

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

MAY 4, 2011

The Council convened for a special meeting at 10:05 a.m. in the meeting room at Ridgway Town Hall, 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Members in attendance were Councillors Durnan, Hunter, Weaver and Mayor Willits. Councillors Kavanaugh, Johnson and Mayor Pro Tem Clark were not present.

Town Clerk's Notice of Special Meeting dated 5-3-11.

Town Manager Jen Coates explained Governor Hickenlooper has prepared a plan to develop an economic development strategy which requires each county in the state to develop, or update, its economic development plan. These plans will then be incorporated into a regional plan, which will be submitted for inclusion in the state plan.

She explained Ouray County has held a number of public meetings and a county wide plan has been prepared which identifies five goals, strategies, actions, expected measurable outcome, primary partners and resources, and barriers and timelines. The county will present its plan at a regional meeting tomorrow, and the Mayor will represent the Town in the discussion. The region includes the counties of Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel. Common topics contained in each of the county plans include business, retention and expansion; tourism and recreation; infrastructure; business development and job creation.

Mayor Willits explained he would like to receive input from the Council on items the Town would like to see incorporated into the regional plan. There was discussion and it was agreed the goals addressing transportation and broadband development should be noted as priorities to the Town.

Councillor Hunter left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

There was discussion regarding an upcoming meeting at which time the Councils from both the Town and City of Ouray, will meet with the Board of County Commissions and the Ridgway and Ouray Chambers of Commerce, to discuss the creation of a county wide economic development commission.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk