

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2016

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 Councilors Barnes, Gold, Hunter, Weaver, Williams, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and Mayor Clark in attendance.

RECOGNITIONS

The Mayor recognized employee Lance Fitzgerald who has been a Deputy Marshal for the Town since 2012. He explained Deputy Fitzgerald relocated from the City of Pueblo to work for the Marshals Department, bringing with him years of experience in law enforcement, including “working in schools and with juveniles”. The Mayor noted Deputy Fitzgerald “does everything always with a smile on his face” noting he is a “wonderful example of the incredible employees of the Town”.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2015.
2. Register of Demands for January 2016.
3. Pursuant to state statute designate the Tow Hall bulletin
4. Renewal of Liquor Store License for San Juan Liquors.
5. Recommendation from Parks, Trails and Open Space Committee to appoint Robb Austin to the Committee.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hunter and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to approve the consent agenda.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

6. Presentation and request to ratify the new Creative District logo

Economic Development Coordinator Diedra Silbert presented on behalf of the Creative District Committee, the newly created logo. She explained the logo is a variation of the Town’s logo, to provide a connection between the two organizations. The logo was approved by the Committee on December 10th and they are requesting Council ratification.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilor Barnes and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, a motion to approve the new Creative District logo carried unanimously.

7. Presentation of the Space to Create Initiative

Town Manager Jen Coates reported during budget discussions the Council prioritized affordable housing incentives and will be meeting with the Planning Commission at the end of January to discuss prioritizing projects. She noted the need was addressed in the Town's 2016 Affordable Housing Summary, the 2013 Strategic Plan, and the Ridgway Creative District Committee has discussed the need and desire for affordable housing for creatives.

Manager Coates explained an opportunity has become available to apply for the Space to Create Initiative. The program will assist communities in providing affordable housing and work spaces for creative sector entrepreneurs, artists and arts organization. It would involve mixed use projects that blend affordable live/work space for creative sector works, artists, and their families with non-residential space for creative enterprises, and organizations that serve a critical community need. She noted that affordable is defined as "rental units less than or equal to 60% area median income".

The Mayor explained the governor announced the program last spring and a collaborative venture involving the Colorado Office of Economic Developments Colorado Creative Industries, Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Boettcher Foundation and Artspace (which is national leader in projects of this type) was formed. The chosen community will be prioritized based on a number of factors including market feasibility, readiness, public will, commitment of local resources and housing demands.

Manager Coates reported the application is a two phase process - in the first part eligible communities within the Southwest Region submit an Application of Intent to Apply before February 12th. Second part a selection committee will invite communities to submit a full application by April 15th. A pilot program is being undertaken in the City of Trinidad, and the City has budgeted \$150,000 and acquired a donated building for their project.

The Town Manager stated the project "would require significant financing and staffing from the Town". She noted staff "needs to complete due diligence to manage unknowns" . The funding outlay for the application process is staff time, and if chosen to proceed would require staff time and resources to organize committees, create dialogue and prepare documents. If chosen as a finalist for the region, a \$35,000 commitment is required to study the feasibility and market studies, and then a Project Manager would need to be hired and staffed from Town Hall. She noted the final projects costs are unknown until the scope of the project and funding options are identified.

There was discussion and the Council agreed staff should complete the due diligence and prepare a dialogue for the meeting with the Planning Commission at the end of the month.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. Adoption of Ordinance Increasing the Rate of the Lodging Tax and Revising the Use of the Proceeds Thereof and other Provisions in Accordance with a Voter Approved Ballot Issue

The Town Manager noted the ordinance was introduced at the prior monthly meeting and will implement the approved ballot issue from the November election. The ordinance increases lodging tax to 3.5% and the funds designated for tourism promotion and economic development to 70%.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilor Hunter, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson the motion to adopt Ordinance 01-2016 Increasing the Rate of the Lodging Tax and Revising the Use of the Proceeds Thereof and other Provisions in Accordance with a Voter Approved Ballot Issue carried unanimously.

9. Adoption of Ordinance Amending Traffic Regulations in the Town Code and Adopting by Reference the 2010 Edition of the "Model Traffic Code for Colorado"

Manager Coates explained the ordinance, which was introduced at the previous meeting, adopts the 2010 Traffic Code and an infraction system effective March 1, 2016. This will allow the Marshals Department and Municipal Court to streamline a system which will be used through out the County in the court system. It also simplifies the process for the public by not issuing a bench warrant for failure to appear, and instead creates an infraction.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Hunter to adopt Ordinance No. 02-2016 Amending Traffic Regulations in the Town Code and Adopting by Reference the 2010 Edition of the "Model Traffic Code for Colorado"; Promulgated and Published as such by the Colorado Department of Transportation, 4201 East Arkansas Avenue, EP 700 Denver, Colorado 80222; Superseding the 2003 Model Traffic Code for Colorado Municipals and Other Provisions Inconsistent with the Adoption of the 2010 Code; Enacting a System of Traffic Infractions for Certain Violations; and Providing Penalties for Violations. After a call for the vote the motion carried unanimously.

10. Resolution Adopting a Supplemental Budget for the 2016 Budget Year

The Town Manager presented a resolution to supplement the budget and allow the appropriation of funds in 2016 instead of the prior year, for the payment of the bond proceeds and Town capital outlay reserves to the Department of Transportation for the RAMP Project.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hunter and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to adopt Resolution No. 16-01 Adopting a Supplemental Budget and Appropriating Supplemental Sums of Money from the General Fund in the Amount and for the Purpose as Set Forth Below, for the 2016 Budget Year. The motion carried unanimously.

POLICY MATTERS

11. Remove Jess Nunn from probationary status to full time permanent employment status

The Town Clerk recommended the removal of Administrative Assistant Jess Nunn from probationary status, and placement to full time permanent employment status effective January 16th.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to remove Jess Nunn from probationary status to full time permanent status. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

12. Authorize staff to award contract for purchase of wastewater lift station package

Public Works Director Fagan reported staff is recommending replacing the pumps in the lift station on the east side of the Highway 550, instead of installing a grinder pump. She explained staff has advertised requests for proposal to replace the pumps, and the bids are due next week. She asked for permission to award the contract to the lowest bidder.

The Town Manager noted the solution of replacing the pumps is half the cost of installing a new station, and the funds are budgeted.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to authorize staff to award the bid for a lift station package. Councilmember Gold seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

MANAGERS REPORT

The Town Manager presented an update on the RAMP Project noting construction bids are due January 21st. The selected contractor will meet with the community in mid February to present the project time frame.

She reported requests for proposal have been advertised for furnishings for the project. The bids are due February 29th and will be paid from a half million dollar grant received from the Department of Local Affairs.

Manager Coates reported staff has been advertising for a part time in-house building inspector. Yesterday she was contacted by the City of Ouray inquiring if the Town would be interested in sharing in the position and hire a fulltime building inspector and code enforcement officer. She noted the Ouray Council will consider the concept at their next meeting. The Council agreed to the idea of sharing the position.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Clark reported Kane Scheidegger will be donating five panels of photographic work to be placed in the community center.

Councilmember Weaver presented a report from the Chamber of Commerce.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. to a Workshop Meeting on January 19, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Ridgway Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk