

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. in the Community Center at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. The Council was present in its entirety with Councilors Austin, Hawse, Hunter, Williams, Young, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and Mayor Clark.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 9, 2017.
2. Minutes of Budget Workshop on August 16, 2017.
3. Minutes of the Workshop on August 23, 2017.
4. Minutes of Joint Workshop with the Planning Commission August 29, 2017.
5. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of August 30, 2017.
6. Minutes of Joint Meeting with Planning Commission, Ouray County Commissioners and City Council of Ouray held on September 6, 2017.
7. Register of Demands for September 2017.
8. Renewal of Restaurant Liquor License for Oriental Chinese Restaurant.
9. Renewal of Beer and Wine Liquor License for Pannys.
10. Modification of Premises for Chipeta Sun Lodge Liquor License.
11. Proclamation Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and seconded by Councilor Austin to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

12. Memorandum of Understanding between Ouray County and the Town of Ridgway regarding apportionments in 2018

Ouray County Administrator Connie Hunt, presented a draft Operational Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and County addressing apportionments and contributions, and collaborative efforts between the agencies in 2018. She reported the County is expanding the Office of Emergency Management Field Manager position to full time, and is requesting \$5,000 in funding from the Town and City of Ouray. The County will contribute \$33,000 and apply for \$44,000 in State grant funds, she explained. There was discussion between the Council and County Commissioners regarding the funding request.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Ouray County and the Town of Ridgway for the 2018 Fiscal Year. Councilor Hunter seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

13. Presentation of historic memorabilia to the Town

Joe Hess offered to donate to the Town eight columns from the historic Mears Building, which he purchased at an auction. He stated he wishes to “preserve them” as “it’s a big part of our history”. The Council accepted the offer, and thanked Mr. Hess for the donation.

14. Update from the Ridgway Chautauqua Society

Sue Husch, Chair of the Ridgway Chautauqua Society Board, presented plans to restore the 102 year old Sherbino Theater. She noted the organization is conducting a capital campaign to raise funds to install sound panels and a new ventilation system, and thanked the Council for the \$5,000 contribution placed in the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget. She also thanked the Town for offering the alcohol concession at the annual concert series held last July, and stated “we hope to continue” “in the years to come” as “a way to support our efforts”.

15. Request to consider re-alignment of South Railroad Street to align with North Railroad Street at Highway 62

Mick Graves, member of Ridgway Cohousing LLC, explained the non-profit organization has a contract to purchase 4.46 acres between County Road 23 and Highway 62 to construct a co-housing community. The organization approached the Planning Commission with the concept and will be submitting a sketch plan on September 26th. He noted a portion of the project is a proposal to re-align Railroad Street, from the existing road on the north side of Highway 62, to a connector on the opposite side of the highway. He explained the organization would like to offer the Town a .54 acre parcel along the north edge of the development valued at \$350,000, in trade for reductions in development fees.

Mayor Clark presented a history on Council discussions regarding the alignment of Railroad Street, adding this has been a “goal of the Council for decades”. He noted the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has previously expressed concerns with access from the highway because the roadways are offset. He stated it “would be great to get this resolved”.

There were questions from Council and discussion ensued. It was noted the Council had received a letter from property owner Susan Baker dated 9-13-17 expressing concerns regarding access to existing businesses.

Town Manager Coates reported staff has requested a determination from CDOT pertaining to the highway access and proposed realignment. She explained a number of years ago a representative from CDOT suggested the possibility of restricting access to and from the highway. She noted if Council is interested in pursuing realignment of the street, staff could research funding opportunities and configurations of the proposed street.

Consensus of the Council was to direct staff to work with all parties involved and pursue realignment of Railroad Street.

16. Update from EcoAction Partners

Kim Wheels and Heather Knox with EcoAction Partners presented accomplishments for 2017 and proposed objectives for 2018 for the regional organization, and the Sneffels Energy Board. They requested continued funding in Fiscal Year 2018.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

17. Adoption of Ordinance Entering into an Agreement to Purchase Property at Block 28, Lots 6-10 in the Town of Ridgway

Manager Coates explained the proposed ordinance approves the purchase of Lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Block 28 for the Space to Create project. The Town was awarded a \$125,000 Department of Local Affairs grant, and has budgeted the remaining \$125,000.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilmember Hunter to adopt the Ordinance Entering into an Agreement to Purchase Property at Block 28, Lots 6-10 in the Town of Ridgway, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and unanimously carried.

POLICY MATTERS

18. Discussion regarding an Ordinance amending Chapter 9 of the Municipal Code to provide for mandatory animal-resistant trash containers for all properties within the Town

The Town Manager reported at the prior meeting the Council directed staff to draft an ordinance for discussion pertaining to requiring the use of animal resistant trash containers throughout Town.

There were questions from the Council and audience. There was discussion by the Council and staff was directed to place the draft ordinance into a format for introduction at the next meeting.

The Council took a recess at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

19. Application for grant funding from San Miguel Power Association and COBank for the Space to Create Project

Manager Coates reported San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) has grant funds available and suggested the Town apply for \$10,000 to use towards pre-development costs for the Space of Create project. She noted if awarded the grant, SMPA would become a local partner in future grant applications.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilor Hunter, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to apply for grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 from San Miguel Power Association for the Space to Create predevelopment costs, after a call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

20. Recordable covenant for the receipt of grant funds from the Department of Local Affairs for the property purchase of Block 28, Lots 6 -10

Manager Coates reported receipt of grant funds from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for the Space to Create property purchase, requires a recorded covenant which states the funds will be used to purchase the property. She requested Council approval to execute the document, which needs to be recorded prior to expenditure of the funds in early October.

ACTION:

Councilor Austin moved to approve the recordable covenant for the receipt of Energy Impact Grant Funds from the Department of Local Affairs for the property purchase of Block 28, Lots 6 - 10. Councilmember Hunter seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

21. Participation and representation on the Ouray County Stream Management Planning Study Steering Committee

The Town Manager explained Ouray County is forming a committee to work with a commissioned study of the Upper Uncompahgre River Basin, and have requested appointment of a member from the Council.

Council agreed Councilor Hunter should represent the Town on the board, as she also sits on the Ouray County Water User Group.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Young, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and unanimously carried to appoint Ellen Hunter as Town representative to the Ouray County Stream Management Planning Study Steering Committee.

22. Proposed Town Council meeting policies and procedures and discussion regarding meeting length and frequencies

Town Attorney Nerlin presented a draft document entitled Rules of Conduct for Council Meetings and General Business. He explained the document outlines policies and procedures for conduct of meetings, setting the agenda, public hearings, public discussion and comments and work sessions. He noted the concepts are based on general parliamentary procedures and adopted policies from other municipalities.

There was discussion between the Council and Town Attorney. It was noted the document states the agenda will be set by the Mayor, and historically this has been done by staff. It was agreed to change the clause to read 'Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem or designee'.

The Council discussed specific times to begin meetings and executive sessions. It was agreed to experiment over the next three months, if the Town Attorney requests a closed session, the executive session will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. If there is not an executive session, the meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m.

MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Coates presented an update on requests from Council regarding traffic calming. She reported no truck route signs have been placed on Moffat along with slow children playing signs which are being moved to various locations. New speed limit signs will be placed after completion of the RAMP Project.

The Paintcare event held in Town last month was extremely successful, with 110 participants, and the Town "set the rural record" and "record number of cans collected".

She reported the County Judge will be moving to District Court and an interim judge will be appointed in October. The County Judge also serves as the Town's Municipal Judge.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Austin presented an update on the Multi-Jurisdictional Housing Authority.

ATTORNEYS REPORT

The Town Attorney requested an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(b) and (e) for conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice and to discuss matters subject to negotiations.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Young, seconded by Councilmember Hunter and unanimously carried to enter into closed session.

The Council entered into executive session at 8:55 p.m. with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

The Council reconvened to open session at 9:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk