

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 8, 2011

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. Councillors Durnan, Johnson, Kavanaugh, Weaver, Mayor Pro Tem Clark and Mayor Willits were in attendance. Counciller Hunter was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 11, 2011.
2. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of May 18, 2011.
3. Register of Demands for June 2011.
4. Renewal of tavern liquor license for Colorado Boy Pub and Brewery.
5. Art Loan Agreement with Public Art Ridgway Colorado.
6. Appointment of Brian Scranton to represent the Town on the Ouray County Economic Development Commission.
7. Resolution Adopting a Citizen Participation and Outreach Plan.
8. Ratify agreement with Southwest Conservation Corp for services from Ouray Ridgway Community Corp for 2011
9. Encroachment permit with Ridgway Area Trail Group for trail building in Dennis Weaver Memorial.
10. Amendments to contract with Rusty Weaver for parks maintenance services in Dennis Weaver Memorial Park.
11. Ratify appointments to the Land Use Update Task Force and approve the Task Force identifying and soliciting the consultant for the land use update.
12. Renewal of beer and wine liquor license for Panny's Pizza.

ACTION:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tom McKenney thanked the Council for implementing the Citizens Participation Plan.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

13. Request to restrict parking on N. Lena Street during the concert series in July

Business owners along N. Lena Street requested that parking spaces be designated for customer use during the concerts to be held in Hartwell Park in July.

The Council endorsed the idea and directed staff to work with the business owners.

14. Presentation by Black Canyon Regional Land Trust

Sue Macintosh introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the Black Canyon Regional Land Trust. The organization, which is “accredited and certified” works with landowners to conserve open lands and “owns over 350 conservation easements in over seven counties, with a total land holding of 41,000 acres”. Boardmember Ben Tisdale reported on the new San Juan Legacy Lands Program which will focus on acquiring lands within Ouray and San Miguel Counties. Stewardship Director Elizabeth Bartlett explained easements are held in perpetuity and stewardship is an important element. On an annual basis all easements are checked for compliance. There are two easements within the Town and one of the holdings is a wildlife conservation easement which prohibits public access. She explained there has been recurring trespassing on the easement and informal trail crossings have been created, even though the property is fenced and posted. She asked the media to assist the land trust by alerting the public to the on-going problem of preserving the wildlife easement.

15. Presentation of proposed Ouray County Fairgrounds Master Plan

Fairgrounds Director Susan Long presented the Ouray County Fairgrounds Master Plan for 2010 to 2020. She explained the process of preparing the plan, which began in October of 2010, received initial approval by the Board of County Commissioners and Town Council in February of 2011, and after holding a public hearing in May of 2011 the final plan was adopted by the County Commissioners. She noted the plan was implemented due to changes in the vision and diversification of uses at the fairgrounds and 4-H Events Center. She presented the plan which consists of a mission statement; introduction; the Fairgrounds Advisory Council; acquisitions and upgrades charts; goals, objectives and strategies; structure of reporting; and history of the fairgrounds and events center. The goals and objectives include increased use of the fairgrounds and enhanced use of the events center; developing and tracking revenue; 4-H support and emergency preparedness support.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

16. Continued discussion regarding proposed increase in mandatory recycling from bi-weekly to weekly collection

Town Manager Jen Coates explained at the previous meeting the Council received a proposal from Jonathan Greenspan with S.U.N.R.I.S.E. Inc. to increase recycling collection from bi-weekly to weekly collection. Last year the Council agreed to increase the types of items which would be included in recycling and Mr. Greenspan indicated at the time that weekly collection would likely be necessary. The service agreement was prepared with a notation that recycling service may be increased to weekly collection after a year into the contract period. At the last meeting Council asked for public input on the proposal, which

would increase the monthly fee by \$2.75. She reported a poll was taken by the local newspaper and 27 responses were received, 19 which felt the service should remain bi-weekly and 8 who chose weekly service.

Mr. Greenspan noted an increase in the volumes of collection which are driving the recommendation, "proves the program worked and services have expanded". He reported he is hoping to offer collection of other allowable recyclable items.

The Mayor opened the public hearing. Rod Fitzhugh asked what the advantage is to a mandatory requirement to increase service for all households, versus the use of two bins on a bi-weekly basis for households which chose additional pickup. Mr. Greenspan responded to the question noting the proposed increase in types of items which can be recycled may increase the product collection and recycling bins "could start being twice as full".

There was discussion between the Council and Mr. Greenspan and comments by members of the Council.

ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Clark to switch to weekly recycling collection at an additional cost of \$2.75 per month, seconded by Councilmember Johnson and carried with Councillor Durnan voting no.

It was agreed the weekly collection will begin in July.

17. Continued discussion regarding proposed Traffic Flow Management Plan

The Town Manager presented a resolution adopting the Downtown Traffic Flow Element, a supplement to the 2007 Transportation Plan Element of the Ridgway Comprehensive Plan, dated June 2, 2011. She reported the document has been considered by the Planning Commission and Town Council, and all comments have been incorporated into the final document. At the previous meeting Council discussed changing the speed limit in Town from 20 to 15 mph and requested staff gather data. She explained data collected from the speed monitor over a seven day period on Eastbound Moffat at S. Laura Street, indicate the average speed is 15.4 mph. She noted the plan contains installation of a barricade at the pedestrian bridge in Cottonwood Park near S. Mary Street; installation of planter boxes at the intersection of N. Lena and Highway 62; replacing existing signs over time with more reflective signs; and establishing truck routes on County Road 23 to S. Lena Street, Highway 62, North and South Amelia Streets and Railroad Street to the Industrial Park.

The Council discussed reducing the speed limit to 15 mph through out Town. Speaking from the audience Charles Spencer and Rod Fitzhugh spoke in favor of reducing the speed limit. The Council agreed to direct staff to continue collecting data and to readdress the issue at another meeting.

ACTION:

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Clark with a second by Councillor Weaver to adopt by resolution the Downtown Traffic Flow Element as a component of the Ridgway Comprehensive Plan. After a call for vote the motion carried unanimously.

18. Introduction of Ordinance Amending Election Procedures in the Municipal Code

The Town Attorney explained the proposed ordinance will advance the nomination period and related dates to occur two weeks earlier.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councillor Durnan, seconded by Councilmember Weaver and unanimously carried to adopt the Ordinance Amending Election Procedures in the Municipal Code.

LAND USE ISSUES

19. Request for extension of Subdivision Improvement Agreement requirement to install pedestrian bridge and vehicular bridge lights in RiverSage Subdivision

Letter dated June 1, 2011 from RiverSage Ridgway LLC requesting the Subdivision Improvements Agreement be amended to postpone the required dates of installation of the pedestrian bridge and lights on the vehicle bridge in the Dennis Weaver Memorial Park to the time of installing infrastructure in Phase II of the development.

Councillor Weaver stepped down due a conflict of interest.

The Town Manager presented an overview of Phase 1 of RiverSage Subdivision which was platted a few years earlier. At final plat approval some improvements were not completed and include installation of a foot bridge and lights on the vehicular bridge. These items were noted in the subdivision improvement agreement, and secured by a bond.

RiverSage developer Rusty Weaver requested extension of completion of the items based on the down turn in the economy. He noted the requirement for installation of a footbridge was included due to traffic flow and since only one sale has occurred in Phase 1, and no residential construction has begun, there is not an immediate need for the bridge. He requested the infrastructure requirements be triggered with the beginning of construction of improvements in Phase 2 of the development, which would occur after sale of properties in the first phase.

There were questions and comments from the audience. There was discussion by the Council and consensus the extension should be for two years, or until the beginning of infrastructure construction in Phase 2, whichever occurs first.

ACTION:

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Clark, seconded by Councillor Johnson to grant the extension for the foot bridge and lights on the vehicle bridge portion of the Subdivision Agreement with RiverSage LLC for a period of 2 years from June 10, 2011 or beginning of infrastructure improvements for Phase 2 of RiverSage Subdivision, whichever comes first. The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Weaver returned to sit with the Council

Mayor Pro Tem Clark left the meeting.

The Council took a recess at 8:10 p.m. and reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (continued)

20. Ordinance Amending Sign Regulations to Provide for Administrative Review of Signs Erected over Town Owned Streets and Alley Rights-Of-Way

The Town Manager reported currently signs within the Town right-of-way, and placement of sandwich board signs, require Council approval. The Council requested regulation changes to allow approval at the staff level.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilmember Durnan and seconded by Councillor Weaver to adopt the Ordinance Amending Sign Regulations to Provide for Administrative Review of Signs Erected over Town Owned Streets and Alley Rights-Of-Way. The motion carried unanimously.

21. Ordinance Enacting an Administrative Procedure for Enforcement Provisions of the Ridgway Municipal Code, and Providing Civil Penalties for Violations

Attorney Kappa noted this was the second reading of the draft ordinance which would set administrative procedures, and reported he has spoken with the Municipal Judge, who has agreed to sit as the hearing officer in the event of a citation appeal.

ACTION:

Councillor Johnson moved to adopt the Ordinance Enacting an Administrative Procedure for Enforcement Provisions of the Ridgway Municipal Code, and Providing Civil Penalties for Violations. Councillor Weaver seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

POLICY MATTERS

22. Discussion regarding administrative policy for parks use

The Town Manager reported that approval of events in Town Parks are addressed at the administrative level, and recently it was discovered Resolution No. 00-02 states the use of Town property must be reviewed by the Planning Commission and referred to the Council. There was discussion and it was agreed staff should prepare procedures for further discussion.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councillors Kavanaugh and Weaver reported they met with the principal at the school regarding holding Town Hall Meetings with students as part of the proposed community outreach program. The school is amenable to the concept and suggested the first meeting take place in October.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk