

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 8, 2009

OATHS OF OFFICE

The Town Clerk administered the oath of office to recently elected Councillors Ellen Hunter and Eric Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER

The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Center at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Members in attendance were Councilors Hunter, Hynes, Johnson and Weaver. Councillor Hebert, Mayor Pro Tem Clark and Mayor Willits were absent.

The Town Clerk announced the Council needed to appoint a member to preside over the meeting. The acting Mayor would be eligible to vote to maintain the quorum, it was noted.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councillor Weaver seconded by Councillor Hynes and unanimously carried to appoint Councillor Johnson to preside over the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 11, 2009.
2. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of March 18, 2009.
3. Register of Demands for April 2009.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councillor Hynes and seconded by Councilor Hunter to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

4. Quarterly report from the police department

Marshal Scott presented statistics for the year 2008 and 2009 to date. He addressed enforcement of dogs at large violations, and noted the department is patrolling the river trail twice a day. There were questions from the Council and discussion ensued pertaining to abandoned vehicles.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5. Request from Ridgway Ouray Community Council to use Town parking lot for annual parking lot sale

Michael Cassidy addressed the Council regarding the Ridgway Ouray Community Council (ROCC) annual parking lot sale. He requested use of the Town parking lot off Railroad Street for the May 16th event, noting the fire and police departments will be contacted and volunteers will address traffic control.

ACTION:

Councilmember Weaver moved, with a second by Councillor Hynes to grant permission for ROCC to use the parking lot for the annual parking lot sale on May 16th. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Update to the Ouray County Regional Housing Authority Action Plan

Housing Authority Boardmember, Jen Coates, explained she is meeting with elected officials of the participating entities, the City and County of Ouray and the Town, to present an update on the Ouray County Regional Housing Authority Action Plan. The board is half way through compiling the plan, and due to changes in the economy have determined it would be "prudent to check in" with the jurisdictions and "get feedback". She reported in 2008 a county wide housing needs assessment was completed, which contained strategic needs. A follow-up study was conducted to ascertain implementation county wide. The board is compiling an action plan for a final report, which will contain six components. These include revisiting the original housing needs assessment due to changes in the housing market created by the down turn in the economy; study of the policy and guiding principles; establishing goals and objectives, such as number of housing units needed; prioritizing strategies to meet the goals; implementation and administration. Currently the board is working on the last three items.

Ms. Coates noted when the needs assessment was conducted the county was "in a rapid growth period" but there has been a down turn in housing, and funding sources now have limited available resources. She explained the board wishes to know if the Town is desirous of scaling back, or changing the philosophy, or any other component of the plan.

There was discussion and the Council agreed the group should continue to move forward with future planning, but it should be done as a scaled back version.

POLICY MATTERS

7. Ordinance Providing Procedures for Collection of Delinquent Charges

Town Attorney John Kappa explained there is a generalizing provision in many areas of the municipal code which address collection of delinquent charges through the tax roles, and the draft ordinance extends this to the building regulations.

ACTION:

On a motion by Councilmember Hunter with a second by Councilmember Weaver the motion to introduce the Ordinance Providing Procedures for Collection of Delinquent Charges carried unanimously.

8. Ordinance Amending Subdivision Regulation Provisions Applicable to Notice to the Owners of Severed Mineral Rights to Conform to Changes in State Law

The Town Attorney reported do to changes in state law, the municipal code must be amended to require notification of severed mineral rights during only one part of the subdivision process. Currently Town regulations require notification in preliminary and final plat, and the draft ordinance would simplify the process.

ACTION:

Councillor Hunter moved, with a second by Councillor Hynes to introduce the first reading of the Ordinance Amending Subdivision Regulation Provisions Applicable to Notice to Owners of Severed Mineral Rights to Conform to Changes in State Law. The motion carried unanimously

9. Ordinance pertaining to subdivision regulations

The Town Manager presented for discussion, a draft ordinance addressing changes to subdivision regulations. Recently revised subdivision regulations contain some ambiguities pertaining to required items within a subdivision submittal, and staff is working to make some clarifying refinements, he explained. The final draft ordinance will be presented for introduction at the next meeting.

The Town Attorney presented the proposed changes and there was discussion between staff and Council.

10. Request to consider coverage of the Ouray County Regional Housing Authority under the Town's insurance policy

Town Planner Coates reported the Regional Housing Authority must have insurance coverage and the board has requested the Town consider placing them under the Town's policy with Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency. The cost would be shared by all jurisdictions involved, the Town, City and County of Ouray.

The Council agreed coverage could be held under the Town's policy until the board can obtain its own policy, and directed staff to obtain a quote from the insurance carrier.

11. Strategic plan three year performance objectives and one year action plans

Town Manager Clifton distributed the final strategic plan. He noted since the full Council is not present, he will present a power point presentation at the next meeting, and ask for final approval at that time.

12. Request from Ouray County Weed Manager for Town participation in noxious weed removal program

The Town Manager explained Ouray County is participating in the statewide "Pulling for Colorado" weed removal program. Last year Town staff assisted in the program by pulling noxious weeds, and this year the County is requesting a financial contribution. He noted the program benefits the Town, as the focus on weed removal is within Rollans Park.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hunter to approve the amount of \$150 towards "Pulling for Colorado" (weed removal program). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hynes, and carried unanimously.

13. Proposal to install irrigation infrastructure in Cottonwood Park

Town Manager Clifton asked that the item be continued to the next meeting to allow for receipt of more bids on installation of irrigation lines in Cottonwood Park. He noted non-potable water would be used to water trees and irrigate turf.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

The Town Engineer reported a segment of the Athletic Park expansion is controlling seepage of ground water into the playing fields. Staff contacted local companies and obtained five bids to install a seep line in the park. She recommended awarding a contract to the lowest bidder, Utech at \$49,999. She noted the company has been doing the same type of installation adjacent to the project site, and that it should be undertaken as soon as possible, as ground water will increase with spring run-off.

ACTION:

Councillor Weaver moved, with Councillor Hynes seconding to award the bid to Utech for the seep line in the amount of \$49,999. The motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

The Town Engineer reported the Colorado Department of Transportation will be parking two trailers off Amelia Street during the Highway 62 overlay project this summer. She also reported the Town's application for stimulus funding has "made the first cut", and the public hearing required to present the preliminary engineering report has been scheduled for April 28th at 6:30 pm.

Councillor Weaver explained at a previous meeting Council discussed appropriating funds for a plaque designating the George Gardner Memorial Trail, which will be constructed in May, adjacent to the Weaver Memorial Park. He noted he can approach the school board and request the remainder of the funds needed to purchase the \$540 plaque.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hynes with a second by Councilmember Hunter to authorize \$300 towards the George Gardner Memorial Plaque. The motion carried with Councillor Weaver abstaining.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council entered into a closed session at 7:30 pm, after a motion by Councillor Hunter which was seconded by Councillor Weaver and unanimously carried, with the Town Attorney and Town Manager to discuss agreements with the Delta and Montrose County Regional Housing Authorities.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk