

Town Council Regular Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
March 11, 2014

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council held Tuesday, March 11, 2014 was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Neal Schwieterman, Trustees Brian Ayers, Eric Goold, Ross King, and Sarah Sauter; Chief Scott Leon; Public Works Director Travis Loberg; Finance Officer Cindy Jones; Deputy Clerk Corinne Ferguson. Trustee Amber Kleinman was absent.

Mayor Schwieterman determined a quorum was present and proceeded with the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Schwieterman suggested adding the Paonia High School Update since a member of the student council was present. Trustee Goold moved to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee King seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

Trustee Sauter gave an overview of the Town Manager Orientation and Assessments timeline for events taking place Wednesday, March 12, and Thursday, March 13, 2014. Resumes for the final candidates can be requested at Town Hall from Deputy Clerk Corinne Ferguson.

Paonia High School Update

Laura Lund, the Vice President Executive for the high school student council was present. The high school girl's basketball team will be playing in the state tournament next weekend. The boy's team did not make it to state but finished with a winning record. Track and baseball have begun their spring seasons. The high school is gearing up for the 2014 Junior/Senior Prom scheduled for March 29, 2014. The theme is Footloose©. The Swing Choir Dessert Show is scheduled for April 18 and 19, 2014, and TCAP testing continues next week.

Visitors

Steve Keenan congratulated the trustee candidates who will be sworn in the first meeting of April 2014 and the Town Manager candidates.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Resolution 2014 – Cancel Election

Mayor Schwieterman informed Council that Ms. Amber McDaniel withdrew her candidacy for a trustee seat leaving three trustee candidates to fill the three open seats in the April election. Resolution 2014-04 canceling the election was read in to the record. Trustees King and Goold questioned the lack of notification to the Board regarding the informational meeting held by Clerk Peterson for the trustee candidates and why the meeting had not taken place prior to other trustee elections. Mayor Schwieterman noted that the meeting was informational only, to review the trustee financial packets and the calendar of deadlines, also stating that during his own candidacy Mayor Schwieterman made an error in filing, and an informational meeting would have prevented that. Trustee candidate Charles Stewart, David Bradford, and Suzanne Watson added that the meeting had been discussed in open meetings multiple times and found the meeting helpful. Discussion ensued regarding write-in candidates, potential for disenfranchisement with the passing of the resolution, and that the lack of an election would save the Town some money. Trustee King made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-04 canceling the election as long as there are no write-in candidates added before Friday, March 14, 2014 at 4:30p.m. Trustee Ayers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mt. Lamborn Ranches – Easement Agreement

Mayor Schwieterman explained that an existing easement agreement between Mt. Lamborn Ranches and the Town of Paonia permits water lines to extend from Town springs to the one-million gallon water treatment plant, known as the lower system. The proposed easement agreement will mirror the

existing agreement, allowing the Town to extend water lines from the springs to the two-million gallon water treatment plant, known as the upper system. Clerk Peterson and Public Works Director Travis Loberg worked directly with the ranch to negotiate the agreement, addressing all needs of both parties to come to a mutually beneficial agreement. The Town cost is estimated to be about ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Trustee Sauter questioned how the project was funded and was informed by Mayor Schwieterman that the cost is part of the upper system improvement and is included in the funding. Trustee King moved to approve the Mt. Lamborn Ranches easement agreement. Trustee Sauter seconded. Discussion continued regarding lining a stock pond to negate selenium leakage, the list of terms and conditions, and both in-house and contractors will be utilized. Suzanne Watson asked why the Town was required to do a stock pond. Mayor Schwieterman stated that the ranches are allowing approximately three thousand three hundred (3300) feet long and twenty (20) feet wide easement in exchange for the replacement of a stock pond that is in the easement area. Motion brought to vote and passed unanimously.

Additional Business

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Schwieterman announced that a special meeting regarding the town manger position is scheduled for March 18, 2014 at 7:30p.m. Charles Stewart asked if trustees elect Stewart, Bradford, and Watson could attend an executive session should the Board convene one. Balloting and methods to vote for the town manager candidates were discussed. Both topics were referred to Town Attorney Marek for follow-up.

Public Works:

Public Works Director Travis Loberg reported that public works department has been taking advantage of the nice weather and are cleaning out gutters and debris. The annual bridge inspection report has been received with minor suggestions for the bridge maintenance. Trustee Sauter thanked Director Loberg for the grating in the alleys. Trustee King has received several comments on the condition of the corner of Clark Avenue and Second Street. Road repairs will be necessary when the sewer line is repaired. Trustee King asked for an update on the 1 million (1,000,000) gallon storage tank roof repair. Director Loberg stated that a bid package is being prepared for the bidding process. Suzanne Watson asked if the Town was still using mag-chloride in the alleys. Director Loberg stated he has never used mag-chloride in the eight (8) years he has been employed with the Town.

Police Report: Chief Leon had nothing to report. Trustee Goold asked if there were any changes in hiring the fifth officer. Chief Leon reiterated that at this time he is still evaluating the position.

Committee/Meeting Reports

Finance Report:

Trustee Ayers reminded the Board that the Town employees wanted a change in the retirement plan so employees can contribute additional funds to their retirement and borrow against their retirement if desired. With the current plan held by Dreyfus Funding this is not an option. Mayor Schwieterman added that the new plan had been previously voted and approved by the Board in 2013, but shortly after other options were made available, researched, and ultimately the staff chose to stay with the approved plan with Mutual of Omaha. Trustee King asked if the cost to the Town changed. Finance Officer Jones explained that the cost to the Town decreased because she was able to get Mutual of Omaha to waive the initial start-up fee. The 2013 audit process is scheduled to begin the end of this month.

Parks Report: Nothing to report.

Public Safety Report: Nothing to report.

Street Report: Trustee King apologized to Public Works Director Loberg for not supplying him with notes requested from the streets committee. When Trustee Kleinman returns the notes will be provided to Mr. Loberg.

Water/Sewer Report: Nothing to report.

Personnel Report: Nothing to report.

Minutes:

Corrections noted. Trustee Goold moved to accept the minutes of February 25, 2014 as amended. Trustee Ayers seconded. Motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

Disbursements:

Trustee Ayers moved to pay the bills through March 11, 2014. Trustee Goold seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7:40 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Deputy Clerk, Corinne Ferguson

Mayor, Neal Schwieterman