

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor Pro Tem called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Center at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. In attendance Councilors Heffernan, E. Hunter, Malone and Mayor Pro Tem Johnson. Councilors Austin, N. Hunter and Mayor Clark were absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 E. Hunter, seconded by Councilor Malone and unanimously carried to enter into closed session.

The Council entered into executive session at 5:35 p.m. with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

The Council reconvened to open session at 6:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 11, 2018.
2. Minutes of the Special Meeting on July 15, 2018.
3. Register of Demands for August 2018.
4. Renewal of restaurant liquor license for Provisions.
5. Appointment of Ninah Hunter to the Creative District Creative Advocacy Team.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilmember E. Hunter and seconded by Councilor Malone to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS

The Town Manager recommended Deputy Marshal Monty English be removed from probational status, and be granted permanent full time employment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Thompson encouraged the Council to provide input regarding County discussions to address a request to keep County Road 5, after the intersection of County Road 5A, open during the winter. She noted the area has been used for local winter recreation for over 100

years' and provides access into the Uncompahgre National Forest. She expressed concerns with the loss of this asset to the community.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

6. Quarterly report from Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce

Report dated 8-3-18 from the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce presenting the second quarter lodging tax report.

Town Manager Jen Coates reported the Chamber representative was not able to attend the meeting, and noted if the Council has any questions they can attend the next regular meeting. The Council requested to discuss the report during the annual budget presentation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. Adoption of an Ordinance Granting a Franchise to Black Hills Gas Distribution LLC dba Black Hills Energy

Town Clerk's Notice of Public Hearing dated 6-14-18.

Town Attorney Bo Nerlin explained the ordinance was introduced at the June meeting to enter into a 15 year franchise with Black Hills Gas Distribution LLC to provide natural gas to the community. The company requested some non-substantive changes to the ordinance, which are included in the document being presented for adoption he reported.

ACTION:

Councilor E. Hunter moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-04 entering into a franchise agreement with Black Hill Gas Distribution LLC, Councilor Heffernan seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Plat Amendment for Willow Creek Trading Subdivision and Drashan Condominiums; Located 167, 171 and 189 N. Cora Street and 602, 604 and 610 Clinton Street; Applicant: Willow Creek Trading Subdivision Parking Maintenance Association

Staff Report from Planner Shay Coburn dated 8-2-18 presenting background on the application for plat amendment to the Willow Creek Trading Subdivision.

Planner Coburn presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the request for plat amendment to the clarify the shared parking area in the Willow Creek Trading Subdivision, with all the conditions contained in the Staff Report. She reported the existing parking design is not practical and presented a diagram of the proposed design, which the Commission agreed would function more efficiently. Currently there are five parking spaces, the new design would provide seven and 'make the area more useable'.

SPEAKING FROM THE AUDIENCE

Sue Husch representing the Sherbino Theater and 610 Arts Cooperative, stated all participants "are on board with this".

Kuno Vollenweider suggested a stipulation that the property engaging in short term rentals be required to rent long term, noting the need for "long term rentals" in Town.

There were comments from the Council.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilor E. Hunter and seconded by Councilor Malone the motion to approve the plat amendment for Willow Creek Trading Subdivision including Drashan Condominiums; address 167, 171 and 189 N. Cora Street and 602, 604 and 610 Clinton Street; zoned historic business; applicants Willow Creek Trading Subdivision Parking Maintenance Association, Inc; owners Arapho Partners LLC, 171 N. Cora LLC, Christopher Senior, Eka Pada LLC and Ridgway Chautauqua Society Inc. as presented in the staff reported with all conditions and stipulations in the previous staff report carried unanimously.

POLICY MATTERS

9. Ratify Stage One Fire Restrictions, downgraded from Stage Two on July 18th

Staff Report from the Town Manager dated 7-18-18 pertaining to downgrading fire restrictions to Stage One.

Manager Coates reported based on the County Sheriff changing the fire restriction on July 18th from Stage Two to Stage One, the Town followed suit. She requested Council ratification of the action.

ACTION:

Councilmember E. Hunter moved, with a second by Councilmember Heffernan, to ratify the Stage One Fire Restrictions downgraded on July 18th. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Resolution updating the Water Conservation and Management Plan

Staff Report dated 8-3-18 from the Town Manager presenting 2018 water availability and drought status.

The Town Manager presented Resolution No. 18-08 and explained the document amends the Water Conservation and Management Plan to include detailed stages at which changes in water restrictions would be triggered. She reported at the Council workshop of July 25th staff was directed to prepare changes, which she reviewed with the Council.

There was discussion by the Council and it was agreed to amend the resolution to include further triggers within Stage Two, and adopt the document at the September meeting.

11. Presentation of draft Water Wasting Ordinance

The Council received a draft ordinance creating regulations pertaining to the wasting of water and mandatory water restrictions.

Manager Coates noted the draft document was discussed at the July 25th workshop. The water wasting regulations are required to implement Stage Three in the Water Management Plan.

Council and staff reviewed the draft ordinance. There were comments from the Council and it was agreed to further amend the proposed ordinance and present for introduction at the September meeting.

12. Discussion regarding water service base rates, base water allocation and excess water use

Staff Report dated 8-3-18 from the Town Manager and Town Engineer presenting proposed water service rates and base and excess water allocations.

Manager Coates noted in follow up to the Council Workshop on July 25th staff has prepared proposed water service rates, and changes to base water allocations, and fees for excess water usage.

The Council and staff reviewed the proposed changes. There was discussion and the Council directed staff to reduce the base water allocation for residential use to 7000 gallons; leave the current rate of \$42 in place for two more years; establish an incremental increase in fees; lower allocations and increase fees for the schools. Staff was directed to begin a public outreach regarding proposed changes to the water rate structures.

SPEAKING FROM THE AUDIENCE

Kuno Vollenweider spoke in favor of allotting 7000 gallons for residences, and noted the Town's Single Family Design Guidelines require landscaping which "can't be managed with less water", and stated "so if you're going to change one, you should change the other".

13. Agreement for access to Railroad Street from Lot A, Park Subdivision

Attorney Nerlin reported it had been anticipated an agreement would be reached prior to the meeting regarding access for the Ridgway Railroad Museum on to Lot A of Park Subdivision. He recommended granting the fifth thirty day temporary easement for the access.

There was discussion by the Council and it was agreed after this month there would be no further temporary easements issued.

ACTION:

Councilmember E. Hunter moved to approve the temporary easement on to Railroad Street from Lot A in Park Subdivision for another 30 days with the understanding there will be no further extensions for the temporary agreement, Councilor Heffernan seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Application for grant funding for the Colorado Creative Corridors Initiative

The Town Manager explained grant funds for the Colorado Creative Corridors Initiative have been made available through the Colorado Tourism Office. The Town joined with three other municipalities to create a creative corridor last year. The entities have discussed applying for the current grant to fund promotion of the corridor, and if received the Town would be required to submit a matching contribution of \$2500. She noted the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce has stated they may participate and share in half of the Town's commitment.

There was discussion by the Council. It was agreed to commit to participation in the grant application, and to place the matching contribution in the draft 2019 budget.

15. Submittal of grant application for a Town wide storm drainage plan to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Water Quality Improvement Fund

Manager Coates reported staff has submitted a grant application for fifty percent funding for the Town wide storm drain plan, and requested \$87,500 from the Department of Local Affairs. Another grant is being prepared to submit to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Water Quality Improvement Fund for the remaining \$87,500 for preparation of the plan.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilor E. Hunter, seconded by Councilor Malone to approve the submittal of a grant application to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Water Quality Improvement Fund for a Town wide storm drain plan. The motion carried unanimously.

16. Proposed 2018 statewide ballot initiatives and potential impacts to municipal governments

The Town Attorney informed the Council about three proposed statewide initiatives which have been noted by the Colorado Municipal League (CML) that may have impacts to municipal governments. He explained CML is 'tracking' the movement of the initiatives, and wanted to ensure elected officials are aware of the proposal, as a statement from the boards may be requested if the initiatives move forward through the process.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

The Manager presented an update on the master planning process; recommendation from the Planning Commission regarding draft county regulations pertaining to non-commercial camping; updates on projects staff are working on; animal resistant containers; striping of the downtown parking areas; proposed workshops; participation in Youth Corp programs through Great Outdoors Colorado grant funding; and upcoming CML meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Councilmember E. Hunter, seconded by Councilor Malone and unanimously carried to enter into a closed session.

The Council entered into executive session at 8:30 p.m. with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

The Council reconvened to open session at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk