

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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The Regular Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at Town Hall.

Members Present

Mayor  
Trustees

Borchard  
Creecy  
Day  
Gutierrez  
Kindall  
Nielsen

Town Staff Present

Administrator  
Town Clerk  
Police Chief

Cook  
Tupy  
Thompson

Citizens Present: Jones, Diana.

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Borchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## ROLL CALL

All Board members were present, with the exception of Trustee Turner.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Borchard asked for changes to the agenda. Administrator Cook noted that Line Item F under New Business was added, a discussion regarding COVID-19 Relief Funds (CVRF) Business Assistance Program application. A motion was made by Trustee Nielsen to accept the agenda with the changes listed. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

## APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Creecy to approve the minutes of September 15, 2020 as is. Second by Trustee Gutierrez. All ayes. Motion carried.

## APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

A motion was made by Trustee Nielsen to approve the disbursements dated September 30, 2020. Second by Trustee Creecy. Ayes: Trustees Creecy, Gutierrez, Kindall and Nielsen. Abstain: Trustee Day due to line item 33 under the Water Fund. Motion carried.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

***Consideration of donation request from Meeker Skijor.*** Diana Jones was present representing Meeker Skijor, she stated they are asking for an in kind donation of Public Works time to obtain and groom snow and a donation for prize money of \$5,000; she stated the purse is the key to drawing contestants in; she also noted that they are in the process of working on completing their budget and will submit it to the Town once it is complete. Trustee Creecy inquired what the Town donated last year; Ms. Jones stated \$700. The event will be held February 19-21, 2021. Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the donation request from Meeker Skijor in the amount of \$5,000 and the in-kind donation of Public Works time. Moved by Trustee Nielsen. Second by Trustee Creecy. All ayes. Motion carried.

***Presentation of public draft of the Town of Meeker's proposed 2021 Budget and scheduling a public hearing.*** Administrator Cook gave a summary of the 2021 budget, the budget increases

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include a 5% increase for liability insurance for the Board and Police department, we are expecting an increase in workers Comp and Unemployment Insurance, both were budgeted high; dispatch fees were included but we have not received an amount from Rio Blanco County, health insurance has increased by 5.5%, we budgeted for the additional Admin. position at \$50,000/year plus benefits & withholding totaling \$80,378; the sixth Police Officer position at \$60,000/year plus benefits & withholding totaling \$96,815; Administrator Cook recommends not filling either position until late summer or early fall depending on the revenues that come in, there will be no employee raises for next year, several line items have been reduced or cut all together, expenses have been reduced in every Department.

After the September budget workshop, the following System Development items have been cut: Business Grant program \$50,000; Community Improvement by \$30,000; Marketing/Economic Development by \$20,000; Third Street Facility Improvements by \$43,750; School Street Sidewalk \$240,00. These cuts total \$383,750.

Capital projects for both the General Fund and Water Fund next year are minimal, all purchases are essential items only.

As presented total expenses in the General Fund are \$2,917,810 requiring \$1,030,119 of reserves to balance the budget; Systems Development total is \$894,940 which is projects or ongoing support; total expenses in the Water Fund are \$941,718 requiring \$350,418 of reserves to balance the budget, Systems Development total is \$336,900 in projects, a motion is required to accept the proposed budget and schedule the public hearing for November 17, 2020. Administrator Cook noted there could be some changes to the budget between now and November 17<sup>th</sup> including RBC Dispatch fees. Hearing no questions Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the presentation of the public draft of the Town of Meeker's proposed 2021 Budget and scheduling a public hearing for November 17th. Moved by Trustee Gutierrez. Second by Trustee Creecy. All ayes. Motion carried.

***Consideration of Resolution 11, Series 2020 designating an emergency reserve for the Town of Meeker Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund as provided by the Constitution of the State of Colo., Article X, Section 20.*** Administrator Cook stated that the designation is required by TABOR and the amount designated cannot go below 3% of the highest year spent which is \$110,650.00. Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the consideration of Resolution 11, Series 2020 designating an emergency reserve in the amount of \$110,650.00 for the Town of Meeker Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund as provided by the Constitution of the State of Colo., Article X, Section 20. Moved by Trustee Gutierrez. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

***Approval of the Meeker Police Dept.'s Annual Elk Bugling Contest and a discussion regarding Meeker Police Dept. uniforms.*** Chief Thompson stated the annual Elk Bugling Contest is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup>, it will be held at the Fairfield Center, COVID precautions have been put in place and Public Health has approved the event, the Board of Trustees supported Chief Thompson's decision to host the annual event.

There was a brief discussion on new uniforms for the Police Department, Chief Thompson stated the Department decided on black pants and dark gray shirts, the new uniforms will be cheaper

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than what they are currently wearing. Administrator Cook noted that the uniform line item was approved in the 2020 budget.

***Discussion regarding COVID-19 Relief Funds (CVRF) Business Assistance Program application.*** Trustee Creecy recused himself from the conversation because he is an applicant. Administrator Cook reported the Town has received five applications that total \$104,433 which leaves a remaining \$45,000 in available relief funds; the funds were set up on a first come first serve basis with no limitations on how much a business could receive, applicants must submit an application, provide paid invoices and receipts and meet the criteria established by the US Treasury and DOLA. Trustee Day expressed his concerns that it could cause harm to a business if they purchased items expecting to be reimbursed by the grant money and it gets wiped out by another business before they receive it. The general consensus of the Board was to allow businesses to apply for the funds, upon approval the Town will reserve those funds to complete their project, and the Town will reimburse them after we receive the paid invoices/receipts.

## **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Borchard reported there was a thank you letter from the Meeker Mustang Makeover in the packet.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Administrator Cook gave an update on Circle Park stating that excavation is 60% completed, they have hit bedrock and have inquired about using several low charge explosives to get through the bedrock, Town Code does not prohibit the use of explosives but we will require a copy of the permit and plan submitted to ATF and TDA Construction was advised to check the Army Corp of Engineers if it was allowed with their permit.

RBC Commissioners would like to hold a meeting with the Town Trustees on October 13th at 10am to discuss dispatch, Administrator Cook was not given an agenda but will reach out again for one, Chief Thompson will attend by phone.

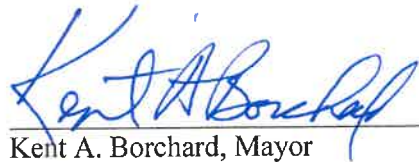
Administrator Cook reminded the Board that Western Slope Consulting would like your prioritizations for the Comp Plan; Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> is Columbus Day and Town Hall will be closed.

## **OTHER BOARD BUSINESS**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Borchard adjourned the meeting at 7:51pm.

  
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Kent A. Borchard, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Amy Tuoy, Town Clerk