

## RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING

MAY 18, 2011

The Council convened for a workshop meeting at 5:35 p.m. in the meeting room at Ridgway Town Hall, 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Members in attendance were Councillors Hunter, Johnson, Kavanaugh, Weaver, Mayor Pro Tem Clark and Mayor Willits. Councillor Durnan was absent.

Town Clerk's Notice of Workshop Meeting dated May 13, 2011.

1. Determination of trail building options in Weaver Park

Town Manager Coates explained at the Council's regular meeting of May 11, 2011 the Ridgway Area Trails Group proposed three locations to construct a trail in Weaver Park, with their choice being creation of a new trail on the west side of the river. Council agreed to review the proposed site and determine which location should be used while at the workshop meeting.

Mayor Willits and Councillor Johnson explained they had each walked the sites, and both agreed the proposed river trail would be a good option. It was noted the trail will probably not be finished during the one day workshop, and the group should be encouraged to meet and complete the trail construction at another time.

2. Discussion regarding appointment of board member to the Ouray County Economic Development Commission/Organization

Mayor Willits noted the question of appointing a representative to the Ouray County Economic Development Commission was discussed at the regular meeting. He reported he spoke with Planning Commission Chair Brian Scranton regarding representing the Town, and he is willing to serve in the position. The Council agreed and directed staff to formalize the appointment on the consent agenda at the next meeting.

3. Presentation and discussion of Citizen Participation and Community Outreach Plan

The Town Manager presented a draft Citizen Participation and Community Outreach Plan dated May 18, 2011 which would become an element to the Comprehensive Development Plan. She explained the Council had requested preparation of the document, which has been compiled by goals, objectives, strategies and assigned responsibilities. It is comprised of two components, Community Outreach Plan, which disseminates information; and the Public Participation Plan, addressing ways to engage citizens in the public process. She noted some of the items continued in the plan are already being done and some have recently been implemented. Some of the items will require costs and or resources, and will also "require quite a bit of time"; responsibilities are shared by staff, Council and Commissioners.

There was discussion between Council and staff regarding a number of topics including displaying children's art at Town Hall; citizen surveys; increasing participation at Council meetings through live streaming of meetings, noticing agendas in the newspaper, signs saying meeting tonight and serving refreshments; compiling citizens email addresses for use

to disseminate information and a newsletter; attending quarterly meetings with students at the schools.

It was agreed to compile an email list; research ways to include an area on the website to submit an email address; perform a community survey, Councillors Kavanaugh and Johnson will help develop the questions; obtain costs to publish the council agenda or an ad giving the Town's website address to access information; prepare signs for the corner of Railroad Street which state Council (or Planning Commission) meeting tonight; serve coffee and tea at meetings; hold quarterly meetings with students at the school, Councilmember Kavanaugh will coordinate; use the drop box in front of Town Hall as a suggestion box. The Town Manager will research associated costs and resources to implement ideas, which will be done when these are available. A resolution to adopt the plan will be presented to the Town Council at the regular meeting.

4. Discussion of Historic Business District Streetscape Plan

Manager Coates explained the Town has a streetscape plan for the Historic Business District and one of the major components was completed last year with the installation of new water mains. A number of years ago the Council explored financing options; and during the survey regarding updating the comprehensive development plan, the consensus of citizens were they are not interested in bonding for improvements, increasing taxes or creating a special improvement district. They felt that improvements should be made when funds are available. She reported while reviewing plans for use of highway enhancement funds from the State Transportation Department, the Town Engineer analyzed costs to complete some street paving in the district.

Engineer Fagan reported the cost to realign Railroad Street, which would include removing the existing tennis courts, installing the street with asphalt (and no curb and gutter), from Highway 62 to Town Hall, would cost approximately \$125,000. To modify the parking lot at Town Hall and also install one on the east corner of Railroad Street and Highway 62, would cost \$60,000 if paved, and \$30,000 if graveled. She also presented costs to improve Charles Street and Lena Street to Charles. There was discussion and it was agreed that pursuing financing options was not viable at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC  
Town Clerk