

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 8, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held both in person and via virtual meeting portal Zoom Meeting, pursuant to the Town's Electronic Participation Policy.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. The Council was present in its entirety with Councilors Grambley, Kroger, Lakin, Schuyler, Scoville, Mayor Pro Tem Meyer and Mayor Clark in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 10, 2024.
2. Register of Demands for May 2024.
3. Renew liquor store license for Ridgway Liquors.
4. Renew brew pub liquor license for The Colorado Boy Pub & Brewery.

ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Meyer, seconded by Councilor Schuyler and unanimously carried on a roll call vote to approve the consent agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tom McKenney encouraged addressing the Town's public lands, and noted he would be back in a few weeks to further discuss the idea. He suggested the proposed solar array be placed around San Miguel Power Association property and not placed in parks.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

5. Presentation regarding "True Grit Sister City" partnership between the Town and Fort Smith, Arkansas

Tommy Shay, volunteer representative of the City of Fort Smith Arkansas, addressed the Council on behalf of the volunteers in Fort Smith who are dedicated to promote the heritage of the book and movie, True Grit. He explained the city has created the 'True Grit Trail' and since the movie was filmed in and around Ridgway, invited the Town to become a sister city.

There was discussion between the Council and the representatives, and consensus of the Council was to accept the concepts as presented.

6. Request for use and closure of public streets and rights-of-ways for Annual Fete De La Musique event on June 30

The Mayor stepped down due a conflict of interest, and turned the gavel over to the Mayor Pro Tem.

The Town Clerk presented a request for use of public streets and rights-of-ways for the annual Fete de la Musique to be held on June 30th. She noted the areas being requested are the same as in previous years and include street closures on Clinton and Core Streets, and use of Hartwell Park.

ACTION:

Councilor Kroger moved with Councilor Schuyler seconding, to approve the Fete de la Musique use of public rights-of-ways on June 30th. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Mayor returned to sit with the Council.

7. Request to hold a special event in the Athletic Park for the annual pickleball tournament

Clark Gilbert with the Ridgway Pickleball Club requested use of facilities in the Athletic Park on September 20, 21 and 22 for the annual 'San Juan Slam' pickleball tournament. He noted there were 150 participants and 100 visitors at last years event. This years events will include an additional day, and also be held on Friday.

There were comments from the Council.

ACTION:

Moved by Councilor Lakin to approve the special event permit application for the San Juan Slam pickleball tournament with the addition of all day on Friday. Councilor Kroger seconded and the motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

8. Proclamation Supporting the Fourth Annual Ouray County Pride Celebration

Mayor Clark asked the Council to adopt a proclamation supporting the annual Ouray County Pride Celebration.

Speaking from the audience members of the Ouray County Pride Committee thanked the Council for support and requested raising a flag at the annual Pride event.

ACTION:

Councilmember Schuyler moved, Councilor Kroger seconded, to approve the Proclamation Supporting the Fourth Annual Ouray County Pride Celebration. The motion was unanimously carried on a roll call vote.

9. Proclamation Declaring May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month

Lauren with Tri-County Health Network requested the Council show support of the educational programs available to assist in mental health awareness. The Mayor asked the Council to adopt a proclamation supporting Mental Health Awareness Month.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Meyer moved, with Councilor Grambley seconding to approve the Proclamation Declaring May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month. The motion carried on a roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

10. Application for transfer of Restaurant Liquor License for Taco Del Gnar

Staff Report from the Town Clerk dated 4-5-24 presenting an application to transfer the restaurant liquor license for Taco Del Gnar.

The Town Clerk explained transfer of the restaurant liquor license for Taco Del Gnar is being made by applicant GNARLY Foods, Inc. with members Joseph Ouellette, Nicole Ouellette, William Harmsen and Amy Harmsen. The business is located at 630 Sherman St. Unit N. The applicant leases the premises, which will be licensed to include the building and patio area to the north side of the building. The application has been filed as a concurrent review with State Liquor Enforcement, she noted.

ACTION:

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Meyer to approve the application to transfer the Restaurant Liquor License for Taco Del Gnar; applicant GNARLY Foods, inc. Members: Joseph Ouellette, Nicole Ouellette, William Harmsen and Amy Harmsen. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroger and carried on a roll call vote.

POLICY MATTERS

11. Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town, City of Ouray and Ouray County for Shared Victim Advocate Services

Staff Report dated 5-2-24 from the Town Manager presenting an Intergovernmental agreement for share victim advocate services.

Town Manager Neill presented the annual agreement with the City of Ouray and County of Ouray for shared victim advocate services. This years annual contribution is slated to be \$3,981.

ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Meyer, seconded by Councilmember Kroger and unanimously carried on a roll call vote to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Ridgway, the City of Ouray and Ouray County for Shared Victim Advocate Services. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

12. Letter of support for EcoAction Partners application to the Colorado Energy Office Energy Code Adoption & Enforcement Grant Program

The Town Manager presented a proposed letter from Eco Action Partners for the Town to express support for the Colorado Energy Office Energy Code Adoption and Enforcement Grant Program application. The purpose of the grant program is to develop a regional energy code across San Miguel, Ouray and San Juan Counties.

ACTION:

Councilmember Schuyler moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter in support of the Eco Action Partners application. Councilor Grambley seconded the motion which carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

13. Direction regarding the process of vacating public rights-of-ways

Memorandum from the Town Attorney dated 5-3-24 presenting code sections pertinent to the vacation of streets, alleys, rights-of-ways, easements or other Town owned property.

Attorney Nerlin explained the Strategic Plan includes researching the process to vacate the platted right-of-way in the 900 and 1000 blocks of Charles Street, between North Charlotte and North Amelia. If improved as a Town Street, the right-of-way would be an extension of Elizabeth Street. He asked if the Council had a desire to pursue a process to vacate the area as a Town street.

There were comments by the Council and discussion ensued.

Staff was directed to research how other communities have processed similar vacations, and prepare a proposed process for further discussion at another meeting.

14. Colorado WaterWise public education campaign on water conservation and water quality

Staff Report from the Town Manager dated 5-2-24 regarding joining the Colorado WaterWise's statewide *Live Like You Love It* public education campaign on water conservation and water quality.

The Town Manager explained one of the goals identified in the Town's 'Growing Water Smart Action Plan' is to inform the community with a media/education campaign. Joining the Colorado WaterWise would give the Town access to numerous materials including fact sheets, ads, banner, etc. along with a guide to assist with the conservation campaign, he noted. Annual membership fee would be \$650.

ACTION:

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Meyer, seconded by Councilmember Grambley to join the Colorado WaterWise and become a campaign partner of the Colorado Water - *Live Like you Love It* educational campaign. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

15. Annual presentation from the Ridgway Youth Advisory Council

Members of the 2023-2024 Youth Advisory Council Riley Burr, Keira DeLuccio, Hannah Freed, Lauren Mahlin and Patrick Megahee addressed the Council and presented highlights of the year, and provided 'key take aways' from their time on the Council.

There was discussion between the Town Council and Youth Council members.

16. Annual Town Council Scholarship to a senior at Ridgway Secondary School

Mayor Clark announced the annual student scholarship will be awarded to high school senior Hannah Freed.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Manager Neill highlighted some items contained in the monthly Managers Report.

Council Grambley suggested a campaign to draw awareness of speed limits on residential streets. There was discussion by the Council.

Owners of a local business expressed concerns with lack of affordable housing for employees.

Councilor Schuyler reported on the Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Councilor Lakin reported on CC4C2.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk