

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING

NOVEMBER 16, 2011

The Council convened for a budget workshop meeting at 5:35 p.m. at Ridgway Town Hall, 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Members in attendance were Councillors Durnan, Hunter, Johnson, Weaver and Mayor Pro Tem Clark. Councillor Kavanaugh was not present for the roll call. Mayor Willits was absent.

Town Clerk's Notice of Workshop Meeting dated November 10, 2011.

1. Review of draft 2012 Fiscal Year Budget

The Town Clerk/Treasurer presented requests for funding from The Center for Mental Health; Neighbor to Neighbor Program; Second Chance Humane Society; Voyager Youth Program; Juvenile Diversion and Juvenile Services; Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid; KVNF Public Radio; Telluride New Community Coalition; Ridgway Railroad Museum; Southwest Conservation Corps and Tri-County Water Conservancy District Water Wise Program.

The Council discussed the funding requests. It was agreed to reduce the requested funding from the Humane Society to \$6000 and Southwest Conservation Corps to \$3000.

Councillor Kavanaugh entered the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

The Town Clerk noted the Council Contributions line item will include annual participation in the Ouray County Emergency Communications Program. The Council agreed to contribute \$100 to the Tri-County Water Wise Program, which will also be paid from the line item.

The Council discussed a request from Ouray County to participate in the West Region Wildfire Council. There was consensus to suggest the County solicit involvement by the fire districts and after those discussions, approach the municipalities.

The Town Manager explained at Council direction, staff hired a local solar company to inspect the solar powered street lights in Solar Ranch Subdivision, to determine if they can be repaired. She reported batteries for the fixtures can no longer be obtained, and the fixtures are not dark skies compliant. The cost to replace the fixtures will be approximately \$7000, or she suggested, solar bollard lights could be installed. There was discussion by the Council and it was noted that many residents in the subdivision are opposed to installation of the lights. There was consensus to direct staff to contact the homeowners association and request they discuss the issue and present a consensus.

Manager Coates explained Ouray County has requested a letter of support for a State Parks grant for repairs to Camp Bird Road. The Council agreed to staff preparing a support letter.

The Town Manager reported staff is working with an arborist to prepare an Urban Forest Management Plan to address removal of dead trees and limbs in rights of ways and public spaces and parks. The program will begin this fall and continue over the next few years. It was noted a number of large cottonwood trees, which are over 120 years old, will probably need to be removed, and new trees should be planted to replace them.

The Council received a Memorandum dated 11-15-11 from the Town Manager, Town Clerk and Public Works Director presenting the 2012 Strategic Plan and Capital Projects. The Council and staff reviewed the document.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Pam Kraft, MMC  
Town Clerk