

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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The Regular Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at Town Hall.

Members Present	Mayor Trustees	Borchard Day Kindall Nielsen Lockwood Jehorek
Town Staff Present	Administrator Town Clerk Admin Asst Police Chief	Etheridge Cook Pakuer Thompson

Citizens Present: Baughman, Rob; Crawford, Vicky; Rogers, Mark; Smith Davey; Halandras, Regas; Cunningham, Mary (attended by phone).

## **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 except for Trustee Gutierrez.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Borchard asked for changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Nielsen to accept the agenda as submitted. Second by Trustee Lockwood. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Trustee Lockwood clarified the minutes under Other Board Business for January 18, 2022 need to reflect that his conversation was with Director VonRoenn exploring options of ice maintenance and snow removal of the pond. Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the minutes of January 18, 2022 as corrected. Moved by Trustee Lockwood. Second by Trustee Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**

A motion was made by Trustee Day to approve the disbursements dated January 31, 2022. Second by Trustee Lockwood. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Request from Meeker Lions Club for a Special Event Liquor Permit for the Meeker Skijor Event at the 4-H Building, 779 Sulfur Creek Rd. on February 19, 2022.** Mayor Borchard opened the public hearing at 7:05 pm. Town Clerk Cook stated Mark Rogers was present representing the Meeker Lions Club. Cook informed the board Diana Jones is the event manager; the event will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to 12:00pm at the Rio Blanco Fairgrounds

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4H Building; County Commissioners granted permission for use of the 4-H building. Chief Thompson has no objections to the permit submitted and staff recommends approval. Mayor Borchard asked for further discussion, hearing none he closed the public hearing at 7:08 and called for a motion to approve the request from Meeker Lions Club for a Special Event Liquor Permit for the Meeker Skijor Event at the 4-H Building, 779 Sulfur Creek Rd. on February 19, 2022. Moved by Trustee Lockwood. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Request from VFW to dedicate 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> street bridges.** Mr. Rob Baughman Senior Vice Commander/Acting Commander along with Ms. Vicky Crawford Auxiliary President were present representing the VFW Post 5843. Ms. Crawford informed the board that in 1943 Pete Kiser Sr. served in WW II in New Guinea until his discharge in 1946, during this time Mr. Kiser received two Bronze Stars. In 1943 Mr. Ernest E. Garcia served as a medic during WW II until his discharge in 1945, during this time Mr. Garcia received a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, WW II Victory Medal, Combat Medical Badge, and an Honorable Service Badge. Crawford stated both men were embedded fixtures in the community for many years and were the last of a great generation. The VFW 5843 and American Legion Nichols Goedert Post 74 would like to propose naming the Circle Park Bridge as the Peter F. Kiser Sr. Veteran Memorial Bridge, Mr. Kiser passed away at ninety-nine years of age. The organization would also like to request naming the Tenth Street Bridge as the Ernest E. Garcia Veteran Memorial Bridge, who passed away at ninety-eight years of age. Administrator Etheridge informed the board if they decide to approve this request, a resolution needs to be prepared for the next board meeting. Hearing no further questions or concerns, Mayor Borchard asked Administrator Etheridge to move forward with having a resolution for approval at the next board meeting.

**Consideration of price quotes from AXON for PD purchase of non-lethal weapons.** Police Chief Thompson informed the board that after taking into consideration the different options available he has decided to table purchasing non-lethal weapons for approximately three years. There were no further concerns from the board and no action was taken.

**Consideration of 2022 Ute Park permit for David Smith Ranches.** Administrator Etheridge stated Mr. David Smith was in attendance representing the David Smith Ranches Inc. Etheridge informed the board the lease agreement is the same as it was for 2021, stating the permit agreement will be from February 20, 2022 through May 15, 2022. Mayor Borchard asked Mr. Smith if he agreed with the 2022 Ute Park permit, Mr. Smith stated he was in agreement. Hearing no further questions or concerns Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the 2022 Ute Park permit for David Smith Ranches. Moved by Trustee Lockwood. Second by Trustee Jehorek. Ayes: Trustee Day, Nielsen, Lockwood and Jehorek. Nays: Trustee Kindall. Motion passed.

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**Consideration of 2022 Ute Park permit for Meeker Classic.** Administrator Etheridge stated Regas Halandras President of the Meeker Classic, and Director Mary Cunningham were present representing the Meeker Classic. Etheridge informed the board the 2022 Ute Park permit for Meeker Classic will be the same as in years past, with dates commencing on August 1, 2022 and terminating on September 26, 2022 for the Sheepdog Trails. Ms. Cunningham stated that last years event had over nine-thousand views on their live stream over a three-day span. Mr. Halandras stated the Meeker Classic had to do some maintenance on the Wilbur barn steps, power panels, and some of electrical GFI's that are starting to fail. The Meeker Classic will continue with maintenance of the property including purchasing electrical assistance to replace worn out GFI's through donations. Trustee Lockwood suggested they keep the electrical up to code. Trustee Nielsen requested the Meeker Classic keep the Board informed as improvements are being made. Mr. Halandras also stated currently the Classic is paying ten thousand dollars to rent a 45x80 tent. He has spoken with a couple local entities that would be interested in helping with the cost of building a steel frame shed to put on Ute Park. The building would not be enclosed; however it would have electricity and would be a building with little to no maintenance. This is in the very preliminary stages and Halandras will keep the board informed as things progress. Trustee Day stated that any permanent structure should be part of a broader vision for Ute Park. Mayor Borchard stated that this could be a consideration as the Town uses the recently adopted Master Plan as a guide. Hearing no further discussion Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the 2022 Ute Park permit for Meeker Classic. Moved by Trustee Nielsen. Second by Lockwood Trustee. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Discussion regarding winter maintenance of Circle Park Pond.** Administrator Etheridge informed the board that their request for a legal perspective from Attorney Massih with information based on the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act (CGIA) regarding the liabilities of maintaining the Circle Park Pond was shared in their packet. Mayor Borchard stated the Town has good insurance. After a lengthy discussion of various options, it was decided the best avenue to take would be for a private group of interested individuals or parents be formed to keep the Circle Park Pond in condition for ice skating and related activities.

**Consideration Of Resolution #02-2022 Cancelling The Regular Scheduled Municipal Election And Declaring Three Trustees And The Mayor Elected.** Town Clerk Cook introduced Resolution No. 02-2022, stating the cancellation of the regular scheduled election by the designated election official and declaring three trustees and a mayor elected. The April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Town of Meeker Regular Election is hereby cancelled; and the Designated Election Official has certified the Nomination Petitions, in accordance with 31-10-507, C.R.S. and MMC Section 2.04.050, the following candidates are here by declared elected. Trustees and the Mayor will be sworn in at the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Town Meeting. The new Town officials will have the corresponding terms: Kent Borchard-Mayor-2 year term; Tiffany Jehorek-Trustee-4 year term; Christopher Lockwood-Trustee-4 year term; Scott Nielsen-Trustee-4 year term. Mayor Borchard

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called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 02-2022 Cancelling the regular scheduled election by the designated election official and declaring three trustees and a mayor elected. Moved by Trustee Day. Second by Trustee Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Administrator Etheridge informed the board the Community Development/Planner position will run in the Herald Times the weeks of February 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and an ad will also be run in the Post Independent covering the Roaring Fork Valley area.

## **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Nothing.

## **OTHER BOARD BUSINESS**


Trustee Lockwood inquired if the Town is awarded the \$300,000.00 from Just Transition funding how will it be distributed. Administrator Etheridge explained out of the \$300,000 total we would like to put \$50,000.00 towards the Chamber of Commerce for the Town Hall upstairs remodel, and approximately \$13,500.00 of the \$50,000.00 will go towards getting Information Technology setup. Doug is working with the County to inquire if they will allow the Town and the Chamber to run together on one strand of fiber. That would leave \$250,000.00 remaining, Etheridge would like to request this money go back into the local business grant project. In other business Trustee Nielsen informed Chief of Police Thompson there is some suspicious activity happened up Sulfur Creek Road. Nielsen stated there is a lot of traffic and beer bottles, he doesn't want the community to have another fatality with one of our youths. Chief Thompson will let Sheriff Mazzola know.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Borchard adjourned the meeting at 8:08pm.

  
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Kent A. Borchard, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Lisa Pakuer, Admin. Assistant