

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

April 11, 2024

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Wingfield called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A verbal roll call was taken. Present were Patrick Webb, Tricia McFarland, Pat Medina, Sven Edstrom, and John Marta. Absent was Custer McLeod.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES FOR MARCH 14, 2024.

Pat Medina motioned to approve the minutes, Tricia McFarland seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

MINUTES FOR MARCH 19, 2024

Pat Medina motioned to approve the minutes, Patrick Webb seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

3. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Town Clerk Ginger Redden read the additional bills.

John Marta moved to approve payment of all bills as presented, Pat Medina seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

4. NORTH FORK MINERS STUDENT COUNCIL-UPDATE ON HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

No one was present for the Student Council.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment started at 6:35 p.m.

Larry Wilkening, 634 Aspen Lane, he wanted to thank the Trustees that were leaving on the great work that they have done and to congratulate the new incoming Trustees.

6. STAFF COMMENT

John Marta said that he has been a Trustee under three (3) Mayors and that he has enjoyed his time on the Board. He hopes that the new incoming Trustees will stay true to the Town.

Patrick Webb said that he remembered when Larry Wilkening was leaving the Board as Mayor and had told him that the Town was in good hands. He stated that he hadn't realized that it was the Town Staff being the ones keeping the Town together. He mentioned that he had learned a lot from Esther Koontz, Mary Hockenbery, and John Marta while they were on the Board. He said that he is sad to see Tricia leaving the Board.

Tricia McFarland wanted to thank everyone for the opportunity and that the Town is in great hands.

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7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

VARIANCE REQUEST, TEANSKY GUEST CABIN & SHOP-210 ELM DRIVE

Mayor Wingfield said that there is an existing trailer on the property that they are wanting to remove and turn into a guest house. They also want to remove a few sheds and build a shop.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION

Cherie Teansky said that the Mayor had explained everything that was in the applications.

BOARD DELIBERATION

Pat Medina said that the Planning Commission had asked all the questions that she would need answers to. She stated that this would raise the value of their property and their neighbors properties.

Sven Edstrom motioned to approve the variance request to build a guest cabin, Patrick Webb seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

Sven Edstrom motioned to approve the variance request to build a shop, Pat Medina seconded. A verbal vote was taken will all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2024-02 AN ORDINACE REGARDING DEBT COLLECTIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT-2<sup>ND</sup> READING AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION

There was no discussion between the Board or any public comment.

Pat Medina motioned to approve Ordinance 2024-02, an Ordinance regarding debt collections for the Police Department, Patrick Webb seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

8. ELECTION UPDATE

ELECTION RESULTS

Mayor Wingfield said that he couldn't say enough about the outgoing Trustees and is looking forward to the incoming Trustees. The voting results were read off:

Tricia McFarland	101 votes
Jim Jorgensen	118 votes
Randy Thalmann	121 votes
Roger Christian	116 votes

Mayor Wingfield said that the final contribution forms are due May 2<sup>nd</sup> for all the Trustee Candidates that ran.

WATER/SEWER TAP FEES AND SERVICE FEE INFORMATION UPDATE

Mayor Wingfield said that the research going into this is extensive and that it will be a while before the study is finished. He said that this study needs to be done as the rates haven't changed for many years. This will help the Town look more appealing for DOLA grants.

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8. OLD BUSINESS (cont.)  
PARKING ORDINANCE UPDATE-SET A POSSIBLE WORK SESSION  
Attorney Bo Nerlin asked that the Parking Ordinance be pushed back so that it can be addressed after the new Trustees are sworn in.

### STATUS ON THE UPDATE OF HOTCHKISS MUNICIPAL CODE, INCLUDING CHAPTER 17

Mayor Wingfield said Chief Green has put in a lot of hours and effort to working through this Ordinance and that he wanted to table it for this meeting, so the new Trustees can address the matter.

### FAREWELL TO OUTGOING TRUSTEES

Plaques were given to the outgoing Trustees. Hugs were exchanged and pictures were taken.

### SWEARING IN OF NEW TRUSTEES

Town Clerk Ginger Redden swore in the new Trustees, Roger Christian, Jim Jorgensen, and Randy Thalmann.

9. MAYOR REPORT  
Mayor Wingfield reminded everyone about the Spring Cleanup and reiterated that it is for those within the Town limits.

### DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Green told the Board that there have been 64 reports taken so far this year. They have responded to 493 calls, 7 arrests, 64 case numbers were made to the courts, 50 VIN inspections, 41% of those that are stopped are issued a summons. The cameras at the 3 points into Town have picked up a felony menacing case that resulted in a quick arrest. A stolen vehicle from California was flagged and tracked to Paonia, the driver was not found with the car. A mock crash was simulated at North Fork High School with other first responder agencies that made a great impact on the students. The department is getting prepared to have supervision with the Prom coming up this weekend. Policies with Lexipol were evaluated and updated with any changes through State Statutes. There is 100% compliance with the department for both Lexipol and CIRSA. Data was collected from only the speed sign coming into Town from Paonia. This data showed that there were more than 100,000 cars coming into Town and 9,023 were going higher than 35 miles per hour.

Mayor Wingfield said that the Town Hall will be closed on Thursday, April 18, 2024, for training.

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9. MAYOR REPORT (cont.)  
STAFF PRESENTATION ON FLUORIDE DECISION-MARVIN JACKSON AND JOANNE FAGAN

Public Works Department Head Marvin Jackson asked that the Board revisit the decision to remove fluoride from the drinking water and said that the decision was made in haste.

Town Engineer Joanne Fagan said that there was a staff report that reviewed the studies that they had researched on behalf of the council. There is also a e-mail from the State Health Department that thanked the Town for fluoridating the water. There are highlights in the staff report from the previous meeting. Toxins are based off dosage and though water is essential, too much can also be harmful. There are reports that show the risk of IQ loss in children by which the Town treats the water were not scientifically supported. Exposures of 1.5 mg or less have no effect on IQ levels and can be helpful to dental health. Fluoride in the water can be beneficial to those that can't afford to get dental care. Tooth decay can also cause other bodily harm.

Marisa Borchardt, a Delta Dentist that works with children, advocated fluoride and said that it is a naturally occurring resource. Fluoride helps with enamel and strengthening the resistance towards cavities. She says that you can tell the difference between the communities that have fluoridated water and those that don't.

Don Dybala, stated that you can buy a filter to remove the fluoride in the water for \$39.99 if there are those that don't want it in their water.

Andrew Astin, Pediatrician, stated that he was a third generation Delta County resident, he is very invested in the health of the community. In large systematic reviews, there is nothing that shows risk with low fluoridation levels. Dental care is twice as high in low-income families and fluoridation is a cost-effective way to help all those that can't afford the care.

Tasha, River Valley Family Health Center, advocated that she agreed with everything that was said before her and that fluoridating the water helps everyone.

Jenni Lansing, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment-Oral Health Unit, she said that there is a shared goal with the 50+ Colorado cities that are fluoridating their water. Water fluoridation is safe at an operational level and Hotchkiss has been known to get awards for the lower levels of fluoride in the drinking water. Colorado is known to not have great levels of optimal health care. There is more saving on cavities and having to get fillings and preventing those fillings from deteriorating. Fluoride also helps keep saliva in the mouth, preventing dryness which causes more cavities. Tooth pain or cavities can cause pain that can be distracting at any age and cause more harm throughout the rest of the body.

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9. MAYOR REPORT (cont.)  
STAFF PRESENTATION ON FLUORIDE DECISION-MARVIN JACKSON AND JOANNE FAGAN  
Roger Christian motioned to rescind the Board's motion of March 14, 2024, requesting that staff initiate the process of putting a one year moratorium on the use of fluoride in the Town's water supply, Jim Jorgensen seconded.  
Pat Medina asked why this hadn't been brought up at the last meeting. Marvin Jackson and Bo Nerlin both noted that the staff was a bit shocked that the motion was made so fast. Sven Edstrom said that he wasn't present for the last meeting but was also shocked that the motion was made and thanked Marvin for speaking about it.  
A verbal vote was taken with Roger Christian, Pat Medina, Jim Jorgensen, and Sven Edstrom voting in favor and Randy Thalmann voting against. Motion passed 4-1.
10. NEW BUSINESS  
APPOINTING OF JUDGE, ATTORNEY, MAYOR PRO-TEM AND TOWN CLERK  
Pat Medina motioned to reappoint Bruce Joss as Judge, Bo Nerlin as Town Attorney, Pat Medina as Mayor Pro-Tem, and Ginger Redden as Town Clerk, Sven Edstrom seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.
- PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE-LETTERS FROM CITIZENS, POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT IN MAY  
Mayor Wingfield said that with John Marta leaving the Board and Roger Christian staying on the Planning Commission as a Trustee, a citizen seat will need to be filled and letters of interest will need to be turned into the Clerk's Office.
- TRUSTEE TRAINING WITH MR. DANA HLAVAC, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE-WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024  
The Board agreed on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
- SPECIAL EVENTS LIQUOR LICENSE-NF VALLEY CHAPTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION-WENDELL KOONTZ  
Mayor Wingfield said that he talked with Wendell and that everything in the applications looks good. Chief Green and Town Clerk Ginger Redden both agreed.  
Pat Medina motioned to approve the Special Event Liquor License for the NF Valley Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elks Foundation, Randy Thalmann seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motioned passed.
- DONATION REQUEST-NFHS GRAD NIGHT-MICHELLE PAGONE  
Mayor Wingfield said that he likes to donate to the schools. Ginger Redden said that it has been a while since we gave the school a donation.  
Sven Edstrom motioned to donate \$300.00 for the NFHS Grad Night, Jim Jorgensen seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

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10. NEW BUSINESS (cont.)  
REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO USE PARKING LOT SPACE ON HOTCHKISS AVENUE FOR HOTCHKISS SHEEP CAMP STOCK DOG TRIALS-JOAN HOLLIS  
Mayor Wingfield said that they are asking to set up a truck in the Town parking lot. Joan Hollis explained to the Board that there are vendors and representatives that want to do the Fiber Fair. She will be setting up a fiber shop that sells yarn and thought that it would be a great spot to set up the truck. Pat Medina said that it wouldn't be fair to ask Weekender Sports to move their equipment from the parking lot and then allow this vendor to park there. She also inquired about parking closer to the Creamery Arts Center. Jim Jorgensen asked if the vendor truck could park there with the Weekender Sports equipment being there too. Joan Hollis said that the Creamery's parking lot will be taken up with other vendors and that the surface of it is not level enough for the truck. Delores Morris said that the Fiber Fair is a great idea for the Town, it is very educationally driven on the process of getting wool from sheep. Sven Edstrom motioned to grant permission to park in the Hotchkiss Avenue Parking Lot for Fiber Fair, Jim Jorgensen seconded. A verbal vote was taken with Roger Christian, Randy Thalmann, Jim Jorgensen, and Sven Edstrom voting in favor and Pat Medina voting against. Motion passed 4-1.

### STREET CLOSURE REQUEST-FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-BRANDON PEHRSON

Brandon Pehrson said that he is with the First Baptist Church and being at the customer appreciation with Duckworks, that he wanted to host the same thing with the Church and serve breakfast. Mayor Wingfield said that he would like to do it from Main Street to the alley, that way the traffic from the gas station won't be impeded.

Pat Medina motioned to approve the street closure from Main Street to the alley for First Baptist Church, Sven Edstrom seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

11. ADJOURNMENT  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley M. Rodarte, Deputy Town Clerk