

The Regular Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at Town Hall.

Members Present

Mayor
Trustees

Borchard
Creecy
Day
Gutierrez
Kindall
Nielsen
Turner

Town Staff Present

Administrator
Attorney
Town Clerk
Police Chief
Admin. Assistant

Cook
Massih (attended by phone)
Tupy (attended by phone)
Thompson
Pakuer

Citizens Present: Smith, Davie; Smith, Matt; Welder, Shawn; Harris, Chris; Macnab, Deirdre; Cole, Martha; Wix, John; Taylor, John; Taylor, Mary.

Citizen present by phone: Pearce, Hal.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Borchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

All Board members were present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Borchard suggested moving item X (c) Consideration of request for Davie Smith to lease pasture at Ute Park during months of September and October ahead of item X (b) Presentation by White River Alliance requesting consideration of an integrated pest control management program. A motion was made by Trustee Kindall to accept the revised agenda. Second by Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Trustee Gutierrez stated there is a correction under Citizens Present the spelling of 'Whalen' should be 'Whalin'. A motion was made by Trustee Day to approve the minutes of August 18, 2020 with corrections. Second by Trustee Gutierrez. Aye: Trustees Day, Gutierrez, Kindall, Nielsen, and Turner. Abstained by Trustee Creecy due to his absence at that meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

A motion was made by Trustee Turner to approve the disbursements dated August 18, 2020. Second by Trustee Creecy. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

STAFF UPDATE

Chief Thompson reported there were 474 incidents, 14 summons, four arrests, 72 traffic stops for the month of July.

Public Works Superintendent Overton was detained at the Water St. project and not able to be in attendance, Administrator Cook reported Public Works new employee Nicholas Smith started the day

Regular Meeting of the Town of Meeker – August 18, 2020

before; PW is currently waiting on a part for the paint sprayer so they can complete painting the streets, Cook also reported they are still waiting for the water tests to come back for the new well and the fire that occurred at the top of seventh street is still under investigation by the county.

Trustee Day inquired about the weed code enforcement on the property owned by Amerigas located at 145 10th Street.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Request from Meeker Lion’s Club for a Special Event Liquor Permit for the Meeker Mustang Makeover event at RBC Fairgrounds Grandstands, 700 Sulphur Cr. Rd., Sept. 11, 2020. Mayor Borchard opened the public hearing at 7:08pm. Administrator Cook stated that Hal Pearce was present by phone, the organization has received permission from the Public Health Department; Rio Blanco County Commissioners have granted permission to use the property; there are to be no sales of liquor after 10:00 pm; the application is complete, and staff recommends approval. Mayor Borchard asked for comments, hearing none he closed the public hearing at 7:10pm and called for a motion to approve the request from Meeker Lion’s Club for a Special Event Liquor Permit for the Meeker Mustang Makeover event at RBC Fairgrounds Grandstands, 700 Sulphur Cr. Rd., Sept. 11, 2020. Moved by Trustee Creecy. Second by Trustee Nielsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Bid opening for the Animal Shelter Remodel.

Mayor Borchard opened a bid received on August 18, 2020. The bid was received from Regas Halandras in the amount of \$19,947.00 for the Animal Shelter Remodel project and the bid specifications will be reviewed and put on the agenda for approval September 1, 2020.

Consideration of request from Davie Smith to lease pasture at Ute Park during the months of September and October. Mr. Davie Smith and Mr. Matt Smith were present representing David Smith Ranches Inc. Mr. Davie Smith stated due to the cancelation of the Meeker Classic Sheepdog Trials, he requested from the Board if they could lease Ute Park pasture for the months of September and October 2020 for approximately 70 head of yearlings. Smith Ranches current lease allows six consecutive weeks between September 24th and December 18th when he typically brings the bulls onto Ute Park.

Administrator Cook informed the Board to take into consideration construction of the connector trail which is scheduled to begin at Ute Park on September 26th. Trustee Gutierrez stated that she would be opposed to additional time for livestock, due to the fact it is meant to be a public park. Trustee Kindall voiced her concern saying currently Ute Park is being used for livestock 5.7 months of the year, she would be opposed to adding an additional two months. Mayor Borchard suggested that Attorney Massih would do an amendment to the already existing agreement between the Town of Meeker and David Smith Ranches Inc. increasing lease allotted time to six weeks in September and October 2020 for yearlings; charging twenty dollars per head per month. Motion made by Trustee Turner to approve the request from Davie Smith to lease pasture at Ute Park during the months of September and October for yearlings. Second by Trustee Nielsen. Ayes: Creecy, Nielsen, Day and Turner. Opposed: Trustees Kindall and Gutierrez. Motion carried.

Presentation by White River Alliance requesting consideration of an integrated pest control management program. Mr. Shawn Welder was the spokesperson for the White River Alliance group. Mr. Welder showed a video presentation comparing the effects of the White River’s ecosystems when aerial spraying containing permethrin is applied vs. the White River ecosystem when there is no spraying. The White River Alliance would like the Town of Meeker to explore improved aerial spraying for mosquito’s without using permethrin. After a lengthy discussion the Board stated that they are more than willing to look at alternative methods of mosquito spraying, and suggested the White River Alliance should come back to the Board with more information including what companies would best fit our

Regular Meeting of the Town of Meeker – August 18, 2020

needs, information on the products to use and most importantly providing a cost for these alternatives.

Approval of Change Orders 4 thru 8 from CW Construction, LLC for the Water Street water line.

Administrator Cook informed the Board due to unforeseen problems with the water line project there were Change Orders 004-008 for CW Construction submitted for the following: Change Order 004 unsuitable subgrade material required above the bid amount; Change Order 005 removal of 850 linear feet of abandoned overflow pipe; Change Order 006 additional fittings and excavation for crossing beneath a large diameter unmarked concrete storm drain; Change Order 007 request for an extension of time on the contract to August 28, 2020; Change Order 008 credit to Town of Meeker for use of our tapping machine. Mayor Borchard asked for a motion to approve Change Orders 004-008. Moved by Trustee Day. Second by Trustee Turner. All ayes. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Borchard read a thank you note from the Red Rooster to the Town of Meeker; Mike Bloomberg visited the Mayor's house for an informal meeting expressing his interest in the Town of Meeker.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Administrator Cook reported the staff has been working with Kasey Cox of Foxz Creative on the Town's website the tentative plan is to go live the first part of September; CEBT sent their preliminary estimate on health insurance for 2021 which is an increase of 5.5%, the Town will receive a dividend return on premiums the first of next year between the amount of \$7,500.00-\$9,000.00 which makes the increase a little more palatable.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

Trustee Kindall requested a report of the Towns Capital Improvements. Administrator Cook informed the Board that herself and Public Works Superintendent Overton have composed a list and will present it to the board at a workshop after the September 15th board meeting.

Mayor Borchard brought up the next step for the consultants regarding the new proposal for a study done of the entire White River corridor through Town. Trustee Creecy expressed frustration with the new study being proposed stating he was not comfortable with Mayor Borchard speaking for the board; Trustee Day stated Mayor Borchard should have come before the Board to get the full history on the project before asking for another proposal.

Trustee Kindall expressed concern for the safety of the public with the construction going on at Circle Park, stating there needs to be more boundaries and signage posted the Park is closed. Administrator Cook will get in contact with TDA Construction.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Borchard adjourned the meeting at 8:26pm.

Kent A. Borchard, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Pakuer, Admin. Assistant