

**MINUTES
CARBONDALE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM**

Mayor Dan Richardson called the Board of Trustees virtual Regular Meeting to order on February 23, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY HERO AWARD

Trustee Silverstein presented the City Market Pharmacy Staff with the Community Hero Award. The pharmacy has been open during the pandemic assisting people with vaccinations, prescriptions, etc.

ROLL CALL:

The following members were present for roll call:

Mayor	Dan Richardson
Trustees	Marty Silverstein
	Lani Kitching
	Luis Yllanes
	Ben Bohmfalk

Arrived After Roll	Heather Henry
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Absent	Erica Sparhawk
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Staff Present:

Town Manager	Jay Harrington
Town Clerk	Cathy Derby
Finance Director	Renae Gustine
Town Attorney	Mark Hamilton
Parks and Recreation Director	Eric Brendlinger

CONSENT AGENDA

- Accounts Payable totaling \$416,483.66
- BOT 2-9-2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Recommendation for Reappointment – Historic Preservation Commission
- Liquor License Renewal – Homestead Bar & Grill

- Retail Marijuana Manufactured Infused Products Renewal Application Sopris Verde
- Resolution No. 4, Series of 2021 – FMLD Grant for New Police Car
- Lassiter Electric Contract – Phase 3 of Gateway RV Park Electric Project

Trustee Henry arrived at the meeting.

Trustee Silverstein made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Kitching seconded the motion and it passed with:

6 yes votes: Richardson, Henry, Yllanes, Silverstein, Kitching, Bohmfalk

PERSONS PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA

There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Yllanes stated that he attended the February Parks & Recreation Commission meeting. They discussed the Aspen Valley Land Trust GOCO Grant for the Crystal River Restoration project, the Weed Management Plan, and the Aquatic Master Plan next steps.

Trustee Kitching told the Board that she attended the Ruedi Water and Power Authority Board meeting. They discussed the successful Aquatics Nuisance Program. The State will be taking over the program this year. They also discussed re-orienting the flows of the upper Frying Pan River. Trustee Kitching also attended the Senior Matters Focus Group meetings. They are recalibrating the organization and they hope to broaden their reach to the Hispanic population.

Trustee Bohmfalk commented that maybe the Town can use some of the tobacco tax revenue to finance the new pool.

Mayor Richardson thanked Niki Delson, Ryn Calhoon and Nicolette Toussaint (the Vaccine Whisperers) for their assistance in helping seniors get COVID-19 vaccines. Mayor Richardson said he attended the RFTA Board meeting. They received an update on COVID including the impacts on staff have subsided, and they created a Passenger Suspension Code of Conduct. Bus riders are suspended if they don't adhere to RFTA's COVID policy. They also discussed staff's work in trying to eliminate RFTA Right-of-Way encroachments. Also, RFTA has been asked, and agreed, to contribute funding to the new Brush Creek Roundabout. The Board also did CEO Dan Blankenship's evaluation. The Mayor stated that Dan has had an incredible impact on RFTA's success.

ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS

Mark informed the Board that Kroeger has withdrawn their lawsuit against the Town regarding exempting certain liquor classes distance to schools. Mark stated that they dropped the suit because they want to maintain a good relationship with the Town.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD – 2021 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The Trustees met with the Environmental Board (Eboard) to discuss the EBoard's recommendations on how to implement the Climate Action Plan (CAP).

EBoard Chair Colin Quinn presented the EBoards recommendations which include:

1. Reduce emissions in public sector facilities.
2. Include a qualified EBoard representative in Code updates – consider eliminating natural gas for new construction and include EV chargers in all new developments.
3. Have CLEER maintain a spread sheet tracking all activities the Town is doing to reduce emissions.
4. Update the Comprehensive Plan with broad public engagement and align it with the Climate Action Plan.

Colin listed the following broader questions:

1. Who is responsible for implementing the CAP? Or broader sustainability efforts?
2. Explore financing mechanisms for vital more expensive items. This may include municipal bonds, grants, or climate tax.
3. Make the CAP a living document with updated target.

Discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- The EBoard functions as a branch of the BOT
- EBoard Communication to other entities should go through the BOT so there is efficient communication protocol

Recommendation #1

- CLEER can give the Board a rundown on Town facilities, contact the largest (facilities) energy users and facilitate a conversation on net zero goals
- A major goal is to ween everyone off natural gas

Jay noted that two years ago an energy consultant looked at Town Hall's energy consumption and made recommendations that would take the building towards net zero. It would cost a significant amount of money, so the Town applied for a State grant which was denied. Jay stated that the technology just isn't there yet. We need to wait for new technology. Once electrical roof top units are on the market, we can retrofit the HVAC system.

Recommendation #2

- The Board agreed that a qualified EBoard representative should be included in Code update discussions
- Building electrification is a priority
- Create a 5-year and 10-year plan to move towards net zero - we can't eliminate natural gas usage immediately

Recommendation #3

- CLEER and EBoard are working on a spreadsheet – link it to the CAP

Recommendation #4

- The Town has solicited Requests for Proposals to update the Comprehensive Plan and will align it with the CAP
- The biggest impacts on emission reduction is all around land use – the idea is to bring people closer to services to reduce the need for car trips

Colin asked the following questions:

Who is responsible for implementing the CAP?

- It's the Board's responsibility to communicate with CLEER and empower the EBoard for input

What should the transportation focus be?

- RFTA has hired a consultant to explore first and last mile solutions
- RFTA is looking at constructing a bus stop at City Market
- Move forward with electric vehicles – Town staff should look at fleet and equipment needs prior to budget discussions
- Transportation should be approached and tackled regionally

INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Eric explained that the Integrated Weed Management Plan provides guidelines for effective land management for healthy soil. The Board of Trustees is required to approve the Plan on an annual basis. Eric noted it is important that the plan be transparent.

The Plan states that in keeping with the Town's philosophy, the noxious weed management method selected should be the least environmentally damaging, yet practical and reasonable in achieving the desired results. The use of herbicides shall be minimized. However, for some species of noxious weeds, herbicide application is the most efficient and effective method of control.

Town staff will consult with a Natural Land Management Specialist to determine the most beneficial and effective non-chemical management techniques and compare them to the recommendations of other land managers that have experience with chemical use.

Gwen Garcelon, who was instrumental in forming the Weed Task Force, stated that the goal of the Plan is to see what's possible, and draw on others' success.

Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Hollis Sutherland stated that the Plan is very thorough, and it provides a lot of possibilities. It is a model that other towns can use. It includes many solutions that don't involve chemicals.

Trustee Kitching asked is the new steam weeder is working. Eric answered that it functions well on certain weeds, but it needs to be re-applied every 2-3 weeks.

The Board agreed that the Plan is very thorough and well written.

Trustee Silverstein made a motion to approve the Town of Carbondale 2021 Integrated Weed Management Plan. Trustee Bohmfalk seconded the motion and it passed with:

6 yes votes: Bohmfalk, Kitching, Richardson, Henry, Silverstein, Yllanes

MAIN STREET CLOSURE REQUEST FOR MOUNTAIN FAIR

Eric stated that this year Mountain Fair will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. Last year Mountain Fair had to change its usual Sopris Park layout and expand to other venues due to COVID-19. Since we don't know what the public health order will be in July Carbondale Arts is requesting that Main Street be closed from Weant Blvd. to 4th Street during Mountain Fair (July 23-25) in order to socially distance.

Amy Kimberly was asked if Carbondale Arts has the downtown businesses' support. She replied yes, all of the businesses she has spoken to are supportive.

Trustee Bohmfalk stated that it appears that Mountain Fair has outgrown Sopris Park and it is a Town festival.

Trustee Silverstein made a motion to close Main Street from Weant Blvd to 4th Street on July 23-25 for Mountain Fair. Trustee Henry seconded the motion and it passed with:

6 yes votes: Kitching, Bohmfalk, Henry, Silverstein, Yllanes, Richardson

ADJOURNMENT

The February 23, 2021 regular meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held virtually on March 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED


Dan Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Cathy Derby, Town Clerk

