

**TOWN OF DE BEQUE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on February 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center, 381 Minter Avenue, De Beque, Colorado. Present were the following:

Mayor Pro Tem: Cindy Farris

Trustees: Walter Wood, Sarah Hambrick, Judy Lake, Lisa Lippoldt, and Vernon Bruse

Absent: Mayor Shanelle Hansen

Staff Present: Town Manager Care' McInnis, Marshal Bob Dalley, and Town Clerk Lisa Rogers

Also Present: Diane Sandelin, Echo Garcia, and Dawn Palmer

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Farris.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Town Manager McInnis suggested that item H(a) i and ii be moved to the consent agenda as there was no conflict since Mayor Hansen was absent. There were no other additions, deletions, or corrections.

Motion:

Trustee Wood motioned to move items H(a) i and ii be moved to the consent agenda.

Trustee Hambrick seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

ITEMS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE – NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No public comments.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Trustee Wood stated that he had received comments regarding the tracking of recycled asphalt into cars and homes from the water plant. The asphalt has become loose. He suggested using a little more recycled asphalt and packing it down.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Ms. McInnis stated that the Municipal Election is April 2nd. There are five candidates for three open Trustee spots on the Board. The names as they appear on the ballot are Sarah Hambrick, Cindy Farris,

Kyle Cluff, Julia Lake, and Laura Firth.

Ms. McInnis stated there would be a special guest, Ms. Echo Garcia; however, she had not arrived yet. She may be interested in going into law. She is willing to participate in governmental processes at a young age. Ms. Garcia is going to serve as the moderator of a Candidate Forum for the De Beque Board of Trustees. Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 14th at 6:00 p.m. The event is not sponsored by the Town nor by the School. It is a collaboration between the two entities. It will be a bit of a civics lesson and focus on civility and professionalism.

Ms. McInnis stated that it was time again for the Scholarship Committee. John Lane (school representative) and Katherine Boozell (Town representative) will be on the committee. Ms. McInnis asked for volunteers from the Board. Trustee Hambrick volunteered, and Ms. McInnis will reach out to the Mayor to see if she would like to be on the committee.

Ms. McInnis stated that she had been contacted by a realtor regarding purchasing Beers Truck wash and Fill Station. Ms. McInnis stated that the Town is not advocating for the purchase of this property. She would look into it further if directed.

The audit is in a few weeks. Staff is gearing up for that.

Ms. McInnis along with the Town Attorney met with Mesa County Attorney Todd Starr, Commissioner Rowland, and the Assistant County Administrator Todd Hollenbeck regarding the Community Hall. There are lots of discussions from basketballs to a commercial grade kitchen. Ms. McInnis stated that there are still many questions that she cannot answer. There is an MOU in the works. It is not our building. It is for the community, but it is owned by Mesa County.

Ms. McInnis stated that the Budget Books were on the Board's desks. She stated that she is very proud of these and that it was excellent work by Treasurer Katherine Boozell. Ms. McInnis strongly encouraged the Board to read the first eight pages, which have her budget message and highlights. It is very informative and includes the grant list from 2023-2024. In addition to the grants listed in the Budget Book, there is an ask for \$25,000 for drainage and up to \$100,000 for an updated Master Plan.

Ms. McInnis stated that tomorrow she and Katherine are heading to Manitou Springs to give a presentation on the Broadband Middle Mile Project. There are forty-four applicants. The full project will cost \$929,000. The Town is asking for half from DOLA. The Town will leverage the Mesa County Grant for \$311,500. There was a lot of collaboration and advocating for the Town before the funding has been awarded in an attempt to get the funding. The Town used a \$25,000 Admin Grant for Design and Engineering.

Stanley removed most of the plexiglass on the counter in Town Hall.

Mr. Flores (Public Works Supervisor) helped resolve a constituent issue. They flushed the lines and sampled the turbidity of the water. They were able to determine that it was an issue with the hot water heater in the home.

Ms. McInnis reported being knee deep in the OEDIT grant for signs for Town business owners. There was a short time frame. There are five recipients: Thriftique (\$770), Roan Creek Cycles (\$3200), Reckless Roadhouse (\$5000), JetBoat Colorado (over \$5000), and De Beque Country Store (\$10,590). The Town Sign was also included in the grant.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. **Approval of Minutes:** January 23, 2024.
- b. **Bills and Expenditures:** January 2024.
- c. **Discussion and action regarding Resolution 2024-07:** A resolution approving a fourth amendment to the license agreement between the Town of De Beque and Jet Boat Colorado, LLC, authorizing the placement of a sign on Town property at 2237 Roan Creek Road.
- d. **Remaining Bills and Expenditures:** Expenditures related to the Country Store. (Agenda item H(a)i)
- e. **Discussion and action regarding Resolution 2024-08:** A resolution approving a right of way license for an awning sign at the Country Store, 320 Minter Avenue. (Agenda item H(a)ii)

Discussion Before Motioning on the Consent Agenda:

Mayor Pro Tem Farris asked if anyone had any questions or comments on the Consent Agenda items. There were none.

Motion:

Trustee Hambrick motioned to approve all items on the consent agenda.
Trustee Lippoldt seconded the motion.
Motion carried 6-0.

REGULAR AGENDA:

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and direction regarding Town Owned Lot on the corner of 4th Street and Stewart Avenue:

Ms. McInnis asked for suggestions regarding the muddy lot on the corner of 4th Street and Stewart. Trustee Hambrick suggested gravel. Trustee Wood suggested reconstituted asphalt packed with roller. Sam Flores will get an estimate for gravel and the item will be revisited next month.

Discussion and direction regarding Board-directed Beautification Project spending in 2024:

Ms. McInnis stated that there is \$20,000 in the budget for Town beautification. Diane Sandelin suggested lighting down main strip to help visitors feel safe. Sam Flores stated that Xcel is committed to enhancing the view of their station. Diane Sandelin also suggested murals on the railroad bridge. Ms. McInnis stated for everyone to think about it and the item will be revisited next month.

Discussion and direction regarding appointed consultant RFPs:

Ms. McInnis asked if there was a request to put out a request for proposals for any consultant positions. Discussion ensued. The Municipal Judge position will be put out for RFP.

Discussion and selection of Mural Competition winner:

Ms. McInnis stated that it was time to select a new winner for the Mural Competition for the Firehouse window. Members of the Board and audience selected a winner.

CALL THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro Tem Farris at 7:10 p.m.

Discussion and action concerning Ordinance 542 (Series 2024): An ordinance amending Chapter 14.13 of the De Beque Sign Code pertaining to the total area of signs.

Ms. McInnis stated that the Planning Board has been auditing the Town's Land Use Code. It is not complete, but there is some urgency due to the sign grants. There are three small items to be addressed with Ordinance 542: wall signs, awning signs, and signs on public property. This will allow wall signs not to exceed 25% of the area of the wall. There was also no sign code for public property zoning. This ordinance adopts the zoning to be the same as Highway Commercial. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNED THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Pro Tem Farris at 7:22 p.m.

Motion:

Trustee Hambrick motioned to approve Ordinance 542.

Trustee Lippoldt seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1: An executive session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. § 24-6-402 (4)(t) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require discussion of matters personal to particular employees. Specifically, the Town Manager.

Motion:

Trustee Hambrick motioned to enter executive session.

Trustee Lake seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

RESUME PUBLIC MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Farris asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion:

Trustee Wood motioned to adjourn the regular meeting.

Trustee Hambrick seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Rogers, Town Clerk