Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

December 14, 2017

- 1. Mayor Koontz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quote from President Ronald Reagan. Those present were Pat Medina, Tom Wills, John Marta, Lindee Cantrell and Jim Roberts. Absent was Mary Hockenbery.
- 2. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Minutes for November 9, 2017

Tom Wills noted that in item #1 Ronald Reagan's name was misspelled.

Tom Wills moved to approve the minutes from November 9, 2017 with the above noted changes. Lindee Cantrell seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

4. Public Hearing-Set Back Variance Review-Casey O'Connell

Casey O'Connell told the Board that he would like to build a garage on his property and he would like a variance from the normal ten foot rear setback requirement to twenty eight inches, to allow for fire access. He will not have a way to get into the garage with that big of a setback. His property is adjacent to the County property and there is nothing behind him.

Mayor Koontz opened the Public Hearing at 6:34 p.m.

Hearing no comments for or against, Mayor Koontz closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m. Tom Wills said that this situation is unique. The County had no comment on the request and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the variance.

Tom Wills moved to approve the variance request from the normal ten foot rear setback to a twenty eight inch rear setback for Casey O'Connell at 511 Park Drive. Jim Roberts seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

5. Request to Plant Trees in the Sidewalk-Shadescapes

Tom Wills and Mary Hockenbery visited Shadescapes to come up with a solution to this request. After visiting with Jo Edmondson, Tom and Mary recommend that they be allowed to plant trees in the sidewalk from the approved list put out by Grand Junction District State of Colorado Forest Service. Tom said that there should also be a form for anyone who would like to plant trees to fill out stating the type of trees and that they will be responsible for the upkeep of them. Public Works Director Mike Owens said that keeping track of the responsibility and ownership of the trees could become a problem; signs get covered, sidewalks get ruined and if the building sells, the new owners may not know about the responsibility. Several more minutes of discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

Tom Wills moved to allow Shadescapes to plant three trees in the sidewalk in front of their building with the stipulation that they sign a form agreeing to take responsibility for the trees they plant trees from the approved State of Colorado Forestry Service list and they consult with Public Works prior to and during the planting. Jim Roberts seconded and the vote tied with Jim Roberts and Tom Wills voting for and Lindee Cantrell and Pat Medina voting against with John Marta abstaining. Mayor Koontz told John Marta that he needed to vote and did a recount. The motion passed with John Marta voting for it.

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6. Special Events Liquor License-Kids Pasta Project

Moni Slater told the Board that the Kids Pasta Project was hosting an awards dinner for businesses and they would like to have a license to serve wine with the meal. The event will be held at Shadescapes on January 15, 2018 from 5 to 9 p.m. It will be a five course meal that the children will prepare and serve. The participants will go to the bar to pick up their drink if they would like one with their meal.

Lindee Cantrell moved to approve the above noted Special Events Liquor License. Pat Medina seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

- 7. Jeff Schwartz-Big B's, 386 High Street Cleanup Cancelled.
- 8. Discussion of Draft Resolution for Green Energy Options

Tom Wills explained the Resolution to the Board again and said that it would be like a letter of support to DMEA (Delta Montrose Electric Association) to encourage them to find or create local green energy sources.

The Board asked Attorney Bo Nerlin to come up with a Resolution to be presented at the January meeting.

9. MOU with the Nature Connection Discussion

The Nature Connection needs to have an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Town if they are awarded the GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) grant that they have applied for. Attorney Nerlin looked over the MOU and said that the only requirement from the Town is in kind work as needed.

Tom Wills moved to allow Mike Owens, Mayor Koontz and Attorney Nerlin to work on and finalize the MOU with the Nature Connection. Pat Medina seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

10. Pay Request #1-Sewer/Drainage Project

Engineer Joanne Fagan told the Board that this is 95% of the work payment requested by Tribble and Son's. Pinon was paved instead of patched since the cost was cheaper. There is also a Change Order that needs approval by the Board. The change includes an additional \$20,000, deleting patching, adding paving and 50 feet of storm pipe to the project.

Jim Roberts moved to approve the above mentioned changes to Change Order #1 to the Tribble

Jim Roberts moved to approve the above mentioned changes to Change Order #1 to the Tribble and Son's contract. John Marta seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

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11. 2018 Budget

Resolution 2017-05 Defray Expenses in Excess of Amount Budgeted/Garbage Fund Tom Wills moved to approve Resolution 2017-05 a Resolution appropriating sums of money to defray expenses in excess of amounts budgeted for the Town of Hotchkiss. Jim Roberts seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Ordinance 2017-05

Tom Wills moved to adopt Ordinance 2017-05 an Ordinance adopting a budget for the Town of Hotchkiss, Colorado for the calendar year 2017. Jim Roberts seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Ordinance 2017-06

Tom Wills moved to approve Ordinance 2017-06 an Ordinance amending established rate of the mill levy for all taxable property within the Town of Hotchkiss, Colorado for the Municipal purposes for the calendar year 2018. Pat Medina seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Ordinance 2017-07

Tom Wills moved to approve Ordinance 2017-07 an Ordinance appropriating sums of money to defray expenses and liabilities of the Town of Hotchkiss, Colorado for the 2018calendar year and declaring an emergency. John Marta seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

12. Year End Bonuses

For the last several years the Town has given the staff and the Trustees a bonus of City Market gift cards. The Town employees received \$250 and the Town Trustees received \$50. Last year the amount for each employee was cut back to \$200 and the Trustees chose not to receive one due to the budget.

John Marta moved to approve the bonuses for the Town Staff and Trustees in the amount of \$250 for the Staff and \$50 for the Trustees. Jim Roberts seconded the motion and it was passed with all in favor.

13. Lorah Lane Adoption Discussion

Public Works Director Mike Owens said that he has been looking into the ownership of Lorah Lane because the County does not show that they own it. The ownership of the road is unknown and there is only a 26.7 foot easement on the North side being shown that the Town owns. The entire road is on the Town's maintenance list and the Town shares the cost of the asphalt with the County. Duke Hill Road is another road in Town that shows the Town only owning a utility easement, not the road. After several minutes of discussion, the Board directed Attorney Nerlin and Mike Owens to bring an estimated cost of a Title search for Lorah Lane to the meeting in January.

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14. Colorado Main Street Update

Mayor Koontz, Tom Wills and Mary Hockenbery all attended a meeting on Tuesday (12-12). Region 10 suggested using them to fund a program that the Chamber is looking into to help move the Colorado Main Street Program forward.

15. Five Minute Public Appearance

Larry Wilkening asked how the people that complained about the street light liked the solution of lowering the wattage. Public Works Director Mike Owens said that they have not been heard from since the September meeting.

16. Town Engineer Report

Town Engineer Joanne Fagan said that she received notification from DOLA (Department of Local Affairs) that the Town received the funding for the water tank. CRWPDA (Colorado Rural Water and Power Development Authority) also approved the funding from them. Everything should be in place and ready to go in January. The water tank replacement will be a Spring or Summer project for 2018. The approval of the Health Department and Historical Society is still needed before things will be ready to put the project out to bid.

17. Delta County Housing Task Force Update No meeting held.

18. Leroux Creek Planning Update

Tom Wills said that they did not have a Leroux Creek Planning meeting but he did attend the Delta County Planning meeting. Jeffrey Wright, the Emergency Management Director for the County gave a presentation and the County Master Plan was discussed.

19. Department Reports

Public Works Director Mike Owens said that the Radar signs have been delivered and will be installed on December 21st and 22nd.

Marshal Miller said that Santa will be delivering gifts to the families in Town on December 22nd with the help of the NFAA (North Fork Ambulance Association).

20. Hotchkiss Planning Commission Update

Tom Wills talked about the public hearing with Casey O'Connell and said that more information is in the minutes from the Planning Commission meeting. The Master Plan will be gone over by the Town staff and will be reviewed again at the Planning Commission meeting on January 24th. The plans are to have an official hearing on the Master Plan in February, finalize everything in March and present it to the Board in April for possible adoption.

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21. Hotchkiss Chamber Update

Tom Wills said that the Colorado Main Street was discussed and a membership drive has been started. The Chamber has also printed out new walking maps of Hotchkiss and there are copies available on the counter in the Town Hall.

22. Mayor's Report

Elyse Castleberry would like to be on the agenda for January's meeting to discuss the Master Plan and an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the Town and the County.

A new oil and gas liason is working for the County and Mayor Koontz wondered if there was any interest from the Board to have him talk at one of the meetings.

Mayor Koontz wished Deputy Town Clerk Ginger Redden Happy Birthday and congratulated her on the birth of her grandson.

Region 10 has a Small Change Grant available and Mayor Koontz asked the Board if they would like to apply for \$5,000 with a \$5,000 match from the Town to upgrade the Town's Christmas Decoration. The Trustees approved proceeding with the grant application.

One hundred and fourteen children attended the North Fork Children's Christmas Party last weekend.

The Christmas Community dinner will be held on December 25th from 11:00-1:00 p.m.

23. Town Clerk Report

Deputy Town Clerk Ginger Redden said that anyone interested in running in the 2018 election can pick up nomination petition forms starting January 2nd. There are four Trustee positions and the Mayor position up for election.

24. Upcoming Events/Schedule

December 19th-Elks Club gives out food baskets

December 25th-Free Christmas Community Dinner

High School Wrestling Warrior Classic is this weekend

25. New Business

None

26. Possible Items for the Next Agenda

Green Energy Resolution

Elyse Castleberry-County Master Plan Discussion

27. Consideration of Bills

Lindee Cantrell moved to approve all bills as presented. John Marta seconded and the vote passed with all in favor.

28. Executive Session

Cancelled.

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29. Adjournment

Lindee Cantrell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Pat Medina seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginger R. Redden, Deputy Town Clerk