



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PALISADE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
October 10, 2023**

A work session of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Palisade began at 6:00 pm to discuss the 2024 Town of Palisade Budget and the Xcel Energy Franchise Agreement. Present were Mayor Greg Mikolai, Trustees Thea Chase, Jamie Somerville, Bill Carlson, and Mayor Pro-Tem Ellen Turner. Absent were Trustees Stan Harbaugh and Nicole Maxwell. Also in attendance were Town Manager Janet Hawkinson, Town Attorney Jim Neu, and Fire Chief Charles Balke.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Palisade was called to order at 7:16 pm by Mayor Greg Mikolai with Trustees present: Thea Chase, Jamie Somerville, and Mayor Pro-Tem Ellen Turner. Absent were Trustees Stan Harbaugh, Bill Carlson, and Nicole Maxwell. A quorum was declared. Also in attendance were Town Manager Janet Hawkinson, Town Clerk Keli Frasier, Town Attorney Jim Neu, Parks, Recreation and Events Director Troy Ward, and Public Works Director David Gray.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

*Motion #1* by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Trustee Chase, to approve the agenda as presented.

A voice vote was requested.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Town Manager Hawkinson updated the Board on the various projects underway in the Town of Palisade.

Public Works Director David Gray reviewed the progress of various projects underway in the Public Works Department.

**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 – August 17, 2023 – September 7, 2023
- **Minutes**  
Minutes from the August 22, 2023, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
- **One Riverfront Appointment**
  - The Town of Palisade is required to ratify the selection of the One Riverfront Committee. Due to a member's resignation (Lou Patterson), the following

individual was selected by the One Riverfront Commission to serve the following term:

- David Combs - Term expiring 7/31/2026
- **TransColorado Gas Transmission Company Easement Agreement for \$72,000**

*Motion #2* by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Trustee Chase, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

A roll call vote was requested.

**Yes:** Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Chase, Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, Trustee Somerville

**No:**

**Absent:** Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Carlson

Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***Ordinance 2023-06: Xcel Energy Franchise Agreement (First Reading)***

Town Attorney Jim Neu reviewed the agreement details and funds to be paid to the Town per the contract.

*Motion #3* by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, seconded by Trustee Somerville, to approve Ordinance 2023-06 granting a gas and electric franchise within the Town of Palisade to Public Service Company of Colorado ("Xcel") and setting a public hearing date of October 24, 2023, for further consideration.

A roll call vote was requested.

**Yes:** Trustee Chase, Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, Trustee Somerville, Mayor Mikolai

**No:**

**Absent:** Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Carlson

Motion carried.

#### ***Ordinance 2023-07: Extension Moratorium on Subdivisions***

Town Attorney Neu reviewed the moratorium history and details and clarified that the moratorium may be ended sooner than June 30, 2024, if the Palisade Land Development Code update is completed before then.

*Motion #4* by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, to approve Ordinance 2023-07 extending the moratorium on Subdivisions to June 30, 2024.

A roll call vote was requested.

**Yes:** Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, Trustee Somerville, Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Chase

**No:**

**Absent:** Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Carlson

Motion carried.

#### ***Desert Rivers Collaborative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)***

Parks, Recreation & Events Director Troy Ward reviewed the staff report and clarified the Memorandum of Understanding.

*Motion #5* by Trustee Chase, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding to protect, restore, and maintain native river corridor habitat in Mesa & Delta counties through the development of community partnerships.

A roll call vote was requested.

**Yes:** Trustee Somerville, Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Chase, Mayor Pro-Tem Turner

**No:**

**Absent:** Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Carlson

Motion carried.

***Letter to Mesa County Commissioners regarding Mesa County PRO2023-0151 CUP Orchard Mesa Solar Conditional Use Permit***

Town Manager Hawkinson reviewed the history and direction the Board of Trustees gave at the October 10, 2023, work session. Town Manager Hawkinson also asked about the direction the Board would like her to take regarding the signatures of the missing Board members.

The consensus of the Board of Trustees is that it would be acceptable to have missing signatures on the letter.

*Motion #6* by Trustee Chase, seconded by Trustee Somerville, to approve directing the Mayor and Town Board to sign and send a letter to the Mesa County Planning Commission and Mesa County Board of Commissioners opposing the proposed Conditional Use Permit for a solar energy facility in unincorporated Mesa County, and supporting revisiting the prior CUP.

A roll call vote was requested.

**Yes:** Mayor Mikolai, Trustee Chase, Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, Trustee Somerville

**No:**

**Absent:** Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Carlson

Motion carried.

***Presentation of the DRAFT 2024 Town of Palisade Budget***

Town Manager Hawkinson and Finance Director Gregg Mueller presented the draft 2024 Town of Palisade Budget and reviewed the options for setting a public hearing to adopt the document.

*Motion #7* by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, to set the public hearing to adopt the 2024 Town of Palisade budget for November 14, 2023, and directed the Town Clerk to publish a notice of the Public Hearing in the newspaper.

A roll call vote was requested.

**Yes:** Trustee Chase, Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, Trustee Somerville, Mayor Mikolai

**No:**

**Absent:** Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Carlson

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None were offered.

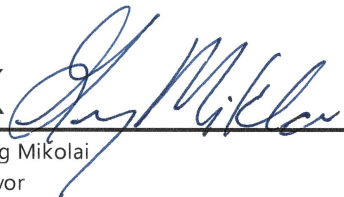
**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

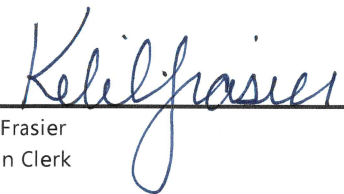
Trustee Sommerville reported on the most recent Palisade Chamber of Commerce Board meeting. Trustee Chase reported on the most recent One Riverfront meeting. Mayor Mikolai stated there hadn't been a recent GRVTC meeting, and Mayor Pro-Tem Turner stated the same for the Palisade Tourism Advisory Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion #8* by Trustee Somerville, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

A voice vote was requested.  
Motion carried unanimously.

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Mikolai  
Mayor

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keli Frasier  
Town Clerk

