minutes of November 12, 2014 as amended. Trustee Stewart seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Disbursements:

Trustee Stewart moved to pay the bills, including the payroll withholdings through November 25, 2014. Trustee Bradford seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Bradford moved to go into executive session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees. Trustee Watson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7:29 p.m. Meeting recessed.

8:18 p.m. Meeting reconvened.

Participants in the executive session were Mayor Schwieterman, Trustees Bradford, King, Kleinman, Stewart, and Watson and Town Manager Berry. No concerns were noted.

8:19 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Town Clerk, Barbara Peterson

Mayor, Neal Schwieterman