

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

March 11, 2021

Zoom Meeting

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Wilkening called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Verbal roll call was taken and those present were Mary Hockenbery, Patrick Webb, Jim Wingfield, Pat Medina and John Marta.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2021

Mary Hockenbery moved to approve the minutes as presented, Patrick Webb seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting “Yes”, motion passed.

MINUTES FOR MARCH 1, 2021

Mary Hockenbery moved to approve the minutes as presented, Jim Wingfield seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting “Yes”. Motion passed.

3. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

John Marta moved to approve all bills as presented, Jim Wingfield seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting “Yes”, motion passed.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

SPECIAL ZONING USE REVIEW 265 E MAIN STREET-ANASTACIA KAMPE DBA PURISIMA RIDGE PARTNERS LP

Mayor Wilkening explained the protocol to be followed for Public Hearings.

Mayor Wilkening told the Board that this item was before the Planning Commission on February 24th and was recommended for approval.

Anastacia Kampe told the Board that this is a two (2) bedroom, two (2) bath house that they purchased for her mother to live in. Her mom will live in it for a few months out of the year. While Anastacia’s mom is not here, she would like to rent it out for six (6) to seven (7) nights a month as a short-term rental on VRBO and AirBNB to recoup some of the cost of the maintenance on the house. The garage will be locked and all of the personal items that belong to her mother will be stored there.

The Board asked if there would be more nights a month planned in the future and Anastacia said she will just start with a few nights and see how it goes before planning more.

Public Comment was opened at 6:55 p.m. with no comments for or against. Public comment was closed at 6:55.

Jim Wingfield moved to approve the Special Zoning request for 265 E Main Street with no stipulations on how many nights it is rented for, seconded by Mary Hockenbery. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting “Yes”. Motion passed.

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5. OLD BUSINESS

OVERLAND DITCH WATER SHARES SEALED BIDS OPENING

The only bid received was from David Kuntz. There was several minutes of discussion among the Board members about keeping the water since water will be short this year. Public Works Director Mike Owens and Engineer Joanne Fagan both shared the opinion that keeping the Overland Shares this year would be in the best interest of the Town. If the Town does not use the shares of water, they can then be put out for bid again.

Jim Wingfield moved to keep the 300 shares of the Overland Ditch Water for conservation purposes in the event it is needed in order to serve the citizens of Hotchkiss, seconded by Mary Hockenbery. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting "Yes". Motion passed.

HOTCHKISS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE/ONE DELTA COUNTY UPDATE-
KIM SHAY

Kim Shay was having audio difficulties.

POSSIBLE NEW TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT AND SWEARING IN

Three (3) letters of interest were submitted to the Town for the seat recently vacated by Kris Hillman. Terry O'Brien, Harry Ferrier and Sven Edstrom were the three (3) candidates.

Terry O'Brien was absent.

Harry Ferrier and Sven Edstrom told the Board about themselves and about why they are interested in being a member of the Board.

Pat Medina moved to nominate Sven Edstrom for the Trustee position recently vacated by Kris Hillman, seconded by Mary Hockenbery. A verbal vote was taken after several more minutes of discussion. The Board voted four (4) to one (1) in favor of Sven as the new Trustee. Mary Hockenbery voted "Yes", Jim Wingfield voted "Yes", Pat Medina voted "Yes", Patrick Webb voted "Yes", John Marta voted "No".

Mayor Wilkening thanked everyone that submitted a letter of interest for the position.

At this time, Town Clerk Ginger Redden swore in new council member Sven Edstrom.

HOTCHKISS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE/ONE DELTA COUNTY UPDATE

Kim Shay was still having audio difficulties. Mayor Wilkening updated the Board on One Delta County. One Delta County is using the opportunity zones to help attract more businesses to the County. Director Greg Pope is recruiting new members.

POSSIBLE RENEWING OF DISASTER DECLARATION DISCUSSION

Attorney Nerlin told the Board that most communities renewed their Disaster Declaration in January and are having it expire in June. He told the Board that the Mayor has the authority to enact an emergency declaration at any time it is needed and the Board must ratify it within seven (7) days of the declaration.

Patrick Webb moved to renew the Disaster Declaration for 90 days, until the June 10th meeting seconded by Mary Hockenbery. After several minutes of discussion, Patrick edited the motion to renew the Disaster Declaration until June 10, 2021, Mary Hockenbery seconded.

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5. OLD BUSINESS (cont.)
POSSIBLE RENEWING OF DISASTER DECLARATION DISCUSSION
A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting “Yes”. Motion passed.

HOTCHKISS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE/ONE DELTA COUNTY UPDATE
At this time Tracy Ihnot gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce activities due to the audio difficulties still being had by Kim Shay.
Nathan Sponseller is doing great as the Executive Director. The membership has grown since February of last year and he is updating the e-newsletters with information. Delta Montrose Electric Association is updating their sign at the visitor center kiosk and photographs are being sent to One Delta County to update the Chamber logo.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT
Kim Shay got her audio working and updated the Board on a few other things about the Chamber of Commerce. Kim Congratulated Sven on becoming the new Board member.
Kim also thanked Tracy for the Chamber update that she presented.
The museum is now open on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
The Colorado Grand will be coming through in September.
The charging station for vehicles will be installed the first week in April.
Merchant meetings will start up again in April as well.

MAYOR’S REPORT

At this time Mayor Wilkening updated the Board on some items.
A thank you letter was received from the Center for Mental Health thanking the Town for the recent donation.
Mayor Wilkening thanked Tom Wills for his letter concerning the Out of Town water tap denial made at the February meeting. In the letter Tom mentioned dole systems as an alternative to the cistern but according to Delta County this is still considered a cistern.
There are no upcoming birthdays for the month of March.
The Mayor’s report will be an addition to the agenda before adjournment.

7. NEW BUSINESS
DELTA COUNTY READS-LIBRARY/PARADISE THEATER-TRACY IHNOT
Tracy Ihnot explained to the Board that every year the Library picks a book that has a movie associated with it. When the book is checked out, a movie ticket is given and that allows the family admission to the movie. In the past it has been held at the Paradise Theater in Paonia. With everything that has happened in the past year the Library and Paradise Theater got together to see if the movie could be shown in every community with a library on a different night to encourage more families to take part in this program. They would like to show the movie at Willow Heights Park on Saturday, May 8th starting at 7:30 p.m. There will be approximately thirty (30) people participating and the Health Department has already approved this gathering.

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7. NEW BUSINESS (CONT.)

There will be no concessions, people will bring their own.

The Board asked several questions of Tracy such as:

How will you keep other people out of the park? Tracy said there is no way to keep others out of the park. They would like to have places mapped out where the ticket holders will sit so they will not lose their seating.

What about parking? Hopefully with most families living close they will walk.

What about the noise? The movie is exactly two (2) hours and with cleanup they should be done by 11:00 p.m.

The Trustees were very supportive of this event but had concerns about how it all would work. A couple of the Trustees offered their houses for people to park at and walk from. It was suggested that the library talk to the neighbors surrounding the park and get their opinions as well.

Several more minutes of discussion was had by the Board.

Pat Medina moved to approve the request for the Delta County Library in conjunction with the Paradise theater be able to have this program at the Willow Heights Park on Saturday, May 8th at 7:30 p.m., Jim Wingfield seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting, "Yes".

Motion passed.

TOWN CLEAN UP DAY DISCUSSION

Amber Bayles told the Board that in years past the Hotchkiss 6th through 8th graders as well as the High School helped with the Town clean up. She wanted the Town to know that they are willing to help again.

The Board told Amber that they will look at schedules and get back to her with a date and time.

CONTRACT WITH THE TOWN OF PAONIA RATIFICATION

Mayor Wilkening explained the agreement to the Board.

Attorney Bo Nerlin told the Board that the Marshal's Office was in need of coverage due to being short staffed. Paonia Officers offered their assistance on their days off and will act as Independent Contractors reporting to Marshal Miller. They will use their own vehicles due to the comfort level and COVID safety measures. Attorney Nerlin said that Paonia was readily available and this should only be for 30 to 45 days.

John Marta moved to ratify the Independent Contractors Agreement that the Hotchkiss Marshal's Office has with the Paonia Police Department, seconded by Mary Hockenbery. The Board voted five (5) to one (1) in favor of the motion. Mary Hockenbery voted "Yes", Pat Medina voted "Yes", John Marta voted "Yes", Patrick Webb voted "Yes", Sven Edstrom voted "Yes", and Jim Wingfield voted "No". Motion passed.

The Board asked that this information be put out on Social media and explain to the citizen's why Paonia is patrolling Hotchkiss. Attorney Nerlin told the Board that a press release was issued regarding this issue yesterday.

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7. NEW BUSINESS (CONT.)
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jim Wingfield moved to go into an Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice related to an investigation conducted by CIRSA (Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency) under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402 (4)(b) seconded by Mary Hockenbery. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed. The time was 8:34 p.m. At this time due to the Attorney/Client privilege the recording of this meeting was stopped.

RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

The recording of the meeting was turned back on.

Mayor Larry Wilkening read the following;

The time is now 9:29 p.m., and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Mayor Larry Wilkening, Patrick Webb, Mary Hockenbery, Jim Wingfield, Pat Medina, John Marta, Sven Edstrom, Attorney Bo Nerlin, Town Clerk Ginger Redden and Deputy Town Clerk Karen Laing.

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 the 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 made.

Direction was given to Town Staff to check on the new server system and the security it has as well as how many days the backups are saved.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Pat Medina moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m., seconded by Jim Wingfield. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting, "Yes". Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginger R. Redden, Town Clerk