

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

December 14, 2023

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro-tem Pat Medina called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A verbal roll call was taken. Present were Patrick Webb, John Marta, Tricia McFarland, Sven Edstrom. Absent were Mayor Jim Wingfield and Custer McLeod.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 9, 2022

John Marta moved to approve the minutes as presented, Tricia McFarland seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

3. **CONSIDERATION OF BILLS**

Town Clerk Ginger Redden read the additional bills.

Sven Edstrom moved to approve payment of all bills as presented, Tricia McFarland 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**

North Fork Council present were Charlie Miller and Emily Reedy. North Fork High School is named 2023 Colorado Masonic High School of the year. Winter sports have started with 30% of the student body participating. Fall sports ended with Football making a first round playoff appearance in Strasbourg.

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

2024 BUDGET

ORDINANCE 2023-03 ADOPTION OF THE 2024 APPROPRIATIONS AS AN EMERGENCY

Town Clerk Ginger Redden explained that the Mill Levy deadlines were pushed back with Delta County. The emergency ordinance is so that the Town can still pay the bills for the month of December. Attorney Bo Nerlin stated that the deadlines were changed with Delta County due to the bill through the State that didn't pass. Mayor Pro-tem Medina said that due to this the meeting for January 11, 2024, is changed to January 9, 2024.

Patrick Webb motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-03 Adoption of the 2024 Appropriations as an Emergency, Tricia McFarland seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

HOTCHKISS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

No one was present.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 2
12/14/2023

6. OLD BUSINESS (cont.)
RESOLUTION 2023-07 RESOLUTION TO INCREASE TRASH COLLECTION FEES DUE TO LANDFILL PRICE INCREASE
Mayor Pro-tem Medina said that this is something that we must do to stay preemptive. Patrick Webb asked why the Town isn't sticking to what is in the a contract with Double J. Bo Nerlin stated that it is ultimately up to the Trustees and that the Clerks office is budgeting to get ahead of the situation. Town Clerk Ginger Redden said that we are in contact with Double J through 2025 and that Rachael would investigate the exact increase with Delta County. Sven Edstrom motioned to approve Resolution 2023-07, Resolution to Increase Trash Collection Fees due to Landfill Price Increase, John Marta seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

UPDATE WATER SHARES

Joanne Fagan said that she got a little more info from the water attorney. She stated that the Town was approved for the grant for planning. The Town will be moving forward in investigating more water rights.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT
Terra Hegy, 241 E Orchard Street, stated to the Board that there are a lot of new businesses in Town and if the Town would implement a Western theme through the main core of Bridge Street, it would draw in more tourism to the Town.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT
ELECTION INFORMATION 2024
Mayor Pro-tem Medina told the Board that there are three positions that will be open for the upcoming election. Patrick Webb, Tricia McFarland and John Marta, John Marta being term limited. Petition packets will be available January 2, 2024.

CLOSING ON THE OLD PUBLIC WORKS SHOP BUILDING

Mayor Pro-tem Medina told the Board that the building closed in November. The Town staff, along with Larry Wilkening and Mary Hockenbery, had all put it a lot of effort to get the building sold and thanked them for their efforts. Ginger Redden stated that the new owners were looking to have things to do with the community as they work to remodel the building to see what the citizens are interested in.

WATER AND SEWER FEE/TAP INCREASES FOR 2024

Ginger Redden said that there will be some studies done with other Towns. Hotchkiss as of right now is one of the lowest charging Towns for water and sewer rates and tap fees. To be rewarded grants with DOLA these rates will need to increase as they haven't been raised for many years. Joanne Fagan told the Board that she is working on water and sewer rates and tap fees

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 3
12/14/2023

8. MAYOR'S REPORT (cont.)
WATER AND SEWER FEE/TAP INCREASES FOR 2024
with another Town and can get that to the Board as well, once finished.

FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP AND STUDY

Bo Nerlin told the Board that this was a notice from FEMA as they are updating their studies in Delta County. The final plan should be completed in seven (7) to ten (10) months, and the Town will have to adopt the final. In this study there are some modifications to East Orchard Street. This study is reevaluated every ten (10) years. Bo will confer with Joanne and Marvin with any further information into this study.

PUBLIC WORKS

Marvin Jackson told the Board that Scinor worked on getting the last of the membranes installed and operating on December 17, 2023. The crew is currently working on lead and copper surveys that need to be completed by October of 2024. The pump for the lift station is said to arrive in January 2024. The new hire, Adam Scheneman, is doing well and Donny is coming along.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Scott Green told the Board that he has three (3) new candidates and will be fully staffed. Two of the candidates have many years of experience and one candidate is graduating from the Police academy on December 15th. The Chief will introduce them at the February Council Meeting.

SANTA UPDATE

Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Rodarte told the Board that there are 7 families and 14 children in total so far. There has been a great amount of donations. Santa will be delivering to the families on Thursday, December 21st.

TOWN HALL UPDATE INFORMATION

Ashley Rodarte told the Board that the electrician has been in to run electricity to the Police Departments Evidence Room. There are a few minor things left for the contractor to finish.

9. NEW BUSINESS
LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL REQUEST-PAT'S BAR AND GRILL
Sven Edstrom asked if there were any issues with the application. Chief Green said that there were no issues with the application.
Tricia McFarland motioned to approve the Liquor License Renewal for Pat's Bar and Grill, John Marta seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor.
Motion passed.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 4
12/14/2023

9. NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

POSSIBLE CLOSING ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 22 FOR CHRISTMAS EVE
DISCUSSION

Mayor Pro-tem Medina told the Board that customers don't come into the Town Hall around the Holidays. It would be great to give the staff this day off.

John Marta motioned to approve the Town Hall being closed December 22nd, Sven Edstrom seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2023-04 PARKING AMENDMENTS DRAFT

Bo Nerlin said that he is not introducing the ordinance at this meeting, though the draft is available. He is looking to the Board and the public for feedback and directions on the Ordinance. Items that are being addressed are limitations on campers and trucks through Town and idling in alleyways. Reference is being taken from the 2020 model traffic codes and the directions the Board gave during a work session.

ORDINANCE 2023-05 REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 17 OF THE
TOWN MUNICIPAL CODE POSSIBLE FIRST READING

Chief Green stated that there have been a lot of work put into this repeal. This will provide a more modernized structure to the municipal code as well as the Police Department's Criminal Code. He told the Board that the goal is to put all violations into one place and make it easier for matching codes. He is looking to the Board for direction and feedback, as well as the public. A few key topics being focused on are Juvenile Marijuana, Vaping, Tobacco, and also supervision for parents, whose children are violating curfew. He stated that there has been a lot of work put into this, and he wants to keep it to where it still works within Hotchkiss. Patrick Webb asked about the restrictions that are being placed on indoor/outdoor cats. Bo Nerlin told the Board that there have been limitations placed on how many animals/pets. Licensing for cats has been brought up to provide a way to handle the larger cat population properly.

Sven Edstrom motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-05 Repealing and Replacing Chapter 17 of the Municipal Code as a first reading, Patrick Webb seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT UPDATE-ATTORNEY NERLIN

Bo Nerlin stated that there were no changes made to his contract going into 2024. Patrick Webb said that Nerlin has been helpful to the Town.

Patrick Webb motioned to approve Attorney Bo Nerlin's Contract as presented, Sven Edstrom seconded. A verbal vote was taken with all Trustees voting in favor. Motion passed.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

Page 5
12/14/2023

10. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley M Rodarte, Deputy Town Clerk