

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

October 30, 2023

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Wingfield called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A verbal roll call was taken. Present were Patrick Webb, Tricia McFarland, John Marta, Pat Medina, Custer McLeod, and Sven Edstrom.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. RIVER RIDGE ROAD UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Mayor Wingfield gave an update on the sewer and water line installation project for the Miner's Trail. The Town originally agreed to pay for the pipe for the water and sewer line that would go up River Ridge Road and circle back around to the High School, while the County was responsible for the installation of the lines and the remainder of the project. It was said that the County is changing their plans as they continue with the project.

Joanne Fagan said that there is speculation that the County wants to dead end the infrastructure instead of connecting it with the High School as planned. She said that the health department frowns upon dead ending these lines. She stated that she wonders how this benefits the Town. Mayor Wingfield said that he is not in agreement with the IGA that was drafted through the County. The project had a lot of appeal in the aspect of future housing. He worries that the County only has so much funding and when that funding runs out, it will be left to the Town to cover the remaining. He doesn't want to order the pipe if there is truly no momentum forward with the project.

Sven Edstrom said that he attended the last meeting with the County on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. At the meeting it sounded as though the County is still working toward connecting the water and sewer line to the High School. He said that the County wants to move full steam ahead but that they are waiting on the Town. He stated that the way that it is engineered and how it looks on paper, that everything looks as though it should all work fine.

Mayor Wingfield stated that the County should have done all the potholing, but it has fallen onto the Town to get that done. The County also wanted the Delta County Road and Bridge to do the installation of the pipelines, which they aren't equipped properly to do.

Ron Alexander and Joanne Fagan said that engineered plans have some pipes as six (6) inches and other as eight (8) inches, though it has been said that eight (8) inches is the determined pipes size in the end. He stated that this loop to High School was called a lollipop in that it creates a loop, but it will not benefit those that connect to it with better pressure from those lines. This is an internal loop and the Town should prioritize an external loop that would go through the Carsten's property, down Back River Road and connect back with the line at Highway 92.

Sven Edstrom brought up that the High School is currently dead ended and that connecting these lines in the loop will help solve that problem.

Ron Alexander said the thing that is saving the line at the High School is that while the school is closed, the pool is open and while the pool is closed, the school is open. The water pressure doesn't sit stagnant and lose the chlorine.

Marvin Jackson brought up the issue that happened on Back River Road two (2) years ago and said that there is a way to build in a shutoff valve but that it could also compromise any fire safety in that area with it.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

10/30/2023

Page 2

2. RIVER RIDGE ROAD UPDATE AND DISCUSSION (cont.)

Mayor Wingfield said that we are also getting to our limit of how many taps we can service through our current facilities, so we do have to err on the side of caution.

Ron Alexander said that there are a few errors in the drafted plans from Buckhorn. The Town has potholed the sewer line and got an entirely different elevation than what is in the plans.

Marvin Jackson said that if there is any boring that needs to be done under the highway, the pipes need incasing or if a lift station is required, this will cost the Town far too much money.

Mayor Wingfield wanted to know what the Council wanted to do to move forward.

Joanne Fagan said that we need to be careful with how the County wants to go as far as they are funding and make sure to not have this turned over to the Town to cover financially. There also needs to be a cul-de-sac for emergency vehicles. She stated that she isn't bothered by the County owning and taking care of River Ridge Road. If the Town is to take over the road, it would need to be paved and fully brought up to Town specifications.

Joann Fagan asked if the IGA could address that the pipes are ordered when the project is so far along, only paying for the pipes. All the easements need to be presented, not just the ones that the Town needs for the water and sewer infrastructure. The County also needs to be fully responsible for the installation of the pipe with no downfalls coming back to the Town. There is also the unknown factor of the River Ridge Road residents connecting to this infrastructure.

Attorney Bo Nerlin said that he agrees with these provisions to the IGA. He doesn't think that the County will agree with these terms.

Marvin Jackson said that Mike Owens got a quote a while back for just the basics that would be needed for this project. These materials have already increased in price.

Sven Edstrom said that he is supportive of the trail and that he doesn't want to put ripples in the project, though the County hasn't been handling this project at their best.

Joanne Fagan asked if the County has secured all the easements needed and Bo Nerlin answered that he talked with the County Attorney and that they haven't claimed all the easements yet.

Bo Nerlin stated that moving forward, he will work closely with the Mayor, the Engineer, Public Works, and the Town Clerks to get the IGA updated.

Custer McLeod asked about running the larger loop and Joanne Fagan responded that they would have to investigate deeper and run numbers for it in the future.

Ron Alexander said he wonders if the County got grants for the whole project, the water and sewer line infrastructure being part of that grant, would they be reimbursing the Town for paying for the pipes.

Patrick Webb said that looking in the Town's benefit, we look more at the bigger picture and work to improve the Town's water capabilities.

Joanne Fagan said that she would investigate the Master Plan to see what needs to be focused on.

Mayor Wingfield said that he supports the trail moving forward and wants to do the line, he just doesn't want the pipe to go to waste in the meantime.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

10/30/2023

Page 3

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley M Rodarte, Deputy Town Clerk