CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CREDE, COLORADO – A TOWN
December, 19 2003

REGULAR MEETING
The City Council of the City of Creede – a Town, County of Mineral, State of Colorado, met in regular session in the Creede Town Hall at the hour of 2:03 p.m. There being present at the call of the roll the following persons:

COUNCIL MEMBERS: John Goss, Gene Dooley, Jennifer Homsher, JB Alexander Merle Knous

ABSENT: BJ Myers (medical), Chuck Barnes (out of town)

Trustee Goss, presiding as Chairman in the absence of the Mayor and the Mayor Pro-Tem, declared a quorum present:

Those members of staff also present were as follows:
Clyde Dooley, City Manager
Pamela Wilson, City Clerk/Treasurer

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

AFTER the City Clerk called the meeting to order, she explained to the Board that their first order of business was to appoint someone amongst them to chair this meeting due to the absence of both the Mayor and the Mayor Pro-Tem. Trustee Homsher nominated Trustee Goss and Trustee Knous seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous. Trustee Goss was appointed to chair this meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Pamela added a parade permit for Whistle Pig Days as (c) Reports and Brian Brittain of Tommyknocker Tavern was in the audience and asked if he could add law enforcement issues for the summer. It was added to the agenda as (b) New Business.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS
CYCLE AMERICA

Enclosed in the packets for Council was a letter from Cycle America southern office. This letter contains information about their needs for the riders’ stay in Creede during the Pedal The Peaks bicycle tour. On June 20, 2004, an estimated three hundred twenty-five cyclists and staff will begin to arrive in Creede for the night. Those not staying in local hotels or motels will set up their small tents on the City’s grass baseball field and will use the restroom facilities. They will have departed from town by 9:00 a.m. the morning of June 21, 2004. Cycle America expressed in their letter that they and their tour group appreciate Creede’s cooperation and look forward to enjoying Creede’s hospitality while visiting here.

MAINTENANCE CREW REPORT

Ben Davis and Robert Schlough were present at the request of the City Manager. They were available and prepared to answer any questions the Board had for them and to explain what projects they have been working on. There was some discussion during this time about Basham Park and what is going to be done about the area that has been torn up for the new restrooms to go in. The Rally The Troops Group will be contacted and asked for their position on the memorial they had planned to put in the park. If they are no longer pursuing this project, the City requests something in writing from them stating so. Also, if this is the case, the City needs to repair and beautify the mud hole that is there. City Manager Dooley will contact Teresa Powell about this matter.

Another issue discussed was the width of the restroom doors. What is required wheelchair accessible and what accessibility should be posted to meet the requirements the doors are now? City Manager Dooley also pointed out, if it weren’t apparent, that the rocks have been removed from the west side of the Town Hall parking lot. Ben and Robert located the water line in the Silver Moon Trailer Park that was constantly running and pouring water into the flume. They shut the valve off saving the City approximately 10,767,852 gallons per year.
“WHISTLE PIG DAYS” PARADE PERMIT

Creede/Mineral County Chamber of Commerce hosts these events. They requested street closures, for a parade and races, from the park by the County Annex on the north end to the Kentucky Belle Market on the south end of Main Street. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, February 14, 2004. Trustee Knous moved and Trustee Alexander seconded to approve the parade permit. The vote was unanimous. Trustee Goss, presiding as chair, declared the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

RPI PRIORITIES

The Board of Trustees reviewed the list of cost estimates and priorities that RPI had written up for the City. There were some questions about and clarifications to be made on what exactly some of the hours listed were for. What does mapping/imagery consist of? This may be something the City has already had done by Pete Magee at SLV GIS/GPS Authority in Alamosa. There were questions regarding slopes and the grade limitations to which they can be built on and services have to be provided. City Manager Dooley will contact Andrew Klotz of PRI and get some of these questions and concerns answered. Trustee Knous expressed an interest in both item number three: parks, trails and open space opportunities analysis; and item number five: contiguous land areas inventory. There may be further discussion on these priorities before any final decisions can be made.

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

The budget appropriations need to be approved before December 31, 2003. The water and sewer rates were discussed again. The paper work City Manager Dooley handed out for review reflected the previously requested ten percent increase of the wastewater rates. Trustee Knous moved and Trustee Alexander seconded to raise the monthly wastewater fees by ten percent across the board. The vote was unanimous. Trustee Goss, presiding as chair, declared the motion carried. There will be no increase of drainage, water or tap fees at this time.

Salary increases were presented to the Board by Dooley. The proposed increases are for the City Clerk/Treasurer’s salary to increase from $24,000 per year to $26,000 per year; Ben Davis in public works hourly rate to increase from eleven dollars per hour to eleven dollars and fifty cents per hour with the possibility of overtime; and Robert Schlough in public works hourly rate to increase from eleven dollars and fifty cents per hour to eleven dollars and sixty-seven cents per hour with the possibility of overtime. After some discussion about job performance and what is available in the budget, Trustee Knous moved and Trustee Dooley seconded to approve these increases effective January 1, 2004, and to appropriate the 2004 budget. The vote was unanimous. Trustee Goss, presiding as chair, declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

PLANNING BOARD SUGGESTIONS

There was a brief discussion about the recommendation made to the Board by the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the re-zoning request for the property the Silver moon trailer park is on. As soon as the City Clerk receives the amended Ordinance that was adopted on the first reading at the December 8th meeting, from the City Attorney, she will get it in the Mineral County Miner newspaper and have the property posted with the re-zoning information and date of the public hearing. The Public hearing will also be posted in the City’s usual and customary posting places for all City meetings. There will be no other business scheduled for this meeting. Trustee Alexander moved and Trustee Dooley seconded to schedule the public hearing for Tuesday, January 20, 2004 at 7:00 p.m., providing the ordinance is received and can be published no less than fifteen days prior to this date. The vote was unanimous. Trustee Goss, presiding as chair, declared the motion carried. Written comment will be accepted for ten days following the hearing. City Manager Dooley will send letters to the tenants of the park to notify them of the request and public hearing.

There are two more recommendations from Planning and Zoning to the Board that will be addressed at a later date.
LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES FOR THE SUMMER

Brian Brittian from Tommyknocker Tavern is asking to know what the Board’s plans are for law enforcement in town, especially during the summer, since the Sheriff chose to exercise his right to terminate the contract with the City. Keith Sidell from The Old Firehouse was here to support Brittian’s concerns. The Trustees explained to the best of their abilities that the Sheriff’s office is still responsible to uphold all State and Federal laws even within the City limits, as the City is within the County. The only thing the City was paying the Sheriff to enforce over and above what his regular duties are is the City Ordinances. When the businesses are crowded this summer and the business owners are concerned about various things that could happen on or to their property, the Sheriff is still responsible to them as an elected official of Mineral County. Sidell said he understood the Sheriff could or would respond to a situation that has or is already taking place but, as a business owner, he would rather there be a deterrent keeping the crimes from happening in the first place. If ordinances of the City are being broken, then the City would be notified and it is then their responsibility to enforce those laws. Some of the Trustees had talked with each other at different times and at least one or two of them would like to have a level one peace officer in place by the day after Sheriff Leggitt’s contract ends. This would be February 1, 2004. The City is sending surveys to towns of comparable size asking them how they handle their law enforcement. That information will be compiled and considered by the Board so they can determine what they feel will work best for Creede.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved and seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The vote was unanimous. Trustee Goss, presiding as chair, declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:                        Approved by City Council:

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Pamela Wilson, City Clerk/Treasurer        Betty Jean Myers, Mayor