

**MINUTES
CARBONDALE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WORK SESSION
AUGUST 15, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Richardson called the Board of Trustees Work Session to order on August 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room.

The following members were present:

Mayor	Dan Richardson
Trustees	Ben Bohmfalk
	Marty Silverstein
	Erica Sparhawk
	Frosty Merriott

Guest	Luis Yllanes
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Absent Trustee	Heather Henry
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Staff Present: Town Manager	Jay Harrington
Town Clerk	Cathy Derby
Finance Director	Renae Gustine

2018 BUDGET – INITIAL REVENUE PROJECTIONS AND BOARD PRIORITIES

Renae and Jay gave an overview of initial revenue projections. Key points included:

- Sales tax year to date is up 3.5% over last year.
- Medical insurance premiums are up 13.5% for 2018 which equates to a \$150,000 increase.
- The estimate for the State FMLD 2018 contribution will be provided in September.
- Staff's goal is to maintain the same service levels. Jay does not anticipate cutting back on staff.
- The Town would hire a police officer if it is awarded the grant it applied for.
- The police department has a sizeable training budget – staff would like to provide Spanish training for officers.

Discussion ensued on the Board's priorities. Key points included:

- Trustee Bohmfalk would like to continue to invest in safe routes (lighting, etc). He would like to revisit the safe routes map each year and fill in the gaps. Trustee Bohmfalk would also like staff to continue to update the Safe Routes Map in GIS format.
- The Board asked about streetscape projects. Jay informed the Board that a new sidewalk will be constructed across from Beer Works on 6th Street. Also, the storm water system will continue to be improved.
- Jay cautioned the Board that every budget year the need for circulator bus extension of routes is requested but the Town does not have the money to fund it.
- Mayor Richardson asked the Board if they want to continue membership in both CORE and GCE. He stated that he feels that there is redundancy - while CORE focuses on Pitkin County, GCE focuses on Garfield County

Trustee Sparhawk, who works for GCE, recused herself and temporarily left the meeting.

- Mayor Richardson continued, both CORE and GCE receive \$25,000 in membership fees from the Town, and GCE received an additional \$50,000 for Carbondale projects. Mayor Richardson suggested that the Town leave the CORE Board. He recommended contributing \$15,000 to CORE so the Carbondale community will still have access to rebates.

Trustee Sparhawk returned to the meeting.

- Jay noted that the Forest Service is going to start charging the Town to lease land that the Nettle Creek wells sit on. He anticipates that the rent will be \$9,000 per year.
- The Board would like to update park equipment and make the playgrounds ADA accessible. Jay told the Board that the Town applied for a FMLD grant, which if successful, would be used to upgrade park bathroom fixtures and add an ADA playground feature.
- Jay noted that two irrigation pumps need to be re-built.
- Mayor Richardson stated that he would like to budget for consulting fees for broadband.
- Trustee Bohmfalk asked if the Town can budget money for translation services, and possibly offer scholarships (\$5,000 total) to Latinos to learn English. Jay recommended putting the scholarship money in Recreation because they do the most outreach.
- The Board agreed they would like to put \$50,000 in the Housing budget for the Regional Affordable Housing Authority. They want to keep Affordable Housing on the top of the priority list and they want staff to clarify the description of "Housing Fund."
- The Board discussed the Streetscape 1.5 mill which is due to sunset in 2020. The Board agreed that we should have an election prior to the expiration of the mill levy. The Board asked Jay and Kevin to compile a list of what projects we

have accomplished and what we want to accomplish. We need a clear list of priorities to bring to the voters.

- Mayor Richardson asked the Board if they would be interested in setting up a foundation "package" where people would be given a list of Town projects they could donate to (i.e. housing, new pool, etc.) The Board agreed to budget \$2,000 for due diligence to see if this is legal.
- Trustee Bohmfalk stated that he would like the website platform updated. Jay stated that intern Angie Sprang is refreshing every web page to make it current and consistent.

CARBONDALE TO CRESTED BUTTE TRAIL – IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE DISCUSSION

John Groves, who is employed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife, attended the meeting as a Carbondale citizen. John explained that Parks and Wildlife has not yet offered an opinion on the alignment.

Jay explained that the major question is going to be the alignment of the trail – should it be on the east or the west side of Highway 133. Jay continued, although the trail is outside our boundaries the Trustees will be asked to take a position. He noted that a portion of the trail may be close to the Town's water infrastructure (Nettle Creek).

Trustee Merriott stated he will be against the trail unless it is placed on the west side of the highway because the east side will cause too much stress on the wildlife.

The Board asked John Groves what is his preference for the alignment. He stated he personally would like to see it on the east side.

The majority of the Board agreed:

- They value a safe route to connect Carbondale to Crested Butte.
- They are interested in hearing what the economic and trail impacts will be.
- They are only willing to accept impacts to wildlife if it is a deal breaker

ADJOURNMENT

The August 15, 2017 work session adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on August 22, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED



Dan Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Cathy Derby, Town Clerk