The Regular Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at Town Hall.

Members Present

Mayor
Borchard

Day

Gutierrez

Kindall

Nielsen

Turner

Trustees

Town Staff Present

Administrator
Cook

Town Clerk
Tupy

Police Chief
Thompson

PW Superintendent
Overton

Lieutenant
Hayes

Attorney
Massih (attended by phone)

Citizens Present: Whalin, Mike and Mary; Jones, Diana; Urista, Janelle; Adams, Travis; Smith, Davey; Hale, Sam (attended by phone); Turner, Niki (attended by phone).

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Borchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL
All Board members were present, except for Trustee Creecy.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Mayor Borchard called for changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Nielsen to accept the agenda as is. Second by Trustee Kindall. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES
Trustee Gutierrez stated the spelling of “Treasurer” needed to be corrected on page three paragraph one. A motion was made by Trustee Kindall to approve the minutes of July 21, 2020 as corrected. Second by Trustee Gutierrez. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS
A motion was made by Trustee Gutierrez to approve the disbursements dated July 31, 2020. Second by Trustee Turner. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Diana Jones and Janelle Urista with Skijor Meeker expressed their gratitude for the Town’s donation and support during the first Skijor event in February 2020, next year’s event is scheduled for February 21 & 22, 2021.

PUBLIC HEARINGS
Adoption of Ordinance 04-2020 amending the 2020 budget of the Town of Meeker and approving supplemental appropriations. Mayor Borchard opened the public hearing at 7:07pm. Administrator Cook reported that an ordinance is required in order to spend unanticipated revenue, the Town is anticipating receiving the Corona Virus Relief Fund revenues in the amount of $180,839.00; new legislation is also requiring that we charge for Certified VIN Inspections; with the supplemental appropriations the General Fund’s total is now $3,645,505.00, the amount appropriated January 1st was $3,463,166.00. Hearing no questions or comments Mayor Borchard closed the public hearing at 7:08pm and called for a motion to approve the adoption of Ordinance 04-2020 amending the 2020 budget of the Town of Meeker and approving supplemental appropriations. Moved by Trustee Turner. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes.
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Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Indemnification Agreement between the Town of Meeker and TDA Construction for the use of 5th Street bridge during construction of the Circle Park Pond project. Administrator Cook stated that Attorney Massih reached out to CIRSA looking for bond requirements and insurance coverage, she discovered there is no coverage or bond that TDA could get that would cover damage to the bridge other than through an act of negligence; as it turns out the Town’s coverage excludes bridges and is not covered by CIRSA; CIRSA advised Attorney Massih that TDA could obtain a letter of credit from his bank to cover any damages that may occur; Mr. Adams felt the Town was asking a lot by requesting a letter of credit from his bank, Administrator Cook noted the Town needs to protect their assets. Mayor Borchard called for a motion to reject the approval of Indemnification Agreement between the Town of Meeker and TDA Construction for the use of 5th Street bridge during construction of the Circle Park Pond project. Moved by Trustee Kindall. Second by Trustee Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion of the SWCA Proposal for the White River Enhancement Conceptual Planning Services additional scope of work to analyze the entirety of the river corridor through town. Mayor Borchard opened the discussion and provided some background; he stated there is a letter in the packet from SWCA and a map; he noted that prior studies done for Meeker suggest that we need to develop our river and make it accessible; the proposed scope of services by SWCA consists of developing a river enhancement conceptual plan, Mayor Borchard would like this scope of services to include 2,000 channel feet upstream of 3rd Street to a location roughly 500 channel feet downstream of the 10th Street bridge. There was a lengthy discussion, Mary Whalen expressed her concerns on how this would affect the homeowners along the river, Davey Smith spoke about how changing the river channel affects the ice jams in the winter months, Sam Hale also expressed his concerns over the ice jams. Mayor Borchard noted that the next discussion regarding the proposal will be August 18th at 5:30pm at the Fairfield Center, this will be a joint meeting with ERBM Rec Center Board.

MAYOR’S REMARKS

Mayor Borchard stated that he spoke with School Superintendent Selle about the plans to reopen school, he felt there was a lot of thought and work that went into the 22 page document and felt we need to urge everyone to wear a mask to help get the kids back in school.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Administrator Cook reported the Animal Shelter upgrades have gone out to bid and is advertised in the newspaper; logo number three was the winner; she included the letter of support for Rio Blanco County’s application for the Protect Our Neighbors Certification and Containment Plan and asked for the Board’s approval, the Board approved the letter; she also informed the Board CW Construction will be asking for an extension on their completion date which is currently August 15th for the Water Street waterline replacement project, they have run into many unforeseen ‘bumps’ throughout the project; she reminded the Board about the joint meeting with ERBM Rec District on August 18th at the Fairfield Center at 5:30pm; she continued stating Animal Control Officer Haney has received numerous complaints about citizens keeping large animals on their property, currently large animals are allowed under our code, the Board requested A/C Officer Haney obtain more information and bring it back before the Board at a later meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Borchard adjourned the meeting at 8:19pm and moved the meeting into a workshop session to discuss the 2021 budget.
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Attest:

Amy Tupy, Town Clerk

Kent A. Borchard, Mayor