

Town Council Regular Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
November 26, 2013

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council held Tuesday, November 26, 2013 was called to order at 7:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Neal Schwieterman, Trustees Brian Ayers, Eric Goold, Ross King, Amber Kleinman and Sarah Sauter; Chief Scott Leon; Public Works Director Travis Loberg; Finance Officer Cindy Jones; Deputy Clerk Corinne Ferguson and Town Clerk Barbara Peterson. Trustee Larry Wissbeck was absent.

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

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Goold moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Ayers seconded. Discussion regarding the canceled staff meeting and Riverbank Neighborhood ensued. There was no report on either topic. Motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

Paonia High School Update

No one was available to report.

Announcements

Mayor Schwieterman announced the Paonia High School football team won the 1A Division State Championship. Paonia Sixth Graders won first place at MathCounts with individuals taking second, third, fourth and ninth places. The Seventh Grade Team "A" won first place while Team "B" took third place. The Seventh and Eight Grade Knowledge Bowl Team "A" won first place and Team "B" took third place. Mayor Schwieterman commended the students for doing great in both academics and sports. Congratulations!

Everyone is invited to James Briscoe's retirement party to be held on December 14, 2013 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Creamery Arts Center in Hotchkiss.

Visitors

Steve Keenan noted there may be the possibility of a new federal carbon tax and suggested that the coal companies might want to look into renewable energy credit with existing farms in the area. Mr. Keenan used a town in North Carolina that is reviewing options for a carbon neutral downtown. Mr. Keenan feels that the practice of renewable energy credits may bridge the gap between coal and agriculture in this area.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Paonia Chamber of Commerce – Special Event Liquor License Request

John Schultz was present. The Paonia Chamber of Commerce is requesting a special event liquor license for December 13 and 20, 2013 for events at the Paradise Theatre located at 215 Grand Avenue. Chief Leon indicated no issues. Trustee Kleinman moved to approve the special event liquor license request as presented. Trustee Ayers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Additional Business

Mayor's Report: Mayor Schwieterman reported that the Town will be going back to the Gunnison Basin Roundtable for more funding for the Lamborn Water Treatment project and then that same application will be addressed by the Colorado Water Conservation Board the end of January near the Denver Tech Center. Another funding opportunity was discovered via the Colorado Water District for the same project. Every grant dollar received makes it easier for the Town to keep utility costs reasonable.

There was a work session regarding the hiring of a Town manager.

There will be one more budget work session on December 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., as the budget needs to be adopted at the meeting on December 10, 2013.

Public Works: Director Loberg reported the culvert on Second Street has been installed and while the entire project is not complete, traffic is being allowed through.

The Parks Committee had received reports that some of the fitness path edging has made its way into the creek and if so, to please retrieve.

Police Report: Chief Leon reported that while, there have been no major crimes, there have been increases in domestic violence and minor traffic accidents. There was a serious hit and run a couple of weeks ago on the 200 block of Delta and that incident does have pending charges.

Finance Report: Trustee Ayers reported the budget is being worked on. Trustee Ayers commended Finance Officer Cindy Jones for exceptional work.

Parks Report: Trustee Goold thanked Parks Maintenance Contractor Mikel Altenhofen, Public Works and Chief Leon for getting the football field in shape for the championship game. There were approximately 1500 people in attendance and the field held up well.

Trustee Kleinman noted that changes have been made regarding the Parks Maintenance Contract and that will be going out to bid soon.

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

Street Report: Trustees King and Kleinman met with Public Works to discuss Third Street Engineering. One issue that has surfaced is that people are parking on both sides of the road at certain times of the week. The Committee is evaluating the possibility of widening the street up to Oak Avenue. The widening will incur additional costs. After discussion regarding a public hearing in January, the Board concurred to use existing plans until public input has an opportunity to be presented.

Mayor Schwieterman reported the railroad did do a little bit of work on the pedestrian path at the Third Street crossing.

Water/Sewer Report: Trustees King and Sauter had nothing to report. Trustee Goold asked if the pursuing of the aforementioned funding opportunity from Colorado River District affect any of the current funding. Mayor Schwieterman noted that no, it will not affect any current funding. The Town executed the \$1,000,000 grant from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and the loan is in process. Any funds obtained will back fill the loan so the Town would not have to borrow as much.

Personnel Report: Trustee Sauter reported applicants for the Town Attorney have interviews scheduled for next week.

Minutes:

Corrections noted. Trustee Goold moved to accept the minutes for November 12, 2013 as amended. Trustee Kleinman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Disbursements:

Trustee Ayers moved to pay the bills through November 26, 2013. Trustee Goold seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Town Clerk, Barbara Peterson

Mayor, Neal Schwieterman