

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2019

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. at the Ridgway Community Center, North Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. In attendance were Councilors Austin, Cheek, Hunter, Beth Lakin, Meyer and Mayor Clark. Mayor Pro Tem Johnson was not present for the roll call.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Attorney suggested the Council enter into a closed session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 24-6-402(b) for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding code enforcement regarding illegal use of private property; C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purpose of determining position relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations and Tri-County Water Conservancy District emergency interconnection; and C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) for personnel matters.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Lakin, seconded by Mayor Clark 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.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson entered the closed session at 6:00 p.m.

The Council reconvened to open session at 6:10 p.m.

The regular meeting began at 6:15 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2019.
2. Register of Demands for August 2019.
3. Renewal of restaurant liquor license for Provisions.
4. Request for water leak adjustment, 251 S. Charlotte, meter #6890.1
5. Request for water leak adjustment, 610 Sabeta Dr., meter #5150.1
6. Request from Ridgway Creative Advocacy Team (CAT) to appoint Jen Randolph.
7. Request from Hope West for letter of support to renew Enterprise Zone designation.

ACTION:

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

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lanay Clark asked the Council to consider a long term plan to improve pedestrian safety at the Sherman /Lena Street crosswalk. She suggested LED light installation or reinstating the orange traffic flags that were removed during RAMP. She commented that the Sherman/Lena cross walk is a major crosswalk for the children in the community and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) told her the request to make changes or improvements on the highway must come from the Town.

Bob Collins commented that he has witnessed many near accidents involving pedestrians and suggested the speed limit on Highway 62 be lowered to 15 miles per hour. He also commented about visitors traveling the wrong way on North Lena.

The Council directed staff to contact CDOT about what they would allow on the highway for safety at that intersection.

## PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 8. Presentation of the 2018 Fiscal Year Audit

Brian Blair with Blair and Associates, Certified Public Accountants, presented a 2018 Management Report, along with the audited annual financial statements. He said no material errors were found in the audit and the working capital account balances are up compared to 2017. Mr. Blair noted expenses were less than budgeted and operating revenues were more than projected primarily because of an increase in sales and lodging tax, as well as water and sewer revenues.

### 9. Request to hold ROK'n Buddy Run and 10k Trail Race on Town right of way

The Council received a special events permit for the ROK'n Buddy Run and 10k Trail Race on Town right of way, and a pot luck in Hartwell Park on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mary Plumb, on behalf of Peer Kindness, explained the ROK'N Buddy Run is being held as a fundraiser and to promote awareness of the Pure Kindness organization. Robin Shanken, Director of Pure Kindness explained the organization promotes youth prevention education, advocacy and outreach, and bully prevention. She also explained that is the founder of Pure Kindness and they would like to donate a 3 X 3 commemorative engraved boulder. The engraving will say *Running with Kindness 2019* and is proposed to be placed at the beginning of the race course.

The Council directed Ms. Shanken to contact Public Works Administrative Services to work out where the boulder would be placed and to work out alternative parking because the Library parking lot may not be available on October 5.

## ACTION:

Councilor Hunter moved to approve the request for a Special Permit for the ROK'n Buddy Run on the Town right-of-way, and pot luck in Town park subject to staff's authorization for parking and boulder placement. Councilor Meyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### 10. Presentation on Communities that Care Coalition

Danelle Norman, Programs Manager for Voyager Youth Program, gave an informative PowerPoint presentation about the Communities that Care Coalition (CCC). She explained

that CCC teaches youth how to develop healthy behaviors by implementing social development strategies. Ms. Norman shared research about the adolescent brain and reported on the coalition's accomplishments in 2018 to encourage healthy life styles.

11. Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce 2019 Second Quarter Report

Hilary Lewkowitz reported that the Chamber's Master Plan is complete and she is looking forward to partnering with the Town for implementation; the Chamber is applying for another \$10,000 off-season marketing grant to assist the local businesses; and applying for a \$25,000 grant with the Colorado Tourism Office to support the Ridgway Creative District. She noted that the funds will be matched by the Town if approved. Lewkowitz said the Chamber's monthly newsletter design has been revamped; the Chamber is working with the Ouray Tourism office to combine their 2020 visitor guide with the Ridgway Visitor's Guide; and the annual golf tournament will be held on September 14. The net proceeds from the tournament will go toward the Youth Apprenticeship Program that connects youth with local businesses.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

12. Recommendation from Planning Commission on application for Preliminary Plat for Vista Park Commons; Location: Ridgway USA Subdivision Lots 30-34; Address: TBD Redcliff Drive; Zone: General Commercial; Applicant: Vista Park Development, LLC; Owners: Ridgway Land Company, LLLP

Town Planner Shay Coburn presented the Vista Park Commons Preliminary Plat and commented that the project will assist in the housing market's price gap. She explained the Planning Commission recommended Town Council approval at the June regular meeting as long as the outstanding deficiencies noted in the Staff Report dated June 25, 2019 were addressed. The Planner noted most of the items have been addressed, but engineering deficiencies and other small details that can be resolved at the staff level have not been completed. She explained the outstanding deficiencies are regarding the easement dedication, plat map notes, the central walkway clarifications, utilities going to Lot 17, drainage issues in the utility easement, questions regarding the pressure releasing valve, a maintenance agreement is needed for the sewer area, and resolution about the school bus location. Planner Coburn commented that the applicant submitted a new set of engineering plans since the Planning Commission's meeting and reminded the Council to consider the conditional uses and variance requests submitted in the application. Coburn explained the Planning Commission negotiated two affordable housing units with this development. The applicant is requesting to build one unit in Phase I of the project and the second in Phase 3.

The Town Council discussed the application with staff.

Doug MacFarlane, architect for the project assured the Town Council that they would work with staff to resolve the outstanding issues quickly.

Applicant Joe Nelson agreed to build the affordable housing units in Phase I and 2. He also commented that the Ridgway USA Subdivision has standing water issues that affect the project and that will also be resolved with staff.

SPEAKING FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Terry Schuyler from San Miguel power Association suggested solar lighting for the parking area.

ACTION:

Councilor Hunter moved to approve the application for Preliminary Plat with the exception that one affordable unit is constructed in Phase 2 instead of Phase 3 as the Developer has agreed; along with all the conditions and variances as noted in the Staff report dated June 25, 2019; and with the expectation that the applicant and staff will resolve the outstanding issues within the required 90 days. Councilor Austin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

POLICY MATTERS

13. Recommendation to award bid for artwork for Space to Create property

Diedra Silbert, Community Initiatives Facilitator, presented a concept drawing entitled *The Ridgway Ride for Space 2 Create*, by artist Jimmy Descant that was chosen by the selection committee. She explained the art is part of the Colorado Creative Industries awarded grant for the Space 2 Create lot and the final piece will be presented at the unveiling. She further explained that the intention is to activate the lot and create excitement in the community for the project. Ms. Silbert said the artists included a statement with the concept drawing explaining the proposed 12' W X 18' art piece depicts a theme about "past, future, and the Colorado natural environment in a large scale piece; with focus on movement, and inclusive of everyone regardless of wealth, station or situation; mixing the mountains, different modes of transportation, local cultures and ideas; mixing the natural aspect of water, mountains and ranch aspects with the Utes, trains, the West and a rocket ship for futurism." Silbert said the Selection Committee is recommending approval of the concept because it tells a story about Ridgway.

ACTION:

Councilor Cheek moved to approve Jimmy Descant's concept drawing for the Space 2 Create property. Mayor Pro Tem Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

14. Update on Ouray County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Town Planner Shay Coburn explained the mitigation plan was last updated in 2015 and that the document provides information about procedures for prevention, not reaction. The mitigation plan assists in staying compliant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations in order to receive funds if needed. Planner Coburn said she will update the Council periodically until final draft.

15. Introduction of an Ordinance of the Town of Ridgway, Colorado Repealing and Replacing Chapter 6, Section 5 of the Ridgway Municipal Code Regarding Outdoor Lighting Regulations

Town Planner Shay Coburn presented a proposed ordinance along with the Planning Commission's comments from the July regular meeting. She reviewed the pros and cons of being certified as a dark sky community through the International Dark Skies Association (IDA) and asked the Council to consider how the added responsibilities align with the 2019 staff priorities. Planner Coburn further explained the densely populated and mixed use zones will require reduced lighting with the certification and that does not comport with the building regulations. She also explained it is difficult to find a simple solution for lumen lighting limits for various structures which may cause more work with the building permit process.

#### SPEAKING FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Val Schwarz, Dark Skies Committee Chairperson said only 1 in 5 of the IDA requirements are met with the current ordinance, and the existing structures in town are grand fathered in. Only new construction will be affected by the requirements. Mr. Schwarz reviewed what the committee and staff responsibilities would be to receive and maintain the certification.

David Jones, Dark Skies Committee member said there will be no reason to seek certification if the proposed ordinance is not passed.

Planning Commission Chairman Doug Canright spoke in favor of the certification through the IDA. He asked the Council to provide direction and prioritize the 2019 staff goals. The Town Council directed staff to complete the certification process with the IDA. Canright also asked if certain single family home design requirements for slope and footprint size be approved at the staff level to assist in reducing the workload. The Town Council agreed.

#### ACTION:

Councilor Austin moved to introduce the proposed Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Chapter 6, Section 5 of the Ridgway Municipal Code Regarding Outdoor Lighting Regulations as presented and that the Town supports and recognizes Ridgway as a Dark Sky Community; and the Town supports the Dark Skies Committee efforts to make Ridgway compliant; and that the Town would send a letter of support for the IDA application when requested. Councilor Lakin seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Town Council discussed alterations to the motion.

#### ACTION:

Councilor Lakin moved for an amendment to the introduced Ordinance for Outdoor Lighting Regulations that will address lumen standards for single family and non-single family structures, and qualifies as a multi-family home solution that meets IDA requirements; and that the amended ordinance is reviewed by the IDA before it is passed. Councilor Hunter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### 16. Discussion regarding participation in the Adopt a Highway Program along Highway 62 west of Town

Mayor Clark said he has committed to be involved with the program and asked the Councilors if they would also commit. The Council agreed to proceed with the membership and participate in the Adopt-A Highway Program.

#### 17. Discussion pertaining to Highway 62 bike lanes

Mayor Clark noted the discussion is in follow up to the numerous complaints received about gravel in the bike lanes. He noted it is also a safety issue. Town Manager Coates said the streets were swept in the spring and will be swept again in the next few weeks. She requested CDOT start using mag-chloride in the winter instead of sand to prevent debris in the bike lanes.

#### TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Coates reported on the statewide roundtables. She reported that funding will be available in 2021 to serve 80%-100% of the average median income for affordable housing:

Diedra Silbert, Community Initiatives Facilitator is working on the application for the Creative Corridor 2020 with budgeted funds of \$2500; deployment of the Ouray County broadband project will combined with the Region 10 Ridgway project, and a meeting will be scheduled in about one month for the public officials to discuss strategies; Diedra Silbert is applying to be a Graduate Main Street Community with the Department of Local Affairs, and if approved the Town will be eligible for increased grant funds; the Town is advertising for an architect for the Athletic Park Pavilion Project, and a bank account has been established to accommodate fund raising; letters are being sent to the property owners affected by the Ridgway Ditch inspection.

### COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Austin reported Habitat for Humanity will be constructing a home in Ridgway next year, and plan to serve 18 homes in the area by 2024.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Attorney suggested the Council enter into a closed session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 24-6-402(4) (f) for personnel matters.

#### ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilor Meyer and unanimously carried to enter into closed session.

The Council entered into executive session at 9:45 p.m. with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

The Council reconvened to open session at 10:05 p.m.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Christian  
Deputy Clerk