

**TOWN OF NEDERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:
December 18, 2012, 7:00PM**

**NEDERLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
750 Hwy 72 Nederland, CO 80466**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 7:07 PM, due to inclement weather.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Mueller, Trustees Randy Lee, Ledge Long, Annette Croughwell, and Peter Fiori.

Absent: Mayor Joe Gierlach and Trustee Chris Perret

Also present: Alisha Reis, Town Administrator, Teresa Myers, Town Clerk, Eva Forberger, Town Treasurer, and Jason Morrison, Public Works Manager.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of December 18, 2012 Accounts Payable, Schedules A & B
- Approval of December 4, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Resolution 2012-38 Re-formation of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Development
- Approval of Town Facilities Leases

The Mayor Pro Tem asked that section 1B in Resolution 2012-38 be amended to include reference to groups that promote sustainable economies, and that the recruitment section be changed to include an emphasis on individual applicants who understand or are willing to

learn about sustainable economic practices. Trustee Fiori thanked Trustee Lee for volunteering to chair the task force.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda including Accounts Payable, Schedule A, Resolution 2012-38 with the amendments suggested by the Mayor Pro Tem, and the Town Facilities Leases was made by Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Croughwell, and approved unanimously.

Motion to approve the December 4, 2012 Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Croughwell, and approved unanimously, with Trustee Fiori abstaining due to his absence at the previous meeting.

Motion to approve Accounts Payable, Schedule B was made by Trustee Croughwell, seconded by Trustee Fiori, and approved unanimously, with Trustee Lee abstaining due to a conflict.

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Alisha Reis, Town Administrator

Reis spoke briefly about the accomplishments of the past year, and notified the Board that the Town has won a Source Water Protection Planning grant from the State Department of Public Health and Environment.

2. Teresa Myers, Town Clerk

Myers informed the Board of some changes made to the NedWEB program, based on suggestions and requests from business owners at the Chamber of Commerce lunch. She also reported to the Board that CIRSA had conducted its annual Facilities and Safety Survey and the Town received its best report on record. Finally, she shared with the Board her experiences giving a civics presentation to the Nederland Elementary School 2nd grade classes. Reis added some information about how internet sales tax is a major concern for Colorado municipalities. Trustee Croughwell asked about a Citizens' Academy, a civics course for adult residents. Myers said that she and Reis could look into it.

3. Eva Forberger, Town Treasurer

Forberger updated the Board on the sales tax situation, and noted that she forecasts a 5-6% increase for this year over last year. She also talked about changes her department will be making to capture more fees and sales tax.

4. Jake Adler, Town Marshal

Chief Adler was not present.

5. Jason Morrison, Public Works Manager

Morrison noted that 3 more Public Works employees have obtained their CDLs, bringing the total to 4, along with 4 licensed water plant operators.

6. Dawn Baumhover, Community Center Coordinator

Baumhover noted the improvements at the Community Center this year, including better equipment and equipment maintenance, planning for extended hours, the addition of the Clothes Closet and Food Pantry, and the success of the 9HealthFair.

E. BOARD OF TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Mayor Joe Gierlach

The Mayor was absent, but included a written report in the packet.

2. Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Mueller

Mayor Pro Tem Mueller informed the Board that the Planning Commission met and discussed the Parks and Rec Master Plan.

3. Trustee Ledge Long

Trustee Long informed the Board that the CCFB is working to schedule a Site Plan Subcommittee meeting.

4. Trustee Randy Lee

Trustee Lee had a written report in the packet, but added that he and Reis met with the USFS and Boulder County to discuss emergency preparedness, particularly a second egress from Big Springs, and were offered considerable assistance and support.

5. Trustee Peter Fiori

Trustee Fiori reported that the Sustainability Advisory Board has done a small amount of work on the Parks and Rec Master Plan, is working on a USDA grant, and would meet this month on the upcoming Thursday.

6. Trustee Chris Perret

Trustee Perret was absent.

7. Trustee Annette Croughwell

Trustee Croughwell reported that the NedPeds project was moving through the Nederland Planning Process and that the DDA was working with PROSAB on the Parks and Rec Master Plan.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Speakers limited to 3 minutes)

There was no public comment.

G. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. BOT Goals Update

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration of Resolution 2012-39, adopting the 2012 Supplemental Budget.

Forberger introduced the item and provided the background on the Resolution.

Ron Mitchell, chair of the DDA, asked that the budget be handled differently to account for and anticipate contingency expenses in the DDA. Forberger noted that the 2013 DDA budget did try to capture more of those expenses.

Motion to approve Resolution 2012-39, adopting the 2012 Supplemental Budget, was made by Trustee Croughwell, seconded by Trustee Fiori, and approved unanimously.

2. Consideration of Change Orders for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Forberger and Reis introduced the two items and explained the details and background of each.

- a. Engineering

Trustee Fiori expressed some concern about the value of this change order, given the expense. The Mayor Pro Tem explained some of the reasoning for the change order and the considerations in requesting the change order.

Motion to approve the Change Order for Engineering of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was made by Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Croughwell, and approved by a vote of 4-1, with Trustee Fiori voting no.

- b. Construction

Motion to approve the Change Order for Construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was made by Trustee Croughwell, seconded by Trustee Lee, and approved unanimously.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion of R.I.N.K. water billing issue.

Forberger and Reis introduced the item, explained the background, and offered various scenarios for the Board's consideration.

Alan Brewer, of the R.I.N.K. Board of Directors, reminded the Board of R.I.N.K.'s growth and of the community support for the activities offered. He also detailed the commitments of the volunteers who make the park possible. Trustee Fiori asked if R.I.N.K. tracked usage by in-town residents vs. out-of-town residents, and Brewer explained that it tracked usage by Greater Nederland vs. beyond.

Darren Davenport, of the R.I.N.K. Board of Directors, asked the Board to support R.I.N.K. much in the way it does other non-profits. He pointed out that the rink draws in visitors from other locales, who spend money in town. Trustee Croughwell asked how fees compare between Nederland's park and other ice parks. Davenport replied that the rink daily fees are a few dollars lower than other, similar parks. Trustees Croughwell and Fiori asked about sliding scale fee possibilities. Brewer explained the R.I.N.K. board's reluctance to create a fee scale that seemed to penalize out-of-town users, noting that the volunteers were almost evenly divided between in-town and Greater Nederland residents.

Trustee Long explained that he was basically in favor of supporting R.I.N.K., but would like to see a fee structure that recognized the difference between in-town and out-of-town rink users.

Trustee Lee noted that he felt that the sewage fees should be dropped because the rink water was not going down the sewer. He also felt that having other in-town water accounts subsidize the rinks' water usage – which he estimated at an extra \$1.25 per year per water account – was not an unreasonable burden.

Trustee Croughwell echoed the sentiment that the town needs a Parks and Recreation District, and noted her support for the rink and its users. Having said that, she also felt that the local non-profits need to attempt to be more self-sustaining and that she would like to see the town help it achieve that goal, but not to waive all the fees. She did, however, favor waiving the sewage fee.

Trustee Fiori supported subsidizing R.I.N.K., but urged them to consider a tiered-fee system that was more in line with other rinks' fees. He further noted that the in-kind donation to Frozen Dead Guy Days mentioned by the applicants is an investment in the town, rather than a straight donation. He said that he would support waiver of the sewage fees, but that he would also want to create a ceiling on how much water the town would donate to the rink.

The Mayor Pro Tem noted that he would like to see a meter on the hydrant and a second meter in the restrooms. He noted that in order to grant R.I.N.K.'s request, someone or some entity would need to absorb the cost of the water. He also asked of Brewer what water conservation efforts have been employed and whether the use of non-potable water sources could be considered. Brewer responded that the rink has gone to considerable lengths to fix leaks at the rink and that the only potable water usage is in the restrooms. The Mayor Pro Tem also asked if the rink had investigated the possibility of implementing a shade structure to cut down on ice and water evaporation due to the sun. Brewer acknowledged that problem and that the R.I.N.K. Board had identified that a shade would also improve the quality and safety of ice.

Trustee Croughwell suggested that the town subsidize R.I.N.K. in the short term, and that R.I.N.K. develop a longer-term plan that may include raising fees in order to be sustainable in the longer term.

Reis explained that the current arrangement for utilities payment was set by the town's agreement with R.I.N.K., and so changes to the agreement might best be included as an addendum to the agreement attached to a resolution. The Board agreed.

Direction to staff was to bring back an amendment to the R.I.N.K. agreement with various options to address this concern, for the Board's consideration at their next meeting. .

The Mayor Pro Tem called a short recess. The meeting re-convened at 9:25PM.

2. Discussion of proposed mycelium project.

Reis, on behalf of Mayor Gierlach, introduced the item and explained the background of the project. She talked about the intent of the program and how the project was proposed by the Mayor to be staffed and funded.

Trustee Long said that he supports the concept of the project, but is somewhat concerned about taking on another project at this point, given the Town's other, competing priorities. He also agreed that the Board should continue considering grant applications as a whole board and not allow individual members to proceed without full Board approval. He supported the idea of a pilot project, with a long-term goal of having a non-profit take it over.

Trustee Lee shared that he was very uncomfortable with the way the grant came before the Board at such a late step in the proposal process. He felt that the Board should have more oversight of such grants. He also had some concerns about placing any additional demands on staff. He characterized the project as a valuable and exciting science project that should be run by a non-profit, preferably a science professional, and not the Town or its staff.

Trustee Croughwell stated that she felt that the Town doesn't have any business running the project and that it should be funded by grants and staffed by educated and trained volunteers. She would be fine with launching the pilot project, with a longer view to creating a non-profit to manage and run the project on permanent basis. She further felt that the Board should have greater oversight over the grant process earlier on.

Trustee Fiori supported the project and took issue with Trustee Lee's characterization of it as a science experiment. He did feel that the Board should have greater review of such grants, but said that he would support the project based on its sustainability focus.

Mayor Pro Tem Mueller supported the project, noting its sustainability goals and the chance for the town to capture some great experience and information and position itself as a leader in the sustainability field through this endeavor.

The Board directed staff to proceed with the current grant application and to ensure that all future grant applications be placed before the Board for approval prior to application.

J. OTHER BUSINESS


Motion to extend the meeting to 10:30 was made by Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Fiori, and approved unanimously.

Trustee Fiori asked the Board for support in signing on to a grant proposal to the USDA to hire a sustainability coordinator that Nederland would share with Lyons, Allenspark, and Jamestown, to evaluate and provide technical assistance to explore recycling and non-food compost options. After a very brief discussion, the Board agreed.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Fiori, seconded by Trustee Croughwell, and approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11PM.

Approved by the Board of Trustees.


Kevin Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:


Teresa Myers, Town Clerk

