

TOWN OF GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS
Regular Board of Trustee Meeting
February 02, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present

Mayor Jane Newberry
Trustee Margaret Peterson
Trustee Katharine Guthrie
Trustee Dyani Loo

Board Members Absent

Trustee Chris Quinn

Town Attorney

Not present

Town Manager

Angie Sprang

Public Works

Not present

Town Clerk

Matt Gordon

Marshal's Dept.

Virgil Hodges

Administrative Assistant

Not present

Planning Director

Not present

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

Mayor Newberry called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Additions, Deletions, or Corrections to the Agenda

Mayor Newberry motioned to add a comment from Andre Brackin as Agenda Item 3. Trustee Loo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Comment from Andre Brackin

Mr. Brackin provided comments on the Midland Avenue Culvert Relocation going into detail on the state of the project, the old age of the current system and the issues involved with the system, specifics around coordinating with Colorado Springs Utilities, his and his partners expertise regarding relocations, the cost of the project and cost overruns, whether a change order was warranted. Mr. Brackin went into further detail regarding the change order and its necessity, going on to say that the project would not have been completed without the change order. Mr Brackin provided additional details of the project that included installation of new water and gas lines due to the age of the system. Mr. Brackin expressed his opinion that deferring the project would have been a bad decision due to the possibility of a culvert failing and losing access to certain properties. Mr. Brackin ended with a thank you to CSU for their work on the project.

Mayor Newberry answered a question in the Virtual Meeting Software Chat regarding the overall cost overrun, which is 30%

Town Manager Sprang extended her thanks to Andre Brackin for his work.

4. Persons Not Present on the Agenda

(3 minutes given per speaker)

Resident Blasi shared public comment regarding item # 7, special event permit, and recommended that the event follow public health restrictions. Resident Blasi went on to comment on the cost overrun on Midland and requested that Town Manager Sprang provided a detailed financial breakdown

presentation of the project at the next BOT meeting. Resident Piazza expressed her thanks for receiving answers to comments at the previous BOT meeting and for including the Free Parking Petition in the BOT Agenda Packet. Resident Piazza went on to share her experience of gathering signatures for the petition, the public's response to the petition, and her interactions with Consultant Jon Cain. Resident Bratton reinforced Resident Piazza's comments further sharing info related to the Free Parking Petition. Resident Bratton expressed concern related to the enforcement of paid parking and how it would affect visitor's opinion of the Town.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Bring into record Accounts Payable for 1/18/2021 to 1/29/2021**
- b. BOT Meeting Minutes from 2/2/2021 BOT Meetings**

Mayor Newberry moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trustee Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of Resolution No. 2021-07, A Resolution of the Town of Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, Extending the Declaration of a Local Emergency in and for the Town of Green Mountain Falls, Colorado to April 30, 2021

Town Manager Sprang provided a brief overview on the Town's emergency declaration and how having this declaration opens the possibility of the Town receiving emergency funding.

Mayor Newberry moved to approve. Seconded by Trustee Loo. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consideration of Resolution No. 2021-08, A Resolution of the Town of Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, Supporting the El Paso County Community Development Block Grant Application

Trustee Peterson pointed out that the Resolution as included in the Agenda packet listed the wrong year and requires an amendment. Trustee Loo provided a brief overview of the process of writing the Community Development Block Grant, the involvement of Trustee Guthrie and Town Manager Sprang. Trustee Loo shared the purpose of the grant application which is to create ADA improvements to Gazebo Lake Park and how the application was written and tailored for the reviewing committee. Trustee Loo went on to request letters of support and photos from the community to include in the CDBG Grant application.

Trustee Guthrie expanded on Trustee Loo's comments by sharing that the maximum award possible is \$150,000 and highlighted that the application included playground equipment to try and hit the max, but the primary focus would be fishing at Gazebo Lake.

Trustee Loo announced that the Town has a template letter that could be used for letters of support for the project.

Trustee Peterson and Town Manager Sprang expressed her thanks to everyone for their work.

Mayor Newberry moved to approve. Seconded by Trustee Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Consideration of a Special Event Permit Application for 2021 Pikes Peak Mission to Zero

Mayor Newberry opened the discussion with a brief description of Pikes Peak Mission to Zero and its focus on veteran's suicide awareness. Mr. Bloureiro provided a brief description of what the Pikes Peak Mission to Zero is and how it goes about raising money for its working raising awareness about veteran's suicide. Mr. Bloureiro shared how COVID impacted their planned event for 2020 and highlighted that they raised \$2000 and donated those funds. Mr. Bloureiro went on to detail the plan for the 2021 event stating that the event would be a Poker Run only due to the public health limitations of COVID.

Mr. Bloureiro described the plan for the event and provided details related to the closure of roads near the lake for motorcycle parking, the plan for the Poker Run and the time frame, planned road closures, the number of riders, and attendance of an honor guard to play the national anthem.

Mr. Bloureiro requested that the board approve the Special Event permit and that the Board consider waiving fees related to this special event permit.

Mayor Newberry requested comment from Town Marshall Hodges. Town Marshall Hodges shared his positive experience with Pikes Peak Mission to Zero and their work with veterans. Town Marshall Hodges expressed that the planned road closures were acceptable and that should the Board not waive fees related to traffic control, that he would volunteer his services.

Trustee Loo requested that Mr. Bloureiro address resident concerns related to COVID and the Special Event. Mr. Bloureiro deferred to any guidance from the El Paso County Health Department related to COVID and shared his experience mitigating the effects of COVID at the Mission to Zero event held in 2020.

Town Marshall Hodges provided a suggestion for the Board and Mr. Bloureiro on the creation of a safety plan for the event as well as the necessity to submit that plan to El Paso County Public Health and offered to coordinate points of contact and to share sample plans with Mr. Bloureiro. Trustee Peterson offered her assistance as well.

Mr. Bloureiro addressed a question asked in the virtual meeting software's chat on if the event needed volunteers. Mr. Bloureiro said yes, and that parking would be a big need. Mayor Newberry offered to help with trash issues.

Town Clerk/Treasurer Gordon shared the fees associated with the special event permit.

Trustee Loo moved to approve. Seconded by Trustee Peterson. Motion passed unanimously to approve the permit.

Trustee Peterson moved to assess a permit fee of \$300 for the event and to waive traffic control and deposit fees. Seconded by Trustee Guthrie. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Marshall Hodges ended by offering to pay the special event permit fee and Mr. Bloureiro expressed desire to speak further offline with Town Marshall Hodges.

9. FMC Elected Officers Approval

Mayor Newberry moved to approve. Seconded by Trustee Loo. Motion passed unanimously.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Chris-Briggs Hale Letter**
- b. GMF Annexation Press Release**
- c. GMF Free Parking Petition**

11. REPORTS

a. Trustee Reports

Mayor Newberry shared a report regarding the parking petition and encouraged residents to review the questions on the Town Parking and Signage Survey to provide additional nuance in addition to their

enthusiastic work on the petition. Mayor Newberry ended by thanking those individuals who worked on the CDBG grant.

Trustee Loo shared that the PRT met and is prioritizing their projects.

Trustee Guthrie shared her appreciation for input and support on the CDBG grant especially for letters of support and photos. Trustee Guthrie thanked Mayor Newberry for bringing up the nuance of the parking situation in GMF.

Town Manager Sprang shared that the survey is actually closed, and that Consultant Jon Cain will be presenting the survey results at the next BOT meeting.

b. Committee Reports

c. Staff Reports

Town Manager Sprang provided a brief statement. It has come to my attention that some in the community feel that I am unresponsive to the Town and Citizens. I would like to reassure you that nothing could be further from the truth. I sincerely wish to work in a cooperative and collaborative manner with all town members. In fact issues have been addressed and then the same information has been asked for, just in different words. Repetitive requests for information may be construed as fishing trips to get me to change the answer to fit an agenda that I am not involved in. I do my best to provide information as it comes to light and will continue to do so. Hostility and passive aggressiveness are counterproductive and lead to one side, of a previously open conversation, to become less than forthcoming and willing to cooperate, especially when questions have already been answered or the answers have been published and are readily available to all.

Social Media is not the best of places to air grievances and tends to create a “mob mentality” in search of “likes” or comments that are not conducive to intelligent and open communication. While it is important to express opinions and feelings, it is ALWAYS best to go to the well for the water. That is to say that information is most accurate at its source, whether it be the person involved or the documented (and/or recorded) transcripts that are official in nature, as they are not slanted one way or the other.

In Town Government, it has been my experience, not everyone can have their way all the time and some understanding and empathy must be involved. Things must be done, at times, which are not going to make everyone happy but are none the less necessary for the common good. Consideration and cooperation on both sides of an issue are necessary to problem solve in a supportive manner which not only solves the problem but mitigates it in the future.

In conclusion, I wish to thank everyone for their input on issues that concern the Town and I want to assure you that this Town is of utmost importance to me and my staff. We struggle daily to try to appease REASONABLE requests but cannot favor one person or group of people and not be responsive to the entirety of the Town and its overall welfare.

Town Clerk/Treasurer shared his experience over his first month with the Town.

Town Marshall Hodges shared his support for the Pikes Peak Mission to Zero and expressed his desire to have the Town continue supporting the event.

Mayor Newberry shared her agreement and expressed her thanks to the community, the BOT, and staff for their volunteer time and work.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Newberry adjourned the meeting at 8:02 PM.

Matthew Gordon
Matthew Gordon (Feb 26, 2021 16:35 MST)

Matt Gordon, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Jane Newberry
Jane Newberry (Feb 19, 2021 14:42 MST)

Jane Newberry, Town Mayor