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RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hugo, Colorado

April 11, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Town of Hugo, Colorado was called to order on April 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Bledsoe. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was recited in unison. The following Trustees answered roll call: Trustee Lundy, Trustee Mason, Trustee Laycock, Trustee Emmerling, Trustee Dobbs and Trustee Salvador. Mayor Bledsoe declared that there was a quorum of the Board present for the transaction of business.

Staff present at this meeting was Town Clerk Maria Nestor, Public Works Director Jeremy Forristall, Chief Marshal Robert Payne, and Attorney Stan Kimble.

Guests were Sherry Payne, Todd Messer, Dave Smith, Nyal Smith, Troy McCue, Pat White, Dan Grinnan, Renita Thelen, Jan Bandy, Lisa and Jim Thelen, Chris and Stephane Rosado, Leamon and Melanie Lane, Kevin Stansbury, Linda and Ben Orrell, Casey Fitzgerald-Smith, John LaBorde, Valinda Eberle, Mindy Witt and Will Bublitz with the Eastern Colorado Plainsman.

A motion was made by Trustee Mason and a second was made by Trustee Dobbs to amend the agenda to put the discussion and motion of a K9 Unit on the agenda. The motion was amended to put the discussion and motion of a K9 unit under old business of the current Board. **THE MOTION PASSED WITH TRUSTEES MASON, LAYCOCK, SALVADOR, AND DOBBS VOTING IN FAVOR AND TRUSTEES EMMERLING AND LUNDY VOTING AGAINST.**

A motion was made by Trustee Laycock and a second was made by Trustee Dobbs to amend the minutes from the March 10, 2022, adding that a Public Safety Committee meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2022, to discuss a K9 unit. **THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Trustee Salvador reported that the Administrative Committee met on April 4, 2022, and discussed and wrote a policy on the political activity of employees and household members of employees. Attorney Kimble had some comments on the policy. Also discussed was a dog park and a fitness center.

Trustee Laycock reported that the Public Safety Committee met on March 26, 2022. The committee welcomed the new reserve officer, Robert Harsch, they discussed community concerns about drug dealing happening in Hugo, they received an update on the body worn camera grant, discussed the administrative software for the dog licensing and traffic tickets that the administrative front office will use in partnership with the Marshals office, the committee briefly discussed a Community Resource Officer title, and had a presentation by Sgt. Hunter on a K9 unit and discussed the benefits and cost of the program. The Public Safety Committee recommends that the Board approve the Marshals office to pursue a K9 officer program on the requirement that the approximate \$30,000 in startup costs and training costs are fully funded with grants and fundraising and if achieved an 8-year contract be put in place for the trained K9 officer to remain in position. After discussion of the program and a motion and amendments to the motion, Trustee Mason made a motion and Trustee Dobbs made a second to approve the Marshals office to pursue a K9 office program on the requirement that the approximated \$30,000 in startup costs and training costs of the program are fully funded with grants and fundraising and if this is achieved a 4-year contract be put into place for the trained K9 officer to be in position and reviewed on an annual basis by the Board with the first rights to refuse the continuation of the contract. **THE MOTION PASSED WITH TRUSTEES MASON, LAYCOCK, SALVADOR AND DOBBS VOTING IN FAVOR AND TRUSTEES EMMERLING AND LUNDY VOTING AGAINST.**

Clerk Nestor told the Board that the 2022 regular election was held on April 5, 2022. 159 people came to the polling place to vote and six people voted by an absentee ballot. Elected trustees were James Emmerling, Todd Messer and Dave Dobbs who will serve 4-year terms and Sherry Payne who will serve a 2-year term. The ballot question passed with ninety-six votes in favor and sixty-four votes against.

Mayor Bledsoe presented Certificates of Appreciation to outgoing Board Trustees Gillian Laycock and Sharon Mason.

Gillian Laycock thanked everyone who ran for the Board in 2022.

This portion of the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Bledsoe.

April 11, 2022

Page 2

Mayor Bledsoe recited the Oath of Office with Todd Messer, Sherry Payne, Dave Dobbs, and James Emmerling and then called the meeting to order.

Kevin Stansbury with Lincoln Health gave an update on the new hospital, the 9Health Fair:365, told the Board the hospital had a new medical physician who also offers acupuncture and reported that as of April 7, 2022, Lincoln County had no reported active cases of Covid-19.

Pat White and Dan Grinnan representing Eastern Slope Rural Telephone gave a presentation on the company and the new fiber coming to Hugo and stated that the annual meeting will be June 14, 2022.

Casey Fitzgerald-Smith came before the Board asking for approval of a use by special review application for a sign he would like to place at the Hugo Inn. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second by Trustee Messer to approve the use by special review application. THE MOTION PASSED WITH TRUSTEES LUNDY, MESSER, PAYNE, DOBBS AND EMMERLING VOTING IN FAVOR AND TRUSTEE SALVADOR VOTING AGAINST.

Dave Smith came before the Board with a small subdivision application at 133 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Hugo, CO. A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Salvador to approve the subdivision application. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Troy McCue representing LCEDC reported that Lincoln County EDC is seeking to host an AmeriCorps VISTA for fundraising, he is enjoying the storefront progress along Main Street, he stated that the Sign Shop will be coming back with QR Code for the panel going into the sign at Hines Park and he reported that the annual LCEDC meeting is April 27, 2022.

As an unscheduled guest, Nyal Smith thanked the Town of Hugo clerk, staff, law enforcement, legal department, and new board members. He also thanked outgoing board members, Sharon Mason and Gillian Laycock, for their service to the Town while serving as a trustee for the Town of Hugo.

Before the approval of Resolution Number 304, Mr. Kimble explained the roll of appointed officials to the new Trustees. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second was made by Trustee Lundy to approve Resolution Number 304- A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MUNICIPAL OFFICERS FOR THE TOWN OF HUGO, COLORADO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Bledsoe discussed the proposed Hugo dog park. The proposed area would be at the Hines Park and located West of the playground and South of the basketball court. The project would be funded by grants with the towns match being covered by the labor from the public works department. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second by Trustee Salvador to move forward with the project. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A Motion was made by Trustee Salvador and a second was made by Trustee Payne to approve the policy on Political Activities. The policy will read: (1) No employee shall serve on the Town Board. If they desire to serve and are elected, they must resign his/her employment with the Town. Once the term of office has ended the employee may re-apply for town employment as vacancies occur. (2) No member living in the same household of an employee shall serve on the Town Board. If they desire to serve, and are elected, the employee must resign his/her employment with the Town. Once the term of office has ended the employee may re-apply for town employment as vacancies occur. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Bledsoe appointed members of the Boards to committees. The appointments are as follows:

Administrative  
Trustee Emmerling  
Trustee Lundy  
Trustee Payne

Public Works  
Trustee Salvador  
Trustee Messer  
Trustee Emmerling

Public Safety  
Trustee Dobbs  
Trustee Messer  
Trustee Salvador

April 11, 2022

Page 3

In Attorney Kimble's report he talked to the Board about executive sessions, what being a legislator vs being quasi-judicial is, and about the open meeting law. He also discourages trustees from emailing each other.

Clerk Nestor reported that the Town auditor has been here working on the 2021 audit and that the library is holding their Book Fair.

Public Works Director Forristall reported to the Board that he has begun the GWUDI testing, he would like his committee to start looking for grants to purchase equipment, and that at the next Board workshop scheduled for May 2, 2022, the Department of Wildlife would like to speak to the trustees about hunting on some specific town property.

Chief Payne also reported to the Board about the Department of Wildlife hunting on specific town property, and he would let the Department of Wildlife know when the meeting is and what time. He said his department had twenty-five traffic stops and sixty-nine calls to service last month. Mr. Harsch, the new reserve officer, has started working and he is already looking at fleet for vehicles in both the Public Safety Department and Public Works Department.

Trustee Emmerling stated that at the last Administrative Committee Meeting a person in the audience who spoke made unappropriated remarks directed toward Jeremy Forristall and Trustee Emmerling apologized to Jeremy Forristall and asked the committee to keep an eye out for unappropriated remarks.

Trustee Dobbs asked about semi parking on the highway where people can not see around them when trying to turn, and this was a hazard. Chief Payne said that when people see this, they should call the Marshals office or County and report it.

Mayor Bledsoe said she appreciated the support for the dog park proposal and is excited to see people attend the meetings.

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

A motion was made by Trustee Salvador and a second was made by Trustee Lundy to pay the list of bills presented to the Board and to pay any additional bills not on the list upon approval of the Treasurer and Mayor. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board will be Monday, May 9, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.

A Board Workshop will be Monday, May 2, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second by Trustee Lundy to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Lora Bledsoe, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Maria Nestor, Town Clerk

