

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at Town Hall.

Members Present

Mayor
Trustees

Borchard
Day
Gutierrez
Jehorek
Kindall
Nielsen

Town Staff Present

Administrator
Town Clerk
Attorney
Police Chief
PW Superintendent

Etheridge
Cook
Massih attended by phone
Thompson
Overton

Citizens Present: Smith, Davie; Kobald, Stephanie; Turner, Niki; Hanks, Jim.

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 Trustee Lockwood

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Kindall to approve the minutes of October 4, 2022, as submitted. Second by Trustee Gutierrez. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

A motion was made by Trustee Day to approve the disbursements dated October 18, 2022. Second by Trustee Kindall. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Planning Commission Application from Jim Hanks. Planner Thomson informed the Board there are currently two vacancies on the Planning Commission as Jared Harvey and Jim Kendall have resigned; Jim Hanks who is present applied to serve on the Planning Commission. Mayor Borchard asked Mr. Hanks if he had anything to add. Mr. Hanks replied that he looks forward to helping out. Hearing no further comments Mayor Borchard asked for a consensus of the Board to place the appointment of Mr. Hanks on next the agenda. The Board concurred.

Consideration of Amendment to Ute Park Permit Agreement for David Smith Ranches, Inc. Administrator Etheridge stated Mr. Smith had called asking if the Board would consider amending their permit agreement to allow grazing at Ute Park during the fall for a 30 day period, adding the amendment would be the same as in the past couple years. Etheridge said there would be a foot race happening on November 5th which will go through Ute Park and end at Smoking River Brewery, and she requested the Smith push back his request to accommodate the race, which he agreed. Mr. Smith addressed the Board

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting of the Town of Meeker – October 18, 2022

stating there is quite a bit of green feed on the park still and grazing it may help the Skijoring event that will occur at the end of the year.

Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the amendment to the permit agreement for David Smith Ranches, Inc. Moved by Trustee Day. Second by Trustee Nielsen. Aye: Trustees Day and Nielson. Nay: Trustees Gutierrez, Jehorek and Kindall. Motion failed.

Update from the Chamber of Commerce. Director Kobald updated the Board stating the Chamber has had a great year and thanked the Board for their partnership as it has taken the Chamber to another level. Ms. Kobald reported they have reconnected with the SBDC who will be coming here quarterly for presentations to our business community and so far the turnout has been really good; they will be partnering with the Herald Times for a presentation on developing a business marketing plan; and they are very excited about the OJT grant the Town obtained for audio/visual equipment for the Business Center. Kobald stated the Chamber's focus this past year has been more on business services; a board training was offered earlier this summer and they re-wrote their strategic plan; staff with the State's Main Street program came for an annual visit and encouraged us to apply for the next level in the program, which is Graduate, as the Federal level for funding is changing the requirements which will make it much harder to qualify; currently there is \$10,000 left in the Main Street grant and we may use it for more bike racks and to add more accessories to the parklets; our goal for next year is to convene all of the local event planners to know what everyone is doing and try to build on that; also, the Chamber has been in charge of the survey conducted every year at the Sheepdog Trials, we would like to standardize the survey and use it for all events to obtain information.

Director Kobald said they gained ten new members this year and instead of hosting an annual dinner they plan to have an open house in the new Business Center which will coincide with the Shop Local week; they are considering applying for a REDI grant, using Gunnison as an example to used funding as a subgrant to give to businesses for expansion; the requirement to receive funding is businesses would need to add employees or another service. Kobald stated the cabin is open for visitors and they have been receiving a lot of inquiries about OHV riding and fishing and their goal is not to just promote tourism but to inform visitors to take care of where they recreate using Care for Colorado as a guide.

STAFF UPDATES

Public Works Superintendent Overton reported during the month of September 23,682,000 gallons of water were pumped; they are having problems with beaver dams at the well site between wells 7 and 8 where it causes the road to wash out and it must be cleaned up daily, the landowner, Mr. Edinger, does not want anything done with the beavers.

Police Chief Thomson reported there were 237 calls for the month of September resulting in four citations and no arrests.

Community Development/Planner Thomson stated a report of planning activities for the month had been included in the Board packets; there was one Planning Commission meeting where a representative from DOLA gave a planning refresher presentation; she attended the Housing Colorado workshop in Breckenridge where the focus was on affordable housing and came away with some good ideas; the third Land Use Code workshop is scheduled for October 26th. Mayor Borchard commented he has heard we are making good progress on the code.

Town Clerk gave the financial report as follows: Cash and investments for the third quarter ending September 30th total \$8,695,860.04, the undesignated total for the General Fund is \$4,875,766.39 and the Water Fund \$1,372,325.66, designated funds (reserves) for the General Fund are \$1,742,226 and in the Water Fund \$300,466 although it appears unlikely the Town will be expending the total amount of budgeted reserves this year. Budgets for all departments should be at or under 75% used for this reporting period with

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting of the Town of Meeker – October 18, 2022

most departments at or below, noting the Recycling Dept. is significantly over due to the Board approved unbudgeted increase in this contribution, a supplemental budget will be presented for approval at the next meeting to move the additional cost from the Community Improvement line item in Systems Development to this department. The General Fund without grants, mineral lease and severance revenues or Systems Development expenses is operating at a positive \$76,593 and the Water Fund at a positive \$116,025 for this period.

Town Manager Etheridge reminded the Board of the public meeting to discuss conceptual design plans for the riverfront and Circle Park project is this Thursday, the meeting has been published for two weeks in the paper and posted on Face Book and Instagram and other stakeholders have been emailed directly and we are hoping for good public turnout, slides of the presentation were received today from Tom Smrdel of SWCA and shared with the Board. Etheridge said she would be attending the County budget hearing for CCITF to present the Town's request to subsidize the 2023 11th & 12th Street paving project; will be joining Planner Thomson for a meeting with representatives from US Dept of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); attending the NWCDC meeting Thursday and will report back on new regional funding opportunities being presented; hopes to present next week to the Just Transition committee for our grant application of \$220,000 as additional funding for the River project; also next week will attend the annual USGS river monitoring meeting and Regional Transportation meeting in Steamboat; the strategic planning meetings with REDI Consultant Christine Rambo have been completed and looks forward to seeing how our discussions align with the regional "Roadmap"; and the MHS students are having a "Give Back Day" to support the community and will be helping with yard work and cleanup projects for residents as well as cleaning under 10th Street bridge and along Sulphur Creek, it should have a nice impact on the community.

Town Attorney Massih had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REMARKS


Mayor Borchard reported he had been made aware that the Rangely Mayor met with the County Commissioners about moving our dispatch center to Rangely. Trustee Day suggested the Town stay on top of this and not sit back to wait and see what happens.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Borchard adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.



Kent A. Borchard, Mayor

Attest:



Lisa Cook, Town Clerk