



MEETING MINUTES of the IGNACIO TOWN BOARD

Monday, July 22, 2019 – 6:30 PM

Abel F. Atencio Community Room

570 Goddard Avenue, Ignacio, CO 81137

I. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Cox called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM by leading in the pledge of allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Stella Cox, Trustee Tom Atencio, Trustee Edward Box III, Trustee Sharon Craig, Trustee Sandra Maez, Trustee Dixie Melton (arrived at 6:48 PM)

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Alison deKay

Guests: Clark Craig, Ron Dunavant, Shannon Mullane, James Brown, Mel & Mahvash Silva

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Brown, 510 Arboles Street – On Friday 7/5/19, approx. 7 PM, traveling South on 172, sliced tire on trailer as he made a turn onto Becker off of Goddard/Hwy 172; made police report. Mon, 7/8, contacted Town Hall, but Mr. Garcia was absent. Crosswalk sign got relocated. Monday 7/15, called Mr. Garcia; he sent his complaint in writing on Tues 7/16 via email. Friday, July 19, 8:52 AM, email from Mr. Garcia stating that the Town will not pay for his tire replacement. Mr. Brown asked the Board to consider having the Town replace his tire. Mr. Atencio suggested that Mr. Brown request to be put on agenda for next meeting. Trustee Craig stated that the signs are being moved on a regular basis so that people do not get blind to them.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2019

B. Financial Records – Check Register for June 2019

Action: Trustee Craig moved to approve the consent agenda; Trustee Maez seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. ISD 11JT Annexation – Continued from June Meeting

Keeping this item on the agenda; hope to have the draft annexation agreement for the August meeting.

B. Approval of Audit Report by Hinton Burdick

Presentation of the audit at last meeting; time was given for the Board to review and comment or ask questions. No comments or questions have been given to Mr. Garcia. Mr. Atencio asked about the recommendations; Mr. Garcia stated that the supplemental budget will be properly noticed and line items will be balanced. Checks and balances are a challenge with small staff; change in staff with addition of the Admin Assistant will help with this issue. Mayor requested that the letter from the auditors be available during budget preparation so that the Board can ensure that the recommendations are followed up on. Mr. Garcia stated that will happen.

Action: Trustee Melton moved to approve audit report; Trustee Maez seconded. Mayor Cox requested a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Waci-ci Trading Post – Mel Silva

No need for irrigation water; would like to abandon tap. Back in the day, the residents were presented with the promise of a great thing to the public; pay a tap, and you will never pay again. Then it went to \$5.00 per month; now it's \$20.00 per month. Initial promise has been broken. You all have integrity; you wouldn't do a bait and switch, especially when someone has no use for it. This is a tax if it is required that a service be paid for that is not needed or desired. Not many have been in business for 30 years; it's hard to stay in business. It's not fair or just. I do not want to cause problems for the Town, but I do not know what the Town Attorney charges, but it is a lot more than \$20.00! I am persuasive, and I can get people riled up. I don't want to do that; I just want this tax to go away and I want to surrender the tap.

The Board expressed appreciation for Mr. Silva's comments. Mr. Atencio commented that there is a bill that we need to pay; we inherited that from the previous administration. If we let you go, and there are another 20 people that want out, then we can't pay the debt.

Mayor Cox stated that the Town is taking it all under advisement and will work on it. Mr. Silva stated that he will not be paying the irrigation bill; he will continue to pay all his other bills on time, as he always has.

Trustee Box III stated that he would like to know more of the history because, as a Board, we are here for the residents. Mr. Garcia stated that irrigation was first put in place in about 1986.

B. Herrera Annexation Hearing – Public Hearing

7:20 PM – Mayor Cox opened the Public Hearing

Mr. Garcia stated that per annexation regulations, we have noticed this meeting for public comment. No comments received on agency notifications or residents. Straightforward annexation; the Herrera Family has been very pleasant to work with. Plats in packet; by statute we have to have a public hearing.

Steven Herrera and Veronica Herrera were present to give a report. They recently purchased this land; planning to build house this year and two more over the next two years. Mr. Herrera stated the family is looking forward to being part of the community and expressed appreciation to the Board for hearing them.

Mayor Cox asked if there were any public comments; there were not. Mayor Cox closed the public hearing at 7:22 PM.

C. Ordinance 338 – Herrera Annexation

Action: Trustee Atencio moved; Trustee Box III seconded. Trustee Melton asked about the annexation agreement. Mr. Garcia stated it is in the packet and has been signed by the family. Mr. Garcia commented on the process and procedures. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Garcia requested that the Herrera family come back to the office to sign the Mylar for filing with the County Clerk.

D. Walker Annexation Hearing – Public Hearing

Mr. Garcia stated there are two tracks to be annexed; the plats are in the packet. This is a straightforward annexation where we desire to grow Town boundaries. Ordinance and annexation agreement will be at the next meeting. We will continue this to the next meeting. Mr. Garcia asked about the single wide home that is up there; Mr. Walker is requesting one year for the mobile home to remain while the permanent home is built. Discussion at Planning Commission level; they will make a recommendation for the August meeting. Mr. Craig stated that Mr. Walker wants the trailer out; he wants to give them a chance to build their home but he does not want to give them more than the 12 months. Mr. Garcia stated that he is encouraging Mr. Walker to work with LPEA to align the power lines so they match the new property lines in the proposed subdivision. They hope to have this accomplished by the August meeting.

Mayor Cox opened the public hearing at 7:33 PM. There were no public comments. Mayor Cox closed the public hearing at 7:34 PM.

Trustee Craig moved to continue the Walker Annexation to the next meeting; Trustee Melton seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Police Department

POST Training Grant

Officer Robinson has resigned. The Police Department is in the process of attempting to fill two positions; advertised, but no applicants. All departments around us have openings and can't fill them, either.

Police Department vehicle needed motor replacement – just under \$8,000

Active shooter drill on August 22 and table top exercise the day before. Chief Phillips invited the Board to attend.

Saint Ignatius Parade and Brisket Cook Off special events have been approved.

Trustee Melton asked about the stop being changed to a yield sign. Chief Phillips stated this is complaint driven. Trustee Melton stated that she will keep Chief Phillips apprised. Chief stated he will increase police observation at that intersection.

B. Public Works

No report due to Mr. Howlett being on vacation for his child's birth; no announcement yet, and she was to be induced today.

Mr. Garcia gave a brief report on Mr. Howlett's behalf.

C. Clerk / Treasurer

Mid-year report will be given at next meeting.

D. Town Manager

Mr. Garcia reviewed the changes in the office staff. He shared that we will be following Bayfield's example in structuring with the Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk Treasurer, and an individual that will provide financial oversight.

Executive Session later to discuss utility rates; notice received from the Tribe. Mr. Garcia has not paid the invoices from the consulting fees due to the fact that the proposal came in so much higher than was originally estimated. Will delve more into the proposed rate increases and suggested wastewater treatment plant during executive session.

Land Use Code update work is ongoing. Funding has run out; this project will be over budget.

Municipal Code work in general has been done by Ms. Dunton; he will review this after Land Use Code has been completed.

RFP for Inspector and Building Code Enforcement Officer – interviewed two applicants with Chris LeMay and will do cost and time sharing with Bayfield to create full-time work. There are challenges with both applicants, but hope to be able to make one work and also hope to report on that at next meeting.

Email and proposal from Russell Engineering re: Planning services. This might be a good opportunity to bring on a part-time planner. Would like to investigate further and bring this back at the next meeting. The Board concurred.

Trustee Maez asked about the report from CDOT regarding the lack of meeting the warrants at Becker/Goddard intersection; ISD has agreed to bring funding as well as the Town. Mr. Garcia will meet with CDOT to see if, with this funding, they will be willing to move forward with a fully signalized intersection.

E. Attorney

No report this evening

VIII. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Craig mentioned the awards of excellence from CIRSA; we were one of only three communities that received both of these awards.

Sept 21 – Green Chili Fest. Promoting with Farmington; Farmington Mayor will be at ours as a judge; would like a representative from the Town to judge at their event on Oct 5. Bottom Shelf Brewery will provide beer and staff to pour if the Special Event Permit is approved by the Tribe.

Emily Meisner is the Interim ED for the Economic Alliance.

Trustee Maez expressed appreciation for the Board's patience with her during the loss of her dad.

Trustee Atencio asked about the school renting houses to the public; he feels that is not right, that the housing should only be for the teachers. The school should not be a landlord with a business in the Town; they have the opportunity to apply for grants, they don't have to pay taxes, they do not have a business license, etc. They are becoming unfair competition with the local landlords; my mother is one of those landlords, and they are taking food off of her table. The Town Board should look into this; we are here to represent the community. Mr. Atencio stated he plans to visit with the school board on this.

Trustee Box III has become part of the Run Against Drugs in 2020; looking at June of next year. The last one was done in 1983; Daisy Bluestar is heading this up as a community event. He stated he would like the Town of Ignacio involved as well. They would like to honor previous runners and participants, so please let Trustee Box III know if you know who any of the people are that ran in the last race.

Mayor Cox brought up San Ignatius Parade...does the Board desire to do a float or walk in the parade? The consensus of the Board is that there is not enough time or volunteers to have a float this year. Trustee Box suggested that the Town Board be involved in Tribal Fair on September 14. Theme is "Love All Creations."

Mayor Cox stated that she and Ms. Dunton will attend the Complete Count Committee meeting in La Plata tomorrow; Trustee Box III stated he will be attending as well.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

None

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION: C.R.S. 24-6-402-(4)(e)(I) – Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations and/or instructing negotiators

Trustee Craig moved to go into executive session; Trustee Atencio seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:39 PM. Upon returning from Executive Session to Open Meeting, Mayor Cox stated that the time was 9:30 PM. The participants in the executive session were: Mark Garcia, Interim Town Manager; Tom Atencio, Trustee; Sandra Maez, Trustee; Dixie Melton, Trustee; Sharon Craig, Trustee; Edward Box III, Trustee; Kirk Phillips, Chief of Police. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record. There were none expressed.

Mayor Cox stated that the Board is directing staff to send a letter to the Tribe in response to their letter about rate increases. Trustee Atencio stated that he is directing staff to begin terminating contracts with the Tribe; Mayor Cox stated that will be noted on the record. Mr. Garcia stated he will prepare a draft letter, email it to the Board Members for their comments, and once consensus has been reached he will send it to the Tribe. Trustee Melton stated that she would like to see that we can afford alternative actions prior to terminating contracts with the Tribe. Trustee Atencio modified his direction to have staff discover what the options are and report what the Town can afford. Mr. Garcia stated that he will prepare some rate analysis on capital options and prepare a letter to our customers on rate impacts based on the proposed rates from the Tribe; he also stated that, at the August meeting, there can be discussion in executive session regarding how the Board wants to get the information out to the customers. Mayor Cox expressed appreciation to the Board and Staff for attending the meetings and for all the hard work that they do.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Action: Being no further business before the Board, Mayor Cox adjourned the meeting at 9:37 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday, August 19, 2019, at 6:30 PM in the Abel F. Atencio Community Room at 570 Goddard Avenue.

Stella Cox, Mayor

Date

Attest: Tuggy Dunton, Town Clerk