MINUTES
CARBONDALE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 15, 2019

Mayor Dan Richardson called the Work Session to order on October 15, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room.

ROLL CALL:

The following members were present for roll call:

Mayor
Dan Richardson

Trustees
Lani Kitching
Erica Sparhawk
Ben Bohmfalk
Heather Henry
Marty Silverstein

Absent
Luis Yllanes

Staff Present:

Town Manager
Jay Harrington

Boards & Commissions Clerk
Kae McDonald

Finance Director
Renae Gustine

Public Works Director
Kevin Schorzman

Utilities Director
Mark O’Meara

Parks and Recreation Director
Eric Brendlinger

Police Chief
Gene Schilling

Police Lieutenant
Chris Wurtsmith

Police Executive Assistant
Anna Ramirez

AMENDMENTS TO NOISE ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Mayor Richardson explained that at a previous meeting a few citizens came before the Board requesting they consider making changes to the noise ordinance due to a neighbor who was constantly playing music all day in the summer; the Board agreed to review the ordinance.

Gene stated that the Town’s noise ordinance is one of the strictest in the Roaring Fork Valley. Last year the Town received 112 noise complaints and most were due to music and construction. Jay noted that when there is a disturbance of the peace call usually there is an underlying neighborhood issue (neighbors not getting along).
Mayor Richardson stated that the Board needs to decide if the decibel levels are appropriate and does the language for disturbing the peace need to be strengthened. Mayor Richardson opened the meeting to public discussion.

Laurie Loeb, Garfield Avenue, said that years ago a decibel level of 85 was considered healthy. Newer data recommends not going above 60-70 decibels. She stated that the Town’s decibel level is too high. She lived comfortably in her neighborhood until ten years ago and then there was a proliferation of special events and bars. The music from the Black Nugget is an on-going problem. Noise is a matter of community annoyance that causes sleep disruption.

In the ordinance the disturbing the peace section does not address specific decibel levels. Consistent noise below the decibel level can still be a community annoyance.

Mayor Richardson asked Gene if the ordinance gives the police enough flexibility; he responded yes it does.

Becky Young stated that their neighbor was playing music 12 hours a day seven days a week at the 60 decibel level and it made her a nervous wreck. 60 decibels is way too high when music is being played constantly. Her neighbor was using music as a weapon.

Jay noted that a lot of our noise complaints are well within the decibel range but they are annoying noises (i.e. heavy bass).

Greg Forbes, Garfield Ave., stated that the duration of the music was more of a problem that the decibel level. He asked if there is any way to address the duration of noise from the decibel levels.

Tom Burkew, Main Street, stated that special events are what brought us to Carbondale; they are temporary. His neighbor was a different matter, the music was accompanied by rants of a violent nature. It was scary, disturbing behavior.

Gene believes the current ordinance is sufficient and that the disturbing the peace section may have been misinterpreted.

The Board agreed that the noise ordinance does not need to be changed at this time.

**BUDGET REVIEW**

**POLICE**

Gene highlighted the items in the 2020 Police Budget. Key items discussed included:
• Purchase a new hybrid police car for the next police chief
• Would like to add a new staff position in the future
• Budgeted for training for all police staff – some training is reimbursed through grants and the VALE fund
• The radio budget has increased by $9,000
• Management would like to hire a new police chief by June 1st so they can spend a month with Chris Wurtzsmith and three month with Chief Schilling
• Sick and vacation pay-outs have been budgeted for Chris and Gene who are retiring
• They did not budget for additional staff

PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES

Kevin presented the Public Works and Utilities Budgets. Key points included:

• The motor pool budget includes: fuel, mechanics tools, new backhoe
• The Streets budget includes: a new full time position for vegetation management, half of the cost for a steam weed machine, half of the cost for a stump grinding machine, concrete street maintenance and a foundation for a sand storage building
• The wastewater budget includes: a new clarifier, storm water improvements, new sewer main on Colorado Avenue
• The water budget includes: Roaring Fork Treatment Plant expansion, pump back system on the Nettle Creek line, preliminary work on developing the fourth Roaring Fork well, ditch maintenance and Nettle Creek Hydroelectric Plant construction
• The trash budget is $86,847

RECREATION

Eric gave an overview of the Recreation Budget

• They are still using the 2015 Master Plan as a guide
• The major goal is to maintain the amenities we have
• They continue to apply for grants (playground equipment, etc.)
• Staff is working with consultants to produce an Aquatics Center Master Plan – a new pool would reduce operating costs
• They have budgeted for Gateway RV Park Improvements
• Park trash cans will be replaced with bear proof trash cans
• Maintenance will be performed on: Red Hill trails, Sopris Park Gazebo, North Face irrigation, ball park dug out improvements, new bike racks
• The Recreation Center is focusing on increasing marketing, scrutinizing programs and making necessary changes according to cost recovery, monitor energy usage, HVAC upgrade, retrofit one of the patio doors for ADA accessibility
For integrated weed management they are purchasing a steam machine – the non-traditional parks are the most challenging

- The pool is scheduled for on-going maintenance – re-paint the building, purchase lounge chairs, purchase a replacement cover for winter closure

- Recreation Programming – they continue to produce two sheets of ice for public use, continue to provide special events, and they continue to be involved with Garfield County Healthy Community Coalition

ADJOURNMENT

The October 15, 2019, work session adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on October 22, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED

[Signature]
Dan Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Cathy Derby, Town Clerk

TOWN OF CARBONDALE
COLORADO
SEAL