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RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hugo, Colorado

March 11, 2024, 7:00 PM

Town Board Room

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Town of Hugo, Colorado was called to order on March 11, 2024, 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 Emmerling, Trustee Dobbs, Trustee Salvador, Trustee Payne, Trustee Messer and Trustee Lundy. Mayor Bledsoe declared that there was a quorum of the Board present for the transaction of business.

Staff present at this meeting were Public Works Director Forristall, Chief Marshal Payne and Clerk/Administrator Lancaster.

Guests present were Chris Rosado Sr., Sam Emmerling, Kara Emmerling, Zach Schoenfield, Renita Thelen, Kevin Stansbury, Amber Smelker, John Mohan, George Ehlers, Juliet Lundy and McKee Overkill.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

Clerk Administrator Sara Lancaster reported on the March 4 workshop discussing the Housing Authority Insurance and Colorado Cobras contract revisions. She attended the March 6 Library Board meeting. Colo Trust has earned $20,774.41 in interest since the accounts were opened. Everything is in order for the election which will be April 2. Past due water bills are being collected. RFP’s for the Main Street Live Grant are being worked on. A .gov domain has been applied for. SIPA will have a micro grant available in May to switch to Google Workspace. Summer baseball coaches and umpires are being looked for. The 2023 audit will be April 11 and 12.

Chief Marshal Payne reported that Municipal Court Judge King’s appointment will be up in April. He will renew for two years. Adam Ausmus, the new Town Attorney, along with the new records management system helped the court run well. It was a light docket. James Emmerling sat in as an observer for court. There were 423 total calls for the month, 156 traffic stops and 38 case reports for the year. Expect a busy year.

Public Works Director Forristall reported that his department Is collecting all trash in one day. Tim will begin his three-week CDL class in two weeks. Jeremy continues to work with FEMA regarding documents for funding damage due to 2023 spring and summer flooding. Trees in the cemetery are being trimmed. Thank you to Carlos for fixing the dumpster wheel.

**GUEST REPORTS:**

Kevin Stansbury representing Lincoln Health presented the monthly newsletter for March. Included in the newsletter is the national benchmarks vs. Lincoln Health benchmarks. March is Colorectal Cancer Month.

Dannah Koeniger with GMS gave an update on the current projects and preliminary reports which included:

1. Approval of A-242 Water System Invoice No. 1. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second was made by Trustee Salvador to approve the A-242 Water System Invoice No. 1. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
2. Approval of 9733 Emergency Sewer Bypass Change Order #1. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second was made by Trustee Payne to approve the 9733 Emergency Sewer Bypass Change Order #1. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. Approval of 9733 Wastewater Collection System Invoice # TOWN HUGO24-001. A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Payne to approve the 9733 Wastewater Collection System Invoice # TOWN HUGO24-001. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. Resolution 2024-08: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF HUGO, COLORADO SEWER ENTERPRISE APPROVING PRE-CLOSING EXPENDITURES. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second was made by Trustee Salvador to approve Resolution 2024-08. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Amber Smelker with Eastern Colorado Bank brought updated signature cards for the CD accounts after adding Sara Lancaster.

Troy McCue representing LCEDC presented the monthly report. Highlights of the report were Grow Google classes, solar farms and possible new gas stations in Limon.

**MAYOR AND TRUSTEE REPORTS**:

Mayor Bledsoe stated that February has been a busy and happy month. Sara started on the 14th. Most of the month was spent prepping for her arrival and transferring responsibilities back to that position. Meetings were set up with the various groups we interface with to meet with Sara. She is glad to make this progress.

Trustee Dobbs reported that he will get with Sheri Gaskins to approach local banks for monies for the Hedlund House. Sheri is applying for grants for the Hedlund house. The museum is our infrastructure. We have an enthusiastic group running it now. We do not want to lose the momentum we currently have.

Trustee Emmerling reported that he is glad we are getting the insurance with the Housing Authority resolved. Thank you to Sara.

Trustee Salvador lost her notebook and is working on recreating the January 11 minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Renita Thelen spoke about the Meet the Candidates night. All ten candidates were there. It went well. 80 people showed up. This is the most in attendance in the four times it has been done. Thank you for the use of the Depot. The bathroom at the depot needs some attention.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Trustee Lundy and a second was made by Trustee Payne to remove the January 11, 2024, minutes from the consent agenda. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Dobbs to approve the Town Board Meeting minutes from February 12, 2024, with the correction of the name “Sam” should be “Sean”. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

RESOLUTION 2024-06: A resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Hugo, Colorado approving a lease agreement with the Colorado Cobras. A motion was made by Trustee Lundy and a second was made by Trustee Dobbs to approve RESOLUTION 2024-06 with the correction to be listed as additionally insured on sections 8 a. and b. Trustee Emmerling, Trustee Dobbs. Trustee Messer and Trustee Lundy voted in favor. Trustee Salvador and Trustee Payne voted opposed. THE MOTION PASSED.

The Eastern Slope Rural Telephone fencing has been completely removed. This is now closed.

Public Works Director Forristall reported that we are waiting for the engineer to come and evaluate the pool. The check is ready and just needs to be signed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Clerk Administrator Sara Lancaster presented all of the bills that had been paid year to date. There was much discussion on how and when bills are paid. More on this will be presented at the April 1 workshop. Verification needs to be made that Rob’s Septic was not overpaid. A motion was made by Trustee Dobbs and a second was made by Trustee Lundy to approve the bills. Trustee Emmerling abstained. Trustee Dobbs, Trustee Salvador, Trustee Payne, Trustee Messer and Trustee Lundy voted in favor. THE MOTION PASSED.

Clerk Administrator Sara Lancaster reported that we are waiting for an MOU from our Attorney between the Hugo Housing Authority and Town of Hugo that will include Housing paying their portion of the insurance to the Town. Housing is currently under the Town’s CIRSA insurance. It would be expensive and difficult for Housing to get their own insurance.

FEMA has not provided the contract for flood damage last year. Contract review and Resolution 2024-09 will have to wait until that is received.

A Special Board Meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

A Board Workshop is scheduled for March 1, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.

The next scheduled regular Board Meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

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

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 Lora Bledsoe, Mayor

 ATTEST:

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Sara Lancaster, Town Clerk/Administrator