

**Regular Meeting  
Town of Ignacio Board of Trustees  
Monday, June 19, 2017**

- I. **CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL:** Mayor Stella Cox called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. **Trustees Present:** Mayor Protem Alison deKay, Thomas Atencio, Edward Box, Sandra Maez and Dixie Melton. **Staff:** Mark Garcia, Interim Town Manager; Georgann Valdez, Town Clerk; Diana Briar, Town Treasurer; Dan Naiman, Community Development Administrator and Kirk Phillips, Chief of Police. **Audience:** Darlene Mestas, Mike Pacheco, Tracy Pena, Bicente and Misty Wilson, Gail Pena, Linda Moore and Pete Vigil.
  
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Pete Vigil was present to talk about the irrigation water, or lack thereof. He has come to the Board on numerous occasions and has not gotten a resolution. He has had a Board Member see the trickle of water that comes from his hose; citizens on Candelaria have much less pressure than those at the bottom of Town; he just wants what the residents below get. Citizens are being charged \$20 a month for irrigation water and get nothing for it; rates have increased over the years from no fee to \$20 a month. He is hoping someone listens and acts on it, nothing has ever been done in the past. This has been going on for years, the Board inherited what the past Boards did and he would like this Board to fix it before the next Board. He has replaced his pump every three or four years at a cost of \$500 for the past 15 years. The residents below don't pay for a pump or electricity; they have all the pressure they need. He hopes to see some action from the Board. Mayor Cox says there is not an overnight fix. Mr. Vigil stated the Town needs to open up the pressure for those living on the hill. He stated crawdads have burned up his pump and the Town should consider paying for the pump. After a lengthy discussion, Town did purchase pumps for the residents on the hill; Boards have discussed this issue several times; suggestions were made regarding filters, valve to split off the lower and upper, the design of the system; the item was tabled to continue under unfinished business for next month.
  
- III. **PROCLAMATION: KEN CHARLES – DOLA REGIONAL MANAGER PROCLAMATION:** Ken Charles not present to give a proclamation, read by Mayor Cox.
  
- IV. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
  - A. **Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2017**
  - B. **Financial Records – Check Register for May, 2017**Trustee Melton had a correction stating she was present, which the minutes did not reflect. **Mayor Protem deKay moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction. Trustee Melton seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**
  
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**
  
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Patio Restaurant Liquor License Renewal: Trustee Maez moved to approve the Patio Restaurant Liquor License Renewal. Trustee Box seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**
- B. Home Rule Charter and Charter Commission Discussion:** Mr. Garcia stated it was the Board's intent to look into Home Rule. At their direction, a public meeting was posted and a flyer was inserted in the utility bills. The public meeting was to have a discussion and take public comment on Home Rule. Darlene Mestas said she had a hard time understanding the flyer, and said she was confused as to the purpose of the suggested change. The Town already has the Town Board as governing body and had questions on the charter commission. Mr. Garcia answered her questions. All statutory cities and towns are ruled by State laws. There are 96 cities and towns are under Home Rule; 172 statutory municipalities. Home Rule gives communities the authority to write their own charter and establish their own forms of government. Elections must be held of the municipality's registered electors to approve the Home Rule initiative and the drafting of a charter. The charter commission has 180 days to draft the charter and a petition to run for the commission requires 25 registered voters to sign each petition. Mr. Garcia stated other reasons that it would be beneficial for the Town to consider home rule, taxation, representation and cleaning up the municipal code. Linda Moore thought the taxation issue was very confusing. Mayor Protem deKay stated she was definitely on the fence; other Board members agreed and felt it was confusing and complicated. Planning Commission Member Theresa Campbell wrote a letter, stating the flyer was not neutral and did not feel there was a need to establish Home Rule. The Board cannot take a stance on the initiative but must remain neutral, they cannot speak out in support or against the Home Rule; it must come from community action groups. Trustees are allowed to run for the commission, and can fill vacancies on the commission. Ms. Campbell felt this was a conflict of interest. Board members had concerns that there would not be enough community interest to draw individuals to serve on the charter commission; they would have to be committed to serve and draft a charter in 180 days and must all be registered voters. Mr. Garcia would like to see the election in August or September and stated that was one of his goals as interim manager. Trustee Atencio wants more clarity on how Home Rule will help Ignacio. The item was tabled till July.
- C. Ordinance 329 – Vacation of Sundown Street east of East Alley:** Mr. Naiman explained the request came from adjoining property owners to have the town vacate a 30 foot strip of Sundown Street, while retaining 10-foot utility easement, each property owner will get 15 feet. They will fence it off and use it for their benefit and restrict pedestrian traffic. A Planning Commission meeting and public hearing was held and discussed, giving approval. The adjoining property owners expressed concern, and did not favor the pedestrian access but agreed to the utility easement. Their reasons included privacy, reduced vandalism and trash, and security. Trustee Atencio was concerned that this would set a precedent and felt the Town should retain ownership. **Trustee Melton moved to approve Ordinance 329, vacating a portion of Sundown Street and reserving**

certain rights thereto pursuant to C.R.S. 43-2-303; Trustee Maez seconded. The motion passed 5-1 with Trustee Atencio voting no.

- D. **RHA Board Member Appointment:** RHA is going into dormancy and will meet once a quarter, they want a representative from each municipality on the Board. **Mayor Protem deKay moved to appoint the Town Manager to the RHA Board. Seconded by Trustee Box. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

**VII. STAFF REPORTS:**

- A. **Police Chief:** Chief Phillips submitted written report. He thanked Mr. Garcia for help in submitting the gaming grant. Another body armor grant will be submitted.
- B. **Finance Officer:** The scheduled audit report was tabled for July; questions regarding cost allocations and restricted funds were answered. The personnel policy is still being revised; a workshop was set for Thursday, August 17 at 6:30. Changes being considered include changing sick and vacation to Personal Time off (PTO) and reducing maximum accruals. Sewer fund is further in the red following a debt payment; sales tax revenue is lower than anticipated.
- C. **Community Development Administrator:** Branding work is being displayed on the wall; requesting Board input. The general ideas and interpretations came from residents that were interviewed. We want to narrow it down to three designs for final product.
- D. **Public Works Director:** Jeremy's on Vacation. Gas piping project is ongoing. Mapping grant is virtually done, another presentation will be done by Public Works. Site characterization report was complete; waiting on the State. Expenditures are still coming; we will be seeking reimbursement. Trustee Box had concerns that he had witnessed kids playing in the hole created by the gas piping project. The Board questioned if there was any progress on the Whitts' sewer connection to the main; a letter has been sent, giving them 60 days to do something. They are asking if the Town can help. Trustee Melton asked where was the Town's responsibility to monitor the project at the time the work was done and asked if the Town is liable.
- E. **Town Manager:** Gas piping project is 70% complete, coming in under budget; new meters, regulators and reading technology are being purchased with the excess funds. Mr. Garcia had an idea to use the gas pipeline as fiber conduit to expand fiber to the home. Branding project is near conclusion. Capital Improvement Grant may be modified to add sidewalks. Had a discussion with Raymond Baker on rates and modified the scope of work in the agreements; rates need to be set equitably. Working on the CML Outreach meeting September 26; the meet and greet is being planned for outdoors. The Town Hall will be closed Monday May 3; employees will use vacation.
- F. **Town Attorney:** Working on the raw water easement.

- VIII. TRUSTEE REPORT:** Trustee Box stated he made an effort to attend the SUCAP meetings. There was a concern that the community is not doing enough to recognize the veterans, or holidays such as Memorial Day or Fourth of July. No flags are being displayed. Public Works cleaned up weeds and planting flowers in front of Town Hall.
- IX. MISCELLANEOUS:** Trustee Atencio thanked the company doing the mosquito spraying; refrigerator magnets were a good idea.
- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Being no further business before the Board, Mayor Cox adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m. The next regular meeting will be July 17, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Abel F. Atencio Community Center at 570 Goddard Avenue.

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**Stella Cox, Mayor**

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**Date**

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**Attest: Georgann Valdez, Town Clerk**