

**Regular Meeting
of the Town Of Ignacio Board of Trustees
Wednesday, May 6, 2015**

I. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Stella Cox called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Trustees Present:** Mayor Protem Alison deKay, Thomas Atencio, Lawrence Bartley, Edward Box III, Dixie Melton and Cecilia Robbins. **Staff:** Kirk Phillips, Interim Town Manager; Georgann Valdez, Town Clerk; Dan Naiman, Community Development Coordinator; Jackie Mejia, Front Desk Clerk and IT, David Liberman, Town Attorney. **Audience:** Cathy Calderwood, Emily Meisner, Cody Gross, Pat Senecal, Lauren Patterson, Josh Bertrand, Rudy Mestas, Carol Mc Williams, Wes Crume, and Victor Atencio.

- II. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Victor Atencio reported that he and his wife were assaulted and robbed in their home and his concern that the incident was never reported in the Pine River Times, the Durango Herald or the Southern Ute Drum. He would like the public to know so other citizens do not have to experience what he and Mrs. Atencio went through.

Emily Meisner requested the Board replace Mr. San Miguel on the Economic Alliance. Mayor Cox reported it was on the Agenda.

III. PRESENTATIONS:

A. IGNACIO CHAMBER OUTDOOR EXPO: Cathy Calderwood and Emily Meisner promoted the 2015 Southwest Colorado Outdoor Expo to be held at the Sky Ute and Fairgrounds May 30-31, 2015. Over \$65,000 in sponsorships from outdoor businesses from across the region will have product demonstrations, informational seminars and fun events for the entire family. VIP Friday May 29 from 5-7; Board Members are invited to attend the sneak-peak event. The EXPO will run on Saturday, May 30 from 9 to 5 and Sunday, May 31 from 9 to 4; Entry fee is \$5/person or \$10/family. Ms. Meisner asked the Town for barrels and cones to block off handicapped parking; two Town spider electrical boxes, two truck-loads of dirt (with promise to return everything after the event) and staff to haul it to the event site; the Board approved by consensus. The event promises increased tax revenue and good exposure for the Town. Tickets are available at the Chisolm Trail RV, the Patio, Southwest Ag, Morehart Murphy and at the gate.

B. CELEBRATING HEALTHY COMMUNITY COALITION: Cody Gross and Pat Senecal from Celebration Healthy Communities Coalition reported on surveys taken in La Plata County schools in 2013 - 2015. This survey asked 1000 6th – 12th graders in LPC how many of the 40 Development Assets they perceive themselves as having. Research shows that the developmental assets are the essential building blocks youth need to thrive and the more assets youth have the less likely they are to engage in risky behaviors and the more likely they are to succeed in all areas of their lives; positive experiences and qualities that help influence choices young people make and help them become caring

responsible adults. Strengths among LPC youth are family support, achievement motivation, integrity and positive view of person's future. Data shows that the LPC youth, with programs focused more on youth and family, such as Character Counts, youth advisory committees and support in funding and training from the Coalition, there has been a decrease in the use of alcohol, tobacco and marijuana; youth are making healthy choices. The Board is invited to join the Coalition's July lunch meeting at Shoshone Park. The Coalition is hiring a high school student for summer.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Cox removed items from the Agenda as they were discussed at staff level with Mayor Cox, Mayor Protem deKay, Interim Town Manager Kirk Phillips and Lisa Rea. Under Unfinished Business: Items C. Accept Lisa's Resignation, F. Mediation Survey Results and under New Business: Item C. Review the Treasurer's Job Description.

- A. Payroll Cost Savings – Approve Policy Changes:** The Board agreed to revisit the recommendations from Lisa at the May 20 meeting. There were still issues with Comp Time and would address this at budget preparation. The Board requested a copy of the March 18 recommendations to review before the May 20 meeting.
- B. Town Attorney Contract Renewal:** Trustee Atencio moved to renew Mr. Liberman's contract and to re-appoint him with the rest of the officers of the Town, Chief of Police, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Town Attorney and Judge after each Regular Biennial Election. Mayor Protem deKay seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- C. Accept Lisa Rea's Resignation and Accept Terms to Assist Town until Position is Filled:** Removed as previously stated
- D. Remove Lee San Miguel as Signer from all Town Accounts:** Trustee Melton moved to remove Lee San Miguel as signer on all Town Accounts. Trustee Box seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- E. Appoint Dan Naiman, Community Development Coordinator to Boards and Discuss Additional Duties.** Dan Naiman is currently working for the Town on a part-time basis (32 hours/week) with no benefits. He is willing to take on many of the Town Managers duties and become a full-time employee with benefits and will represent the Town on many of the Boards previously attended by the Town Manager. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to Dan's terms. **Trustee Atencio moved to hire Dan Naiman as full-time Community Development Coordinator, with benefits with added duties at a 19% increase in salary or \$28.75 per hour. Trustee Bartley seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.** Mr. Naiman will represent the Town on the Regional Housing Alliance, La Plata Economic Development Alliance, Southwest Colorado Council of Governments, Southwest Transportation Planning Region, and SUCAP. Mr. Naiman stated he had a momentum going with code revisions; the Board encouraged

maintaining local, state and tribal relations; not to take on more than he could handle; and if he could not attend the meetings, to contact the Alternate so as not to affect other parts of the job.

F. Mediation Survey Results: Removed as previously stated

G. Appoint Interim Town Manager and Discuss Alternatives: Mayor Cox, Mayor Protem deKay, Acting Town Manager Kirk Phillips met with Ken Charles from the Department of Local Affairs. **Mayor Protem deKay moved to appoint Kirk Phillips as interim Town Manager with the financial advice from Lisa Rea on Wednesdays and weekends as needed. Trustee Melton seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

Mayor Cox asked Town Attorney David Liberman to send information as to alternatives the Board might consider. Mr. Liberman stated he only sent it to the Mayor but will forward the information to the remainder of the Board. Mr. Charles suggested the Town maintain its current form of government with a Town Manager/Council. He recommended two individuals as interim town manager until a decision is made, Mark Garcia from Pagosa and Steve Rabe from Canon City. They can come in and assess the issues, remain as long as needed and for as many days as needed, with negotiable terms; while the Board decides what they want in a Town Manager. This will give the Board the opportunity to not to rush the process and help with the search and hiring a new Town Manager. Mr. Charles will contact both and report back to the Mayor.

Trustee Atencio disagreed and said before the Town was run by a Mayor and supervisors who answer to the Mayor; felt the Town does not need a town manager; town managers hired in the past have used the Board as an advisory board, to rubber stamp their decisions and the Board has little or no authority. He feels the supervisors should be responsible for the day to day operations. Mayor Protem deKay, Trustees Melton, Box and Bartley expressed their opinions and stated that a Town Manager is needed as the regulations, codes and grant requirements change. Without a town manager, more duties will fall on the Board. A town manager is needed for day to day decisions, write and manage the grants, and interact with supervisors, represent the Town and with the local and tribal agencies. Mayor Protem explained the interim managers are experienced in what they do; the majority of the Board favored the idea of hiring an interim town manager while the Board decides what they want in a town manager. Mayor Protem deKay stated the Board can have a candid discussion between the interim and the Board, learn how we can help the manager and allow them to do their work; someone from the outside may work better; not someone who is trying to impress the Board. Both Garcia and Rabe are wrapping up their jobs. The Mayor will have update for next board meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. TP Lounge Liquor License: Mayor Protem deKay moved to renew the TP Lounge Liquor License. Trustee Bartley seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- B. **Letter Supporting Region 9 to serve as Southwest Enterprise Zone Administrator: Mayor Protem deKay moved to support Region 9 to serve as Southwest Enterprise Zone Administrator. Trustee Robbins seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**
 - C. **Review Town Treasurer Job Description: Removed as previously stated.**
 - D. **Cecilia Robbins submitted letter of resignation effective immediately. After trying to convince her to reconsider, Trustee Atencio moved to accept her resignation regretfully. Trustee Melton seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**
 - E. **Mayor Cox stated the Board was invited to attend a service at the Community Church at 7:00 p.m. for the National Day of Prayer.**
 - F. **Town Attorney Liberman stated the Board has 60 days to fill the Board vacancy. The announcement will be placed on all the Town's posting places.**
- VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b) to Seek Legal Advice: Mayor Protem deKay moved to go into Executive Session under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(2)(b) to receive legal advice. Trustee Box seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The Executive Session was held for the purpose previously stated. No action followed the Executive Session. The Executive Session concluded at 9:40 p.m.**
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business before the Board, Mayor Cox adjourned the meeting at 9:42 p.m. The next regular meeting will be May 20, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at the Abel F. Atencio Community Center at 570 Goddard Avenue.**

Stella Cox, Mayor

Date

 Attest: Georgann Valdez, Town