

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Members Present

Mayor
Trustees

Borchard
Day
Gutierrez
Kindall
Nielsen
Lockwood

Town Staff Present

Administrator
Town Clerk
Admin Asst
Police Chief
Planner/Comm. Dev.

Etheridge
Cook
Pakuer
Thompson
Thomson

Citizens Present: Back, Amanda; McGruder, Rhawnie;

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 Jehorek.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Borchard asked for changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Lockwood 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 18, 2022 as submitted. Second by Trustee Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Consideration of Ordinance #02-2022 adopting a supplemental budget. Mayor Borchard opened the public hearing at 7:05 pm. Administrator Etheridge stated that a supplemental budget is necessary when unanticipated revenues are confirmed and because a planning grant was awarded by Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) in the amount of \$150,000 for the Circle Park Phase II project, the award amount of \$150,000 of revenue will be budgeted creating a line item 3500 and the same amount will be included in expenditures creating line item 6028.1 in the General Fund. Because a supplemental budget is being recommended, Town Clerk Cook has suggested

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that it reflect the Board's decision to fund an additional \$7,500 for the Recycling Program in 2022 be allocated to the Recycling program. Therefore, a total of \$7,500 will be transferred from the General Fund line item 6023 in Systems Development to General Fund line item 5184 in the Recycling department. In conclusion a total of \$150,000 will be added to each the General Fund Revenues and Expenditures to balance the 2022 Budget, and the total 2022 appropriation for the General Fund is hereby restated from \$4,155,576 to \$4,305,576. Mayor Borchard asked for further question or concerns, upon hearing none closed the public hearing at 7:07 pm and called for a motion to approve Ordinance #02-2022 adopting a supplement budget. Moved by Trustee Nielsen. Second by Trustee Gutierrez. All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation from Eastern 911 Board regarding state recommended increase on Emergency Telephone Surcharge. Rio Blanco County Dispatch Supervisor Rhawnie McGruder was present. McGruder stated the Public Utility Commission (PUC) has approved a cell phone surcharge increase from \$1.80 per cell phone to \$1.97. All the surcharge revenue goes towards the 911 Public Safety Answering Point Board (PSAP) fund for Eastern Rio Blanco County. The revenue is then dispersed towards the 911 phone systems, radios, upgrades of technology, and training. The 911 Board consists of two fire department personnel, two county, and two town, and this board needs approval from the Town of Meeker and Rio Blanco County to move forward with the \$0.17 increase. The deadline for submittal of the increase is December 2022 and will take effect on February 1, 2023. Trustee Gutierrez asked about cell phone towers capability with 911 dispatch locating the emergency position. McGruder stated it depends on each individual caller's cellular network whether it is 3G, 4G or 5G. Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve the state recommended increase on Emergency Telephone Surcharge for the Eastern 911 Board. Moved by Trustee Kindall. Second by Trustee Lockwood. All ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Resolution #11-2022 appointing Jim Hanks to the Planning Commission. Mayor Borchard called for a motion to approve Resolution #11-2022 appointing Jim Hanks to the Planning Commission for a three-year term. Moved by Trustee Gutierrez. Second by Trustee Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Planning Commission Application from Amanda Back. Community Development/Planner Thomson stated Ms. Back is present to answer any questions the Board might have regarding her application, also stating if she is accepted on to the Planning Commission next week, this will fill all the vacant positions. Ms. Back informed the Board that this would be the first board she has served on, and she is interested in being a part of helping with the community. The Board thanked Ms. Back for her interest and directed Administrator Etheridge to place the appointment of Ms. Back on the next agenda.

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Consideration of proposed 2023 Town of Meeker Holiday Schedule and set meeting dates for December 2022 and January 2023. Administrator Etheridge presented the Holiday Schedule for 2023. After some discussion Mayor Borchard called for a motion to accept the Proposed 2023 Town of Meeker Holiday Schedule. Moved by Trustee Nielsen. Second by Trustee Kindall. All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrator Etheridge recommended setting the December 2022 board meeting on December 13th to accommodate the deadlines for accepting the County's valuation and certifying our Mill Levy back to the County. Also, due to New Year's Day holiday falling on a Sunday, Town Hall will be closed on Monday January 2nd and Martin Luther King holiday for 2023 is on Monday January 16th therefore Etheridge suggested moving January's board meeting to the second and fourth Tuesdays, January 10th and January 24th. Trustee Gutierrez asked whether this would adversely affect the approval of accounts payable and requested that the changes be advertised to inform the public. The Board granted approval for Administrator Etheridge to change the requested dates.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Administrator Etheridge updated the Board on the status of the natural gas leak around 233 6th St. affecting sixty homes and business; Etheridge included the media release in each BOT packet. Atmos Energy started digging in the alley behind town hall to find the gas line and put a shut off valve in so that could isolate the leak and get service to the Fairfield and PMC operating as soon as possible; this was accomplished. The location of the leak was found between the Fire House and the Abstract building. Chief Thompson stated Fairfield and PMC were up and running and once Atmos repaired the leak they will have to go to each individual Atmos meter to get everyone back in service.
- Office of Just Transition (OJT) is seeking applicants for a position on the Just Transition Advisory Board; Etheridge offered to forward the link if anybody is interested.
- The Town of Meeker was awarded the \$220,000 grant from OJT, those funds will be combined with the \$150,000 grant from the CWCB and be useful to seek additional GOCO funding in February.
- Northwest Colorado Development Council (NWCDC) will be holding a luncheon in Meeker on November 10th at the RBC fairgrounds. The meeting will discuss how to grow the value -added agriculture and food processing sector and seek input on AG strategies. Christine Rambo, REDI grant consultant, has reached out to various entities including Rio Blanco County, Chamber of Commerce and Town of Meeker. This event will be posted on Social Media, Post Office, and via direct email.
- The current SWCA project manager has moved onto another position, the new project manager is going to be Mike Pierce.
- Public Works new hire Jak Kilduff will be starting on Monday, November 14th. Officer Ahearn resigned and will be moving to WY, creating an opening in the PD.

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MAYOR'S REMARKS


None.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

- Chief Thompson stated the Atmos Gas emergency leak was a team effort between Rio Blanco County, Town of Meeker and Atmos Energy.
- Comm Dev./Planner Thomson stated she would like to hold another Land Use Code meeting prior to Thanksgiving. Thomson asked for the Board's input on which date would work best for them; November 16th or 21st at 7:00-9:00 pm. Final decision was November 21st from 7:00-9:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Borchard adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.



Kent A. Borchard, Mayor

Attest:



Lisa Pakuer, Admin. Assistant