

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. in the Community Center at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. The Council was present in its entirety with Councillors Durnan, Hunter, Johnson, Patterson, Weaver, Mayor Pro Tem Clark and Mayor Willits in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 13, 2010.
2. Register of Demands for November 2010.
3. Renew tavern liquor license for Ouray County Fairgrounds.
4. Water and sewer leak adjustment for River View Plaza/Account #7440.0.

ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and seconded by Councillor Hunter to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ed Folga addressed the Council representing a group of local business owners and asked for approval to use the abandoned tennis courts in Hartwell Park for an ice sculpture competition to be held Jan 6, 7 and 8th in conjunction with the Ouray Ice Climbing Festival. The event would feature four to six teams of sculptors who would construct eight to ten foot ice sculptors from 300 pound blocks of ice during the hours of 10:00 pm to 6:00 am, and then judging would be held. He explained it is hoped that the event will become annual and incorporated into a winter ice carnival.

The Council agreed with the concept and use of the park facilities.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5. Proposal to install sculptures in Town parks and rights of ways

Chamber of Commerce Director, Katlin Switzer, explained in an effort to bring visitors to Town, Chamber members are pursuing the idea of placing sculptures along the business district on Lena Street. Local artist Michael McCullough has offered to loan two of his pieces, and Marry Zimmerman of Paonia, the same. She noted the concept is already used in Grand Junction and Montrose and is "very popular" and "a great tourist draw". She also reported local artists Poki Park and Beatrice Milager have each spoken of donating a sculpture to the Town for placement in Hartwell Park. She requested permission to work with staff regarding placement and display of the pieces to be loaned.

There was discussion and the Council agreed to the concept and placement on Town property and in public rights-of-ways.

6. Update on relocation of the fire department building

Representing the Ridgway Volunteer Fire District Randy Gardner addressed the Council regarding the ongoing planning for relocation of the fire department facility. The current structure, which is located on the corner of Charles and Railroad Streets adjacent to Town Hall, is no longer able to accommodate the department and emergency services vehicles. Additionally, he noted the importance of facing the bay doors towards the street front. He explained the district is interested in trading the current parcel, and possibly the building, for a portion of the Town's property on the north side of the library along Railroad Street. The proposed site is 200 feet longer than the current one. He noted the bike path and BMX bike track would have to be relocated, which the district would be responsible for. Additionally they would cover the cost to install a one way directional traffic signal at the intersection of Highway 62 and Railroad Street. Mr. Gardner explained, based on a special warranty deed executed in 1996, the Town has first right of refusal to purchase the property and improvements. He noted if the Town is not interested in the building the district would look into selling it, perhaps for scrap materials.

There was discussion between the Council and representatives from the district. Fire Chief Dan Bartashius reported this is a long range plan encompassing the next four years. After acquisition of the property the district will begin to apply for grants to fund construction of the structure, which will include living quarters so the facility is staffed twenty four hours a day.

There was consensus with the concept of placing the fire department facility on the north end of the property adjacent to the corner of Otto and Railroad Streets and exploring exchanging the properties. It was noted the Town is not in a position to expend funds. There was not agreement on accepting the existing structure.

POLICY MATTERS

7. Introduction of Ordinance pertaining to the dissolution of the General Improvement District No. 1

The Town Clerk asked the Council to act in its capacity as the Board of Directors for General Improvement District #1, and introduce an ordinance to address the dissolution of the district. She explained property owners within the district have been mailed a letter and notice regarding a public hearing which will be held on December 8th, during the next regular Council meeting, to consider dissolution of the district. Additionally the Board will be asked to adopt the Fiscal Year 2011 budget which will begin to expend the remaining funds in the district.

ACTION:

It was moved by Director Hunter and seconded by Board member Johnson to introduce Ordinance 1-2010 An Ordinance of Ridgway General Improvement District No. 1 Providing for the Dissolution of the District. The motion carried with all members voting yes.

STAFF REPORTS

The Council presented updates on representation on local committees and boards.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk