

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 12, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. in the Community Center at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Members in attendance were Councillors Hebert, Hynes, Johnson, Weaver and Mayor Willits. Councillor Hunter and Mayor Pro Tem Clark were absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 8, 2009.
2. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of July 15, 2009.
3. Register of Demands for August 2009.
4. Placement of banner in Hartwell Park for the Ouray County Performing Arts Guild free concert to be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
5. Resolution approving submittal of mini-grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado.
6. Placement of banner for Mt Sneffels Half Marathon to be held on August 29<sup>th</sup>.
7. Ratify grant application with the Department of Local Affairs for replacement of polybutalane water lines.
8. Renewal of liquor store license for Ridgway Liquors and Wine.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Weaver to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce President, John Lorimer, explained membership of the organization has dropped from 150 to 90 businesses and the board is concerned this maybe due to issues facing owners in "these hard economic times". The Chamber has prepared a survey for the business community, the results of which will be received soon. He proposed a joint workshop with the Council to review the findings to better understand how the Town may be able to assist the business community "during this recession".

The Mayor noted the Council could schedule a workshop meeting, likely in October.

Kuno Vollenweider addressed the Council regarding a parcel of land he owns in Ridgway Light Industrial Park. He explained he became the first property owner in 2003 and access to the property, off the alley, contained a 16" gully between the property and alley. He spoke to a Town employee who suggested installation of a culvert, which he did by

installing two 25 foot 12" culverts along the length of the property. He noted as other properties were purchased along the street the access was designed in a different manner and the Town has asked him "to conform with the rest of the owners". He stated he feels "the honorable thing to do" is for the Town to purchase the culverts "which I can't use again" "since the only reason I bought them was to appease the Town".

Town Engineer Fagan reported the road was designed by the developer to meet Town standards, and did not include culverts to allow for street grading and maintenance. She questioned the remark to be made by a Town employee, noting Town policy "has always been no culverts in roads" as they inhibit maintenance and drainage.

The Council agreed they would investigate the issue with staff and asked that the matter be brought back for further discussion.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### 10. Adoption of ordinance regarding subdivision regulation procedures

Mayor Willits noted the Council has held a series of discussions on the proposed ordinance over the last several months.

#### ACTION:

Councilmember Hebert moved, with Councillor Hynes seconding to adopt Ordinance No. 09-06 amending subdivision regulation procedures. The motion carried unanimously.

### 11. Adoption of ordinance declaring certain piles of dirt, etc, to be a nuisance

#### ACTION:

Councillor Johnson moved to adopt the ordinance Declaring Certain Piles of Dirt, Sand, Mulch, Compost, Gravel and the Like to be a Nuisance. Councillor Weaver seconded the motion and after a call for the vote it carried unanimously.

## POLICY MATTERS

### 12. Draft ordinance enacting rate changes for water and sewer service

The Mayor noted discussion pertaining to the proposed draft ordinance was held during the Council workshop on July 15th. Town Engineer Joanne Fagan displayed charts depicting comparisons of operating revenues and expenses for the water and sewer enterprise funds, and user fees in neighboring jurisdictions.

There was discussion between Council and staff. Engineer Fagan noted at the workshop meeting Council asked that she prepare a recommendation pertaining to rate changes for schools. She proposed increasing the water rates by \$20 a month, based on schools use 2" taps and the residential taps, at a 3/4" size, are proposed to increase by \$5 a month. The Council agreed with the concept and requested that the introduction of the ordinance be placed on the agenda for the September meeting.

13. License agreement with Colorado Department of Transportation for bikepath on Highway

Public Works Director Fagan noted the enhancement funding received a number of years ago from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will include a bikepath crossing Highway 62 and will traverse along CDOT right of way. Funding approval is contingent upon signing a lease agreement, terms of which state the access may be revoked if needed for valid transportation needs, and does not require replacement by CDOT.

There was discussion by Council and staff.

ACTION:

Moved by Councillor Hebert, seconded by Councillor Johnson and unanimously carried to approve the license agreement with CDOT for the bikepath on Highway 62.

14. Update on funding options for replacement of main water service lines

Engineer Fagan reported she has applied for funding from various sources for replacement of the main polybutelene service water lines, at a project cost of \$700,000. The Town has received an offer of \$267,000 in federal stimulus funding in the form of a loan at 0% financing. Also received were State Revolving Loan Funds of up to \$500,000 at 2% interest rate. An application is also pending before the Department of Local Affairs for \$200,000 in Energy Impact Funds, a grant that would require a 50/50 match, funds which would be used for the match would be from the stimulus funds. She explained the stimulus funding is being administered through the Water and Power Authority which requires construction be undertaken by October 1st. She expressed concerns regarding the ability to meet that timeline due to filing requirements. Additionally, use of the funds require meeting extra federal construction requirements which would increase project costs by 5-10%.

There was discussion by Council and staff. It was noted that it should be determined if use of the stimulus funds at 0% payback would be cost effective due to increased project costs due to the federal requirements, versus using the revolving loan funds at 2% interest rate. Council agreed that staff should move forward with hiring bond counsel to prepare the necessary documents for some form of funding.

STAFF REPORTS

There were questions and discussion pertaining to the Staff Report dated 8-12-09.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m. to a retreat workshop meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 2009, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC  
Town Clerk