

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2010

The Council convened for a workshop meeting at 5:30 pm in the Community Center, 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Members in attendance were Councillors Hebert, Hunter, Johnson, Weaver and Mayor Pro Tem Clark. Councilmember Hynes and Mayor Willits were absent.

Town Clerk's Notice of Adjourned Workshop Meeting dated 1-6-10.

Community survey results regarding Comprehensive Development Plan update

Planner Jen Coates gave a power point presentation outlining the survey background which was developed in-house with the intent to use the data to update the Comprehensive Plan. Community residents were encouraged to attend six workshops with the Planning Commission between April and August 2009, though none attended. Coates explained the industry recognizes 20%-40% participation as a good survey response. The Town survey response rate was 28.2%.

Planner Coates noted the survey environment is an important indicator when reviewing the data collected. The Ridgway community has experienced significant economic recession, preceded by six years of considerable growth during 2002 and 2007. Residential and commercial building permits were steadily declining at the time the survey was distributed, and are currently down 75% from 2005.

The survey targeted categories of demographics, growth, infrastructure, environment, and housing to solicit the values and priorities of the community. The results will be utilized during the Comprehensive Plan update as well as a number of other available tools and resources.

The Council agreed a number of survey responses and comments suggest there is room for improvement from local government regarding communication and education of the Community. There was consensus that an abbreviated summary of the survey results should be posted on the Town website and residents can receive a detailed copy upon request.

Planner Coates presented potential policy and land use priorities for 2010. She suggested the Council may chose to complete the items before moving forward with the comprehensive Plan update. The Council agreed priorities should target preparation of the Comprehensive Plan update in 2011 to include policy development in the areas of affordable housing, energy efficiency/green building, parks/trails/open spaces, downtown parking, Town-wide traffic planning and lighting, site development standards including storm water drainage and updating the geographic information system (GIS). The Council further agreed to consider budgeting for the update at the end of 2010, with the goal that most of the work will be completed in-house and the use of outside consulting services being secured when appropriate and necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Christian
Deputy Clerk