A Special Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Thursday, March 26, 2020 at Town Hall.

To comply with social distancing requirements due to the COVID-19 Virus the meeting was held by telephone conference.

Members present in person: Mayor Halandras
Members appearing by phone: Trustee Gutierrez

Members appearing by phone:

Trustee Creecy
Trustee Day
Trustee Kindall
Trustee Nielsen
Trustee Turner

Town Staff present in person: Administrator Cook

Citizens present by phone: Turner, Niki.

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Halandras called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL
All Board members were present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Mayor Halandras asked for changes to the agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Creecy to accept the agenda as presented. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS
Adoption of Resolution 02-2020, declaring a local disaster pursuant to C.R.W. Section 24-33-5-701 regarding COVID-19. Administrator Cook addressed the Board stating the Town of Meeker ("Town") has identified a local disaster now designated COVID-19 that the imminent threat of widespread occurrence can cause severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from COVID-19 requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage and to protect public health.

The cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of COVID-19 is far in excess of the Town’s available resources; on March 10, 2020 Colorado Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency in response to COVID-19 to ensure that resources are available to the state to combat the disease, and on March 13, 2020 President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in response to COVID-19.

It would be appropriate and in the interest of the public health and safety, and would further protect property, for the Town to take immediate action for public safety, health and welfare; the Rio Blanco County Emergency Manager and Rio Blanco County Health and Environment have activated the Emergency Operation Plan for pandemic events and the Town of Meeker now seeks to declare a local disaster to address the COVID-19 outbreak.

The Town Administrator, as the chief administrative officer for the Town, is authorized to declare a local disaster to activate the emergency management and operations of the Town and to make certain findings
with respect to the operations of Town business during such an emergency. The term of this Resolution shall be the same as the term of the Governor’s declaration of a state of emergency for the State of Colorado.

Mayor Halandras called for questions. Trustee Day asked by enacting this resolution if it also meant enforcement of the Governor’s Stay at Home Order. Administrator Cook replied they are two separate things, the resolution declaring Meeker a local disaster is required in the event the Town needs to apply for Federal funding.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Halandras called for a motion to adopt Resolution 02-2020 declaring a local disaster pursuant to C.R.S. Section 24-33.5-701 regarding COVID-10. Moved by Trustee Turner. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS
Administrator Cook informed the Board that she had found information regarding the Multimodal Options Fund grant through CDOT requires several steps after notice of the award, such as an IGA, a kick off meeting to go over the requirements of the grant and the project before it could be put out for bid, which means if the Town applies for and is awarded the grant for the School Street sidewalk project construction most likely would not begin until 2021. Cook asked the Board for direction on whether to apply for the grant and hold off construction until 2021 or move forward with the project in 2020. Board consensus was to apply for the grant.

Administrator Cook updated the Board regarding Town functions and plans surrounding the Governor’s Stay at Home Order for COVID-19.

ADJOURNMENT
Mayor Halandras called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Moved by Trustee Creecy. Second by Trustee Gutierrez. All ayes. Motion carried.

Regas K. Halandras, Mayor

Attest:

Amy Tupy, Town Clerk