

**TOWN OF DE BEQUE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on August 23, 2022, 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, Lisa Lippoldt, Vernon Bruse, and Sarah Hambrick

Mayor Shanelle Hansen was absent.

Staff Present: Town Administrator, Care' Mc Innis; Assistant to the Administrator, Lisa Rogers; Town Clerk, Lori Malsbury.

Also Present: Cathy Latham, Janet Palmer, Diane Sandelin, Jeanette Refior, Randy Sheley, Darrel Kuhn

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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:

Regular agenda item #a was moved to the consent agenda, to be included with August expenditures.

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

Randy Sheley with Elk Mountain Trading expressed his frustration with the Town not accepting cash for the excise tax payments. Ms. Mc Innis explained that a past Board implemented the procure to reduce risk and strengthen security.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Trustee Wood wanted to know when the striping would be done. Trustee Wood is also concerned with the condition of the peeling areas on the streets in Town and with the potholes around 4th & 45 Rd. Ms. Mc Innis said Mesa County is aware of some of the issues and plans to return, but there is no time frame.

Trustee Lippoldt said the new yellow paint on the curbs looks good.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Town Administrator Mc Innis presented the monthly Manager report. This report is intended to highlight,

not be all-inclusive.

Ms. Mc Innis informed the Board that the Town Clerk has given notice. The Marshal's department anticipates a new hire in October and the administrative staff is expected to hire a new Administrative Assistant this week.

A dated workman's Compensation claim has been resolved and closed. It was deemed a non-work injury.

On a separate case, a brief is due this week, and a recommendation to the FPPA within 30 days. Ms. Mc Innis anticipates appeals and possible filing in the State Court.

HR held open enrollment for supplemental benefits through Aflac. This is an employee contribution program only, with no cost to the Town.

The sidewalk replacement project was put out for bid, with no response. Staff will continue to seek contractors. The project may not be completed until next year as laying concrete is weather permitting.

Striping of the streets should be done in October. Ms. Mc Innis said that they will be painted as it was previously. The curb painting is being completed by public works.

A sign stating codes of conduct has been ordered for the riverfront and will be placed at the entrance.

The gazebo is completed, and public works are currently working on the stage.

The Town has filed a property claim with CIRS for a streetlight located on the Westbound on-ramp to I-70. Ms. Mc Innis stated that the Town may have conceded to take on financial obligations for the power poles in the past. The Staff has been researching municipalities along the corridor to verify who's responsible for maintaining the poles on the ramps.

Xcel plans to hire a contractor to remove the unused utility poles around town.

Ms. Mc Innis pointed out that the financial reports indicated an expense for the recreation department in the amount of \$1,700, it was actually for fuel.

The Staff and Dependable Waste conducted a cart audit for the trash service to verify records were correct.

Ms. Mc Innis indicated that the Staff is regularly on the hot seat for enforcing policies or statutes. She wanted to discuss the reasoning behind some of the issues for the public to better understand, stating that prior Board policies are supported by the Administration. The decision to not accept cash payments for excise tax was a Board decision based on a prior incident. The administration would ask that this not be reversed, with the sizeable amounts and limited staff, this procedure provides the best security. There is no Federal or State law requiring the Town to accept cash. Town Hall will accept other forms of payment.

Phase 1 of the wastewater treatment plant geomembrane liner replacement has been completed. Ms. Mc Innis explained there still may be a smell. The Town was unable to secure a contractor to clean out the biosolids, this will be done by the public works department in the fall. The Town will have to rent the equipment, but there should be substantial savings with it being completed in-house.

Ms. Mc Innis explained there have been several requests for the installation of water taps, but supplies are hard to find, more specifically the yokes. The Town was able to find to purchase a few at a higher price and has placed an order for additional yokes at a lower cost. When the taps are installed the cost of the materials will be passed on to the customer for the same amount.

Staff to attend Narcan training next week.

The first draft for the Roadmaps Grant is due Wednesday, unfortunately, the consultants have not completed that draft, but Ms. Mc Innis will still meet with the other Municipalities.

Ms. Mc Innis emphasized to the Board that the staff has spent a great deal of time on the proposed 2023 budget. They have met with all the Department heads and most of the Trustees individually. Bond Council has evaluated and as required will be formally distributed to the Board later on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Minutes: (regular meeting August 23, 2022)
- b. Bills and Expenditures: Financial transactions and expenditures for August 2022 and July 2022 report only, the transactions were previously approved in August.
- c. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING ORDINANCE No. 523 (Series 2022): A ordinance amending chapter 12.24 of the De Beque Municipal Code and adopting the 2018 International energy conservation code as required by State Statute.

Motion:

Trustee Hambrick made a motion to approve items a, b, and c on the consent agenda.
Trustee Lake seconded
Motion carried 6-0

REGULAR AGENDA NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-12: A resolution enacting residential solid waste collection rates.

Ms. Mc Innis explained with the new trash service contract there was a price increase for the additional carts service. This resolution enacts the increase for the additional carts, which will be at the same cost to the citizens as it is to the Town.

Trustee Lake expressed concern about citizens overfilling to the point that the garbage was not contained within the cart.

Motion:

Trustee Hambrick motioned for approval of resolution 2022-12 for the residential solid waste collection rates.
Trustee Wood second
Motion carried 5-1

PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY 2023 BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF DE BEQUE:

Ms. Mc Innis presented the proposed 2023 budget to the Board. Copies will be available for pick up in the Town hall, as well as posted on the website starting September 28, 2022. Since meeting with the Trustees changes were made on page 2, lines 51-53, as information was received concerning assessed valuation, mil levy, and tax evaluation revenues, and on page 15 line for capital outlay under recreation. A Trustee suggested that the figure under various projects be increased from \$100 to \$21,000 for beatification.

Ms. Mc Innis expressed there is no action to be taken concerning the budget at this meeting.

Trustee Hambrick wanted clarification that there were no monies allocated for the skate park for 2023, Ms. Mc Innis confirmed that was correct and asked that the Board give direction on what they would like to see done with the skate park.

Ms. Mc Innis stated that she overlooked mentioning in the Manager's report that on Tuesday, October 4, the County would be in De Beque to hold an open house for reviewing plans for the new Mesa County Community Center. There have been flyers posted around Town at the usual posting places as well as on Facebook. Mesa County will be in De Beque from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm, with a formal presentation at 5:30.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-13: A resolution authorizing an interim appointment to the position of Town Clerk and Treasurer.

Ms. Mc Innis asked the Board for the appointment of an interim Clerk and Treasure as both are vital positions. She also asked the Board for permission to post the Clerk position in-house and is still planning to hire a Treasurer. Both positions are Officer positions and are Board appointed.

Trustee Wood as if the Town has reached out to Staffing Agency. Ms. Mc Innis explained this was a recent development and that it will be posted in-house first. If the Board is unable to find an approved candidate, then the Town could reach out to a staffing agency or publish the opening.

Trustee Wood also asked if the administration has reached out to the prior candidates that had applied for the position previously. Ms. Mc Innis said that she believes one of the candidates is in-house, but that it is possible.

Motion:

Trustee Lake motioned the approval resolution 2022-13 authorizing the appointment of Lisa Rogers an interim Town Clerk and Treasurer.

Trustee Hambrick seconded

ADJOURNMENT REGULAR MEETING:

Motion:

Trustee Hambrick motioned to adjourn.

Trustee Lake seconded

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Malsbury, Town Clerk