

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

October 10, 2024

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**  
Mayor Jim Wingfield called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A verbal roll call was taken. Present were Roger Christian, Randy Thalmann, Custer McLeod, Jim Jorgensen and Pat Medina arriving at 6:33 p.m.  
Absent was Sven Edstrom.  
  
Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **CONSENT AGENDA**  
**MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**  
Roger Christian moved to approve the minutes as presented, Custer McLeod seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.
3. **CONSIDERATION OF BILLS**  
Town Clerk Ginger Redden read off the additional bills.  
Custer McLeod moved to pay the bills, Roger Christian 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**  
Mayor Wingfield said that he would reach out to the High School to see if representatives would be able to attend the meetings again. Lindsey Todd from the crowd said that there is a new person in charge of the council, and she will reach out to them for the Mayor.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
Ruth Pettigrew, 344 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, asked the Board, with the draft of Chapter 17 being presented, if there was identification established between domestic and feral cats, if a grandfather clause was in effect for those with possibly more than four cats.  
  
Liz Heidrick, Crawford Colorado, mentioned that CAWS is a helpful resource for a TNR program. They Spay/Neuter, vaccinate and place cats that have a friendly personality in the adoption system.
6. **STAFF COMMENT**  
There were no staff comments.
7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
**RICK AND JEAN DEANE-161 AND 165 SECOND STREET-CANCELED-PLANNING REAPPEARANCE REQUIRED**  
This public hearing was tabled for more information.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 2  
10/10/2024

7. PUBLIC HEARING (cont.)  
VARIANCE REQUEST FOR LOT SIZE DUE TO LOT SPLIT/BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT  
This public hearing was tabled for more information.  
  
VARIANCE REQUEST FOR THE KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK-336 MINERS WAY-  
LINDSEY TODD  
Mayor Wingfield told the Board that the Planning Commission recommended approval of twelve (12) horses for this request. He stated that he was in favor of approving this request, Jim Jorgensen agreed. Mayor Wingfield said that this property was annexed into Town so that the High School could be built in its current location. Lindsey Todd told the Board that the school is very helpful with being able to offer such resources for school agricultural projects. Liz Heidrick said that she is very appreciative of the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees for being able to have property in a community that supports livestock.  
  
There were no public comments for this hearing.  
  
Custer McLeod made a motion to approve the Variance Request following the Planning Commission recommendation on the property of 336 Miners Way, Pat Medina seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.
8. OLD BUSINESS  
RESOLUTION 2024-02 CLERK'S OFFICE HOUR AND DAY CHANGE  
Pat Medina said that she has gotten many calls about this due to the Merchant Herald. She said that she would like to see this as a six (6) month trial, instead of a complete change over. Roger Christian stated that he too thought that it would be for a trial period. Attorney Bo Nerlin clarified that it could be approved with the contingency for the six (6) month review. Roger Christian made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-02 with the contingency that it come back for review after six (6) months, Pat Medina seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.  
  
ORDINANCE 2024-01 CHAPTER 17 POSSIBLE FIRST READING  
Jim Jorgensen and Pat Medina both stated that there has been a lot of public comment made on this Chapter 17 revision and that it would be great to be done with it. Pat Medina made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-01 as a first reading, Custer McLeod seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.
9. MAYOR'S REPORT  
Mayor Wingfield said that there has been a couple meetings so far with budget as it has been hard but it is getting done.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 3  
10/10/2024

### MAYOR REPORT (cont.)

#### PUBLIC WORKS

Marvin Jackson said that they have a new hire named Caleb Crain and that he has been doing a great job so far. There was a major leak at the water plant pond. They had to drain the reservoir in order to repair the pond. It is all fixed and it is slowly filling back up.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Scott Green said that Homecoming went well with the help of Public Works. Mayor Wingfield said that a lot is done behind the scenes with the staff and that they are all doing a great job.

#### GUNNISON BASIN ROUNDTABLE REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED

Mayor Wingfield said that he had a meeting with Wendell Koontz and he is looking for someone to fill a vacant position on the Gunnison Basin Roundtable.

#### TRUSTEE TRAINING INFORMATION REFRESHER

Bo Nerlin gave a presentation addressing affordable housing and updated rules on evictions, Municipal laws, and Natural Medicine.

### 10. NEW BUSINESS

#### DONATION REQUESTS

##### NORTH FORK COMMUNITY DINNERS-LARRY JAKUBIAK/PAT MEDINA

Pat Medina represented Larry Jakubiak for the North Fork Community Dinners. She said that Larry is asking five hundred (\$500) dollars for the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. There has been a large turnout for these events.

Roger Christian made a motion to approve the Donation Request for \$500.00 to the North Fork Community Dinners, Custer McLeod seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

##### NORTH FORK SENIOR CONNECTIONS-BONNIE EISENBERG

Bonnie Eisenberg commended Hotchkiss for doing the meals every week at the Senior Center. Their organization is seeking support in a donation to assist Seniors within the North Fork Community that wish to live independently within their own homes. Handy Helpers is another benefits service that they provide to help Seniors within their homes with household handyman jobs. They also provide assistance with seasonal tasks as well. They are looking to assist at least a dozen Seniors within Hotchkiss. They are looking to recruit a Board Member that resides in Hotchkiss. Mayor Wingfield said that he thinks this is a great idea.

Jim Jorgensen made a motion to approve the North Fork Senior Connection Donation Request for five hundred (\$500) dollars, Pat Medina seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 4  
10/10/2024

10. NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

**STREET CLOSURE REQUEST-HOTCHKISS ELKS LODGE**

Mayor Wingfield said that the Hotchkiss Elks Lodge is requesting to close Second Street between Bridge Street and Main Street. Teresa Burns told the Board that they were busier last year than they thought that they would be. This led to a lot of kids being confused with the Hotchkiss Fire Trucks being in the middle of the parking lot. She is wanting to close the street off so that they can have a cattle pod haunted house and to provide more room for vehicles for the Trunk R' Treat. They would like to close the street from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Custer McLeod made a motion to approve the street closure for Hotchkiss Elks Lodge, Jim Jorgensen seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

**2025 BUDGET-FIRST DRAFT-POSSIBLE WORK SESSION DATE**

The Trustees discussed setting a date and scheduled the Budget Work Session for Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

**ORDINANCE 2024-03 SANITATION TO WATER LOAN PAYMENT FORGIVENESS**

Bo Nerlin explained that a loan was taken out in 2003 for the Sanitation Plant. This loan was then refinanced in 2013. In 2015 the Town paid the loan back by taking an interfund loan from the Water Fund to pay this loan off early. Due to the 2023 Auditor Report, the Water Fund is healthier than the Sanitation Fund. Per the Auditor, he states that the loan at this point could be forgiven. It was researched to see if forgiving this loan would jeopardize the funds or if it would create issues with finding funding past 2024. Attorney Bo Nerlin said that he got a positive recommendation to forgive this loan with it not affecting future financing options. Attorney Nerlin said that this item could be approved in this meeting as a first reading and come back to the Board in November as a Public Hearing.

Pat Medina made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-03 as a first reading, Custer McLeod seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley M. Rodarte, Deputy Town Clerk