

Town Council Special Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
May 20, 2014

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

A Special Meeting of the Town Council held Tuesday, May 20, 2014 was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Neal Schwieterman, Trustees David Bradford, Eric Goold, Ross King, Amber Kleinman, Charles Stewart, and Suzanne Watson; Attorney David Marek; Public Works Director Travis Loberg; Finance Officer Cindy Jones; and Town Clerk Barbara Peterson.

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

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Schwieterman suggested switching the agenda items so the Paradise Theatre is first. Trustee King moved to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Paradise Theatre – Tavern Liquor License Request

(Clerk note: This is not the official transcript, but a summary of the proceedings. Court Reporter J. Smith of Rusk & Rusk is responsible for the official transcript, if necessary. bjp)

Mayor Schwieterman noted this is a quasi-judicial procedure and turned the meeting over to Attorney Marek. Attorney Marek outlined the procedure for the public hearing. The application was noted for the record, as was the Statement of Findings. Elaine Brett, President of the Friends of the Paradise (FOTP), provided a history of the theatre, noting it has served as a community gathering place for over 85 years. The theatre provides not only movies, but also Santa, live music, dances and other community productions. The Friends of the Paradise was formed when the previous managers chose not to renew the lease and the Aspen based owner chose to sell the building. The FOTP kept the programming going, raised funds for a new digital projector and found investors to back the purchase of the building. Ms. Brett submitted a petition signed by more than 300 people in the valley. Concessions provide for a third of all revenues. The theatre is not a viable business without a liquor license. Liquor is not necessarily served at all events. There are no other theatres in the valley that serve alcohol. There is no other location in Paonia that serves the community with events and services like the Paradise. The Kickstarter Campaign raised more than \$42,500 with donations coming from all over the United States and a few outside the country. Colorado Grand, and the Goodman Family each donated \$10,000, and a \$20,000 grant awarded from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade. Alexis Halbert, Paonia Chamber of Commerce President, noted the Chamber was the lease holder for 9 months and attested to the concession sales making the theatre a viable business model. Before being on the Chamber, Ms. Halbert bartended at the Paradise, and testified to the level of responsibility of the staff in serving alcohol as a safety measure. Pete Kolbensschlag, FOTP Board Member, noted that we are lucky to live in such a community to crowd fund to keep the theatre in business. Keeping the theatre in business also affects other businesses in town. When there is a large event, it pulls people in from all over the valley and beyond, providing a multiplier effect. The history of the theatre is enduring and the community support is there. Ralph D'Allessandro opined the theatre is part of the fabric of the valley, contributing to the economic vitality. Having this type of license is essential for the business. Jeff Schwartz spoke in support of the license as it helps with brand recognition when people come here and taste locally made wines, beer and hard cider. The multiplier effect is very important. Susie Kaldis, Executive Director of the North Fork Valley Creative Coalition, noted the Chamber and the FOTP have been strong partners with the Coalition. Everyone has worked hard to preserve to save this historic, charming building and because Ms. Kaldis has seen the financials, she attested to the concession sales that make the business viable. The North Fork Valley is leading the way for rural communities utilizing natural assets for value added incentive products such as the local wines, hard cider, and beer. To support and promote local products integrates forward thinking for the valley's economic development. Attorney Marek read e-mails from Thea Deley and Bill and Sarah Bishop, both in support of the liquor license request. No opposing comments were stated. Public hearing was closed at 7:52 p.m. Mayor Schwieterman read the prepared findings for visitor benefit. Trustee Stewart moved to accept the findings and approve the local liquor license as requested. Trustee Kleinman seconded. Discussion resulted in a box in the application needing to be checked, which Ms. Brett fixed immediately. Motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

2MG Lamborn Water Treatment Plant – Filtration Contract Award

Mayor Schwieterman noted the documents and a memo from Clerk Peterson in the packets. Trustee King moved to approve the Notice of Award for Filter Tech Systems, Inc. Trustee Watson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Trustee King moved to approve signing the Filter Tech Systems, Inc Equipment Procurement Agreement contingent upon the Town receiving proof of Filter Tech Systems Inc Payment and Performance bonds. Trustee Watson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Trustee King moved to approve signing Filter Tech Systems Inc Notice to Proceed #1 contingent upon successful scheduling of a pre-construction meeting with the Town and WestWater Engineering and only after the Equipment Procurement Agreement conditions are met and the agreement signed. Trustee Watson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

8:02 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Town Clerk, Barbara Peterson

Mayor, Neal Schwieterman