

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

August 8, 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 Roger Christian, Randy Thalmann, Pat Medina, Sven Edstrom, and Jim Jorgensen. Absent was Custer McLeod.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES FOR JULY 11, 2024

Pat Medina moved to approve the minutes as presented, Roger Christian seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

MUNCHIE MONDAY PLAN INFORMATION

Mayor Wingfield explained that Bud Barns and the vendor trucks needed to follow the rules as far as placement of the truck and application for a vendor permit. A map was provided to illustrate where the truck would be located.

3. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Town Clerk Ginger Redden read off the additional bills.

Pat Medina moved to pay the bills, Jim Jorgensen 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

School is out, no Student Council Present.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ruth Pettigrew, 344 N 3rd Street, Ruth stated that she is a cat person, and she isn't looking to hurt her neighbors' yards. She reiterated that she would like more information on Chapter 17 progress.

James Larkins, 680 E Bridge Street #6, asked the Board for a crosswalk over by the old Gopher's, now Farm Runner's. He stated that he has a hard time getting across highway 133 at this intersection. He said that he didn't know much as far as the cat ordinance, but his dog was involved with killing a cat in his neighborhood, that he had got a ticket on. He stated that he doesn't understand the leash law and that he always has his dog off the leash, and it stays at his side.

Tom Wills, 159 W Main Street, said that it is that time of the year and that he wants to transition off what Larry Wilkening and Mary Hockenbery had talked about previously. The surveys that they had spoke about would be beneficial towards reviewing the Master Plan. Tom stated that the first Master Plan was done in 2006, with that being professionally done and the last one that he had done was under budgeted.

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6. STAFF COMMENT

There was no staff comment.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no Public Hearings for this month.

8. OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 2024-01 CHAPTER 17 CODE UPDATE

Mayor Wingfield stated that he would like the Board to go over the Chapter 17 draft and make notes within the next week to have a first reading at September's meeting. Attorney Bo Nerlin talked about what has gone into the reworking for Chapter 17. He stated that there wasn't an interest in bringing forth cats at large. Chapter 17 has the capability to have TNR addressed by a future resolution. Mayor Wingfield thanked Bo and everyone that was involved in the process of getting this done.

BRUIN WASTE RECYCLING UPDATE/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Mayor Wingfield said that there would need to be at least 75 participants for this service to be viable and that it would be on the first (1st) and third (3rd) Wednesday of every month. Rachael Leonard said that this is a new service and that commercial businesses would be on a different schedule. Pat Medina stated that citizens came to her saying they didn't want to pay for this service as they don't take glass. Rachael stated that their facility now can't process the glass. There is capability in Grand Junction, but they may investigate picking up glass on a separate day of the month. Jim Jorgensen asked if this would still be mandatory for every citizen in the Town. Mayor Wingfield told the Board that the citizens were split down the middle on the service, so they would move forward with voluntary participation. Discussion was had between the Board on how this can't be mandatory for the service fee of six dollars a month. Racheal gave more insight into the benefits this would bring to the Town.

WATER RATE STUDY UPDATE

Mayor Wingfield said that the study came back saying that the rates didn't need to be increased, yet DOLA stated that they need to be increased to qualify for grant funds. Ginger Redden said that DOLA encouraged a five (5) percent increase gradually over the next few years. Engineer Joanne Fagan told the Board that she hasn't had a chance to read over the rate study yet. She mentioned that all the water and sewer rates both need attention and that she suggests getting a second opinion.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wingfield said that the budget process has started and that the Master Plan will be budgeted to be reviewed. The first draft will be presented in the October meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Green is out with an injury, no report given.

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9. MAYOR'S REPORT (cont.)
PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director Marvin Jackson asked if money could be returned to Kyle Pitt, who was the winning bid for the Town's farm lease. There was an issue with the property being able to get irrigation water for the range of a month to a month and a half. The Board discussed and agreed that Kyle Pitt should be compensated. Marvin told the Board that pavement was redone for fourth (4th) Street from Orchard to Lorah and dealing with other issues.

TOWN HALL

CLERK'S OFFICE GOING TO A FOUR (4) DAY WORK WEEK DISCUSSION

Mayor Wingfield told the Board that he is looking into moving the front office into a four (4) day work week. The office would be open Monday through Thursday, closing at 5:00 p.m. Bo Nerlin was asked to speak on the topic. He said that it isn't uncommon within other municipalities for a four-day work week. The Board discussed the topic and instructed Bo to investigate the other municipalities that he knows of for pros and cons.

10. NEW BUSINESS

LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL-TRI R LIQUOR-620 E BRIDGE STREET

Mayor Wingfield told the Board that Chief Green said that everything with the application is in order and has been submitted early.

Jim Jorgensen made a motion to approve the liquor license renewal application for Tri R Liquor, Pat Medina seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

RATIFICATION OF STAGE ONE FIRE BAN

Mayor Wingfield set a stage one fire ban following Delta County issuing their stage one fire ban. This would need to be ratified in this meeting.

Jim Jorgensen made a motion to ratify the stage one fire ban, Sven Edstrom seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

BASSET BRIDGE, LLC-122 E BRIDGE STREET-JULIA FERRY LITTLEFIELD
MEMORIAL POCKET PARK MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION-HEIDI HOUSTION

Heidi Houston couldn't make this meeting, this has been tabled until the September meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pat Medina made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) for matters subject to legal advice, and C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for matters subject to negotiation, instruction negotiators and developing positions relative to negotiation related to possible lease of real property by the Town of Hotchkiss, Colorado, Jim Jorgensen seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all the Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed. The time was 7:15 p.m.

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10. EXECUTIVE SESSION (cont.)

The recording of the Executive Session was stopped at 7:16 p.m. due to Attorney/Client Privilege.

RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

The recording of the meeting was turned back on at 7:56 p.m.

Mayor Wingfield read the following.

The time is now 7:56 p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were Mayor Jim Wingfield, Jim Jorgensen, Randy Thalmann, Pat Medina, Roger Christian, Sven Edstrom, Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Rodarte, Town Clerk Ginger Redden, Attorney Bo Nerlin, Public Works Department Head Marvin Jackson, Engineer Joanne Fagan.

For the record if any person who participated in the Executive Session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into Executive Session occurred during the Executive Session, or that any improper action occurred during the Executive Session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record. Seeing none, the next agenda item is...

POSSIBLE MOTION FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No motion was made.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley M. Rodarte, Deputy Town Clerk