



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR (VIRTUAL) MEETING OF THE
PALISADE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 11, 2020**

A work session of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Palisade to discuss Palisade Art Vision (PÄV) began at 5:33 pm. Present at the work session were Mayor Mikolai, Trustees Turner, Somerville, Carlson, Maxwell, and Mayor Pro-Tem Chase. Trustee L’Hommedieu appeared via Zoom. Also present were Town Manager Janet Hawkinson, Town Clerk Keli Frasier, and Finance Director Travis Boyd.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Palisade was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Mikolai with Trustees present: Turner, Somerville, Carlson, Maxwell, and Mayor Pro-Tem Chase. Trustee L’Hommedieu appeared via Zoom. A quorum was declared. Also, in attendance were Town Manager Janet Hawkinson, Town Clerk Keli Frasier, Finance Director Travis Boyd, and Utilities Director Matt Lemon. Town Attorney Jim Neu, Community Development Director Allyson Shellhorn and Police Chief Deb Funston, and Parks Recreation and Event Director Troy Ward appeared via Zoom.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Motion #1 by Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, seconded by Trustee Somerville, to approve the agenda as presented.

A voice vote was requested.
Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Parks Recreation and Event Director Troy Ward gave a brief slideshow presentation regarding the progress made at Riverbend Park on the Russian Olive and Tamarisk removal project.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager Janet Hawkinson reviewed her report and suggested a work session with the Board regarding the 2021 budget on the third Tuesday of the month. ***The consensus of the Board is to have the work session on Wednesday, August 19, 2020.***

The Board asked Utilities Director Matt Lemon about the extensive water leak on Elberta Avenue and complimented him and his crew for their work on the emergency.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is intended to allow the Board to spend its time on more complex items. These items are generally perceived as non-controversial and can be approved by a single motion. The public or the Board members may ask that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for individual consideration.

- **Expenditures**

- Approval of Bills from Various Town Funds – July 25, 2020 – August 6, 2020

- **Minutes**

Minutes from the July 28, 2020 Board Meeting

Motion #2 by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Trustee Maxwell, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Turner, Trustee Somerville, Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, Trustee Carlson, Trustee L'Hommedieu, Trustee Maxwell

No:

Absent:

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Town Clerk Keli Frasier read an email and presented a video submitted by Dave and Michelle Walker, 588 W 1st Street, concerning traffic flow and semi-truck struggles at the corner of 1st Street and Elberta Avenue. After a brief discussion amongst the Board regarding these concerns, the consensus was to continue this topic of conversation during the *Open Discussion* portion of the agenda.

Bo Washington 131 W 1st Street began expressing concerns regarding the proposed parking lot variance and was asked to wait to speak further on the topic until it was heard under the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING I

Parking Lot Variance Request as applied for by the Town of Palisade

Mayor Mikolai opened the public hearing at 6:41 pm.

Town Manager Janet Hawkinson began by giving the Board a brief history of the Town's involvement in this parcel and continued on to inform them that the application for a variance that was submitted by the Town is regarding setbacks and parking allocation. The Town will own the parking area of this plot, and Sean O'Brien will own the north-west corner, where he plans on building a mixed-use unit with commercial space on the ground floor and residential units on the upper level.

Bo Washington 131 W 1st Street expressed his approval of the plan and feels it will help the downtown area, which desperately needs more parking opportunities in order to survive.

The Board had a lengthy discussion where they considered the findings of fact presented, the possible future plans of the property, dumpster locations, and railroad right-of-way.

Motion #3 by Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, seconded by Trustee Maxwell, to approve the Parking Lot Variance Request known as the Sean O'Brien Plat Variance as applied for by the Town of Palisade

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Trustee Somerville, Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, Trustee Carlson, Trustee L'Hommedieu, Trustee Maxwell, Mayor Mikolai

No:

Absent: Trustee Turner

Motion carried

Mayor Mikolai closed the public hearing at 7:06 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Watershed Fire Mitigation MOU.

Utilities Director Matt Lemon explained that The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has been the lead agency managing prescribed burns in the Town of Palisade watershed along with the City of Grand Junction watershed. The last prescribed burn was conducted in 2015. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be active for five years and is the primary tool for allowing BLM to facilitate our Fire Mitigation Plan.

He went on to add that The Town's roles and responsibilities will include: (1) allowing access to the area of interest for cultural surveys, planning purposes, and implementation of existing projects as well as the planning, development, and implementation of future treatments within the Palisade Watershed, (2) to continue to support the Palisade Watershed Fire Mitigation Plan, (3) acknowledge and grant approval of the possibility that fences may become damaged due to prescribed fire activities, and (4) Provide funding for prescribed fire implementation for the currently identified prescribed fire burn units.

Motion #4 by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Trustee Maxwell to authorize the Mayor to enter into an MOU with the BLM and the City of Grand Junction to perform prescribed burns on property owned by the Town of Palisade as well as lands managed by the BLM as presented.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Trustee Somerville, Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, Trustee Carlson, Trustee L'Hommedieu, Trustee Maxwell, Mayor Mikolai

No:

Absent: Trustee Turner

Motion carried

Street Classification Map

Utilities Director Matt Lemon advised the Board that sections 11-131 and 11-136 of the Palisade Municipal Code state "Streets within the Town are hereby divided into classifications as shown on the official Street Classification Map of the Town," and "In the event that the official Street Classification Map becomes damaged, destroyed, lost or difficult to interpret because of nature or number of changes and additions, the Board of Trustees may by resolution adopt a new official Street Classification Map, which shall supersede the prior Official Map." He added that the Town staff would like to present a current map for your approval. The map has been requested from the Regional Transportation planners to complete a roadway functional classifications map form all municipalities and Mesa County.

Motion #5 by Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, seconded by Trustee Somerville to approve Resolution 2020-19 entitled "A Resolution Of The Board Of Trustees For The Town Of Palisade, Colorado, Adopting An Official Street Classification Map For The Town Of Palisade" as presented.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, Trustee Carlson, Trustee L'Hommedieu, Trustee Maxwell, Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Turner, Trustee Somerville

No:

Absent:

Motion carried

2019 Supplemental Appropriation Tourism Fund

Finance Director Travis Boyd informed the Board that in 2019, the Tourism Activity Fund was appropriated \$54,000 to spend toward tourism and Town marketing. \$54,082 was actually spent in the toward those activities by the Tourism Advisory Board (TAB), and the Finance Department is requesting a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$82 to bring this fund into compliance with State law.

Motion #6 by Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, seconded by Trustee Somerville to approve a budget amendment to the 2019 budget in the amount of \$82.00 for the Tourism Advisory Board.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Trustee Carlson, Trustee L'Hommedieu, Trustee Maxwell, Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Turner, Trustee Somerville, Mayor Pro-Tem Chase

No:

Absent:

Motion carried

Tourism Advisory Board Letters of Interest

These letters were in the packet for informational purposes only. After a very brief discussion amongst the Board, *the consensus is to have a work session at 5:00 pm on August 25, 2020, to interview all candidates that have applied. Each candidate will have a 5-minute interview with the Board.*

OPEN DISCUSSION

Trustee Somerville brought back up the conversation regarding the traffic issues on 1st Street and Elberta Avenue. Multiple Board members offered possible solutions such as volunteers directing traffic, traffic cameras, and a large map placed at the Food Bank, directing semi-trucks to the designated truck route.

Mayor Pro-Tem Chase inquired about the Town's record keeping policy for variances and wanted to ensure there was access to that information to assist in maintaining the institutional knowledge that may possibly be lost without such a policy.

Trustee Maxwell proposed starting a new "Coffee with the Board" event once a month in the down-town Plaza to facilitate more transparency and open communication with citizens. Mayor Mikolai thought this was a great idea but was unsure they should move forward with it during COVID.

Trustee Carlson expressed how impressed he is with Utilities Director Matt Lemon and that he appreciates everything he and his crew do for the Town.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustees gave brief updates about the various committees and meetings they attended.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion #7 by Mayor Pro-Tem Chase, seconded by Trustee Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm.

A voice vote was requested.
Motion carried unanimously.


X



Greg Mikolai
Mayor



X



Keli L. Frasier
Town Clerk