

TOWN OF GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS
Regular Board of Trustee Meeting
January 16, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present

Mayor Jane Newberry
Trustee Cameron Thorne
Trustee Dave Cook
Trustee Michael Butts
Trustee Chris Quinn
Trustee Tyler Stevens

Board Members Absent

Trustee David Pearlman

Town Attorney

Public Works

RJ Viers

Interim Town Clerk

Renee Price

Marshal's Dept.

Virgil Hodges

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Newberry called the Regular Board of Trustee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Thorne led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Additions, Deletions, or Corrections to the Agenda

Executive Session was added to the Agenda 24-6-402(b) – To receive legal advice from the Town Atty. Item 4c. was tabled due to technical difficulties. **M/S Newberry/Thorne All Aye!**
Motion carried Agenda was approved as amended.

3. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve Consent Agenda as submitted. **M/S Newberry/Thorne All Aye!**
Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing – Personnel Hearing Re: Verla Bruner

Public Hearing was entered into at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Newberry stated that Verla Bruner and her attorney declined to attend this hearing but that the charges against her would be read.

The charges from the charging letter that was read are as follows:

- 1. Failure to Improve**
- 2. Failure to adhere to financial constraints**
- 3. Failure to address citizen's concerns**
- 4. Failure to provide timely updates to Board**

Atty. Gomez asked if the Board of Trustees had any questions or comments. Trustee Cook stated that he felt the board had not followed proper protocol and did not agree with the findings in the charging letter.

As there was no further comment, the public hearing was closed at 7:07 p.m.

4. New Business

a. Revocable Permit – Musical Swings – Gazebo Park – Jesse Stroope

The musical swings would be up for 12 weeks. The fee had been paid. A motion was made to approve the Musical Swings in Gazebo Park. **M/S Butts/Tyler All Aye! Motion carried unanimously.** **Addl note:** Parking is to be worked out with the Marshal and Public Works Director.

b. Colorado Springs Rod and Custom Car Show -Special Event Application

The car show will be held on July 21, 2018 from 6AM – 5PM. After review of the application, a motion was made to approve the Special Event Permit with a fee of \$800.00 to be paid prior to the event. **M/S Butts/Thorne All Aye! Motion carried unanimously.**

c. A Balancing Act – Accounting Software – Trustee Thorne

This item was tabled due to technical difficulties.

d. Dog License Clinic – 2018

The Dog License Clinic will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2018. A motion was made to extend the Dog License Renewal date to the end of February. **M/S Newberry/Butts All Aye!** Motion carried unanimously. Renee to coordinate with the Fire Station to hold the clinic on Feb. 10th.

e. 2018 Election Nomination Forms and deadlines – Renee stated that the last date to turn in a nomination sheet is Monday, Jan. 22, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. Forms are available at Town Hall.

f. Code Publication – Renee stated that American Legal Publishing Corporation was cheaper to use when changing the code and publishing the documents. The Mayor asked that a quote from Sterling Codifiers be obtained as well before choosing.

g. Trails Committee Appointments

Mr. Bratton provided a list of the Trails Committee Members and asked the Board approve the appointments. Rebecca Ochkie was a new member and her application was included in the packet. Mayor Newberry also asked that a 2018 File be created for the Committee and all applicants are up to date. A motion was made to approve the Trails Committee appointments as submitted. **M/S Newberry/Stevens All Aye! Motion carried unanimously**

h. Planning Commission Recommendation – Gerald Irwin – PC Vacancy

Mr. Gerald Irwin's application was presented to the Board at which time a motion was made to approve his application for the PC Vacancy. **M/S Butts/Cook All Aye! Motion carried unanimously.** Mayor Newberry then asked Mr. Irwin to take the Oath of Office of Planning Commission and he did.

5. Old Business

a. Website Follow Up – Trustee Thorne had sent an email regarding Colorado.Gov websites during the previous week for review. Renee is waiting on response as to whether we can use our own .gov URL. To be followed up on at the Feb. 6th meeting.

b. Resolution 2017-20 – Cameron to send Renee updated version with new PC list included.

c. Personnel Policy Update – This has been sent to MSEC. Will take 12-14 weeks for them to review.

d. Comp Plan Update- State Forestry, Co. Springs Utilities, CUSP, GMF and Fire Dept. are all working together on fire mitigation. GMF to possibly hold meeting in Feb/March for residents to come to a meeting. PC is making progress and met with Ann Miller from DOLA. Mayor Newberry made note that there would be 4 chipping days scheduled in 2018.

e. Matrix Engineering/Stilling Basins - R.J. stated that he is going to contact El Paso County again to see if they have additional resources now that it's a new year.

f. GOCO Grant – Still waiting on a response. Should know in March

g. Bridge Inspection Follow-Up – As there were bridges that were not inspected, the board will have to decide whether or not to have them inspected at this time due to budget constraints.

6. Public Input

11105 Midland Ave. – Jeff Lamonte asked that an explanation be given to him and his wife as to why she was not hired in the latter part of 2017.

7. Correspondence

PC Minutes from January 9th 2018

8. Reports

Mayor Newberry – No report

Trustee Quinn – No Report

Trustee Butts – No Report

Trustee Cook – No Report

Trustee Stevens – No Report

Trustee Thorne – Requested that if possible, all vendors be contacted and scheduled for one bill run per month as opposed to two. He also asked that the Bill Run be omitted from the Consent Agenda and replaced with a monthly P & L as well as a Balance Sheet summary for the month.

Renee – Will be out of the office Feb. 7th – 11th for the CCCMA Conference in Glenwood Springs.

RJ – Noted that signs had been posted around the lake to stay off of it as the temperatures continued to fluctuate.

Virgil – Stated he had received a complaint of possible business being run out of home but this was not founded. Gail Gerig asked about the vehicle search for the Marshal's office and stated that he was still gathering information on all the expenses and would have a final number soon. He noted that Reserves Nardo and Goings had represented the town as they had attended and participated in the Douglas Co. Deputy Sheriff's funeral procession.

Atty. Andrew Gomez – Stated he would address the Board in Executive Session.

A motion was made to enter into and Executive Session under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) Seeking legal advice from Town Atty. Andrew Gomez invited into the session and was entered into at 7:56 p.m. Atty Andrew Gomez was invited into the meeting. M/S Newberry/Thorne All Aye! Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to come out of Executive Session **M/S Stevens/Butts All Aye! Motion carried unanimously.**

Regular BoT Meeting was resumed at 8:53 p.m.

Upon consideration, Mayor Newberry stated that the Public Hearing regarding the status of Verla Bruner be resumed. She referenced the list of charges previously stated in the Charging Letter. These items were discussed further.

Failure to Improve Performance – Despite performance coaching, performance did not improve. Each Trustee if they chose, elaborated on their thoughts regarding her performance.

Failure to Adhere to Financial Constraints and Inability to Allocate budgeted money- Several times exceeded budget authority without Board notification. Lifeguard Salaries and rekeying of the Town were just a couple. Purchases over \$5000.00 must come before the Board for approval.

Failure to address resident's complaints – Mayor Newberry received two written complaints. One dated Nov. 5th in depth complaint about the roads and on November 7th during a listening session found her response to residents, flip and hostile.

Failure to provide timely updates to the board-Trustee Thorne stated that on numerous occasions Verla stated that it was not her role to facilitate the Code Revisions, while it was explained to her that facilitating was different than making policy which was the role of the board. Trustee Butts stated that he had sent an email regarding the priorities of the town, asked for explanation to the Board and to the public what it would take to accomplish these goals and a timeline to which he received no response.

Additional comments were made and Mayor Newberry stated that they offered Verla the opportunity to come and be heard to discuss this further and she declined.

The Public Hearing ended.

Regular BoT meeting was resumed. Mayor Newberry moved for the town to terminate their relationship with Ms. Bruner and asked for further comment.

Trustee Cook stated that the Board of Trustees had not followed proper procedure and protocol. This was a new position and she had many chiefs. Each Trustee brought forth individual thoughts on her performance but it was not a collective collaborated effort to bring all this forward. Trustee Cook also stated he didn't believe the six months she had been with the Town was a fair amount of time to evaluate performance. One year and then if she repeated the same process, repeats the same mistakes after being coached through things, then maybe could see termination but proper procedure was not followed. He then stated he could not agree to the dismissal of Ms. Bruner from her position. He finished by stating that with the next person, that ideas and thoughts be funneled through a single point of contact as to not be so overwhelming.

Trustee Quinn agreed with Trustee Cook stating that while some valid points were made, that six months was not enough time to evaluate performance and would like to see process more unified.

Mayor Newberry stated that there was a motion on the table and a second, except Trustee Cook and Quinn who voted no. Motion passed 4 – 2.

Adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Mayor Jane Newberry

Renee Price – Interim Town Clerk