MINUTES
Town of Crested Butte
Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday, May 17, 2021

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Council Members Present: Will Dujardin, Chris Haver, Mona Merrill, Laura Mitchell, and Jason MacMillan

Staff Present: Town Attorney John Sullivan, Town Manager Dara MacDonald, Community Development Director Troy Russ, and Finance Director Rob Zillioux

Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford, Town Planner II Mel Yemma, Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Director Janna Hansen, and Public Works Director Shea Earley (for part of the meeting)

Everyone connected and participated in the meeting via Zoom. Schmidt, MacDonald, Stanford, Yemma, Russ, Zillioux, and Earley were present in Council Chambers.

Schmidt mentioned the topics reviewed during the work session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Schmidt noted that Staff asked to amend the agenda for the purpose of adding an Executive Session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purchase of affordable housing.

Schmidt confirmed there were no other additions or corrections to the agenda.

Dujardin moved and MacMillan seconded a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA

1) May 3, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

2) Crested Butte Art Market Special Event Application Closing the 1st and Elk Parking Lot on Sundays from June 13, 2021 to October 10, 2021, with the Exception of September 26, 2021 to Allow for the ARTumn Event.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

3) Crested Butte Farmers Market Special Event Application Closing the 100 Block and 0 Block of Elk Avenue on Sundays from May 30, 2021 through October 10, 2021.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

4) ARTumn Special Event Application Closing the 1st and Elk Parking Lot on Saturday, September 25, 2021 and Sunday, September 26, 2021.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

5) Comment Letter to Gunnison County Regarding the Upper Slate River Valley Development.
Staff Contact: Community Development Director Troy Russ

6) Funding Request for Audio Visual Work to Allow for In-Person Town Council Meetings Utilizing Zoom.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

7) Cemetery Funding Budget Amendment Request.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

8) Resolution No. 6, Series 2021 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Authorizing the Town Manager to Sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Gunnison County Weed District Regarding Undesirable Plant Management.
Staff Contact: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Director Janna Hansen

9) Resolution No. 7, Series 2021 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Approving a Lease Agreement with Mountain Mentors for Use of 620 Second Street, AKA Big Mine Warming House.
Staff Contact: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Director Janna Hansen

Dujardin requested to remove #5 (Comment Letter to Gunnison County Regarding the Upper Slate River Valley Development) from the Consent Agenda. Schmidt listed the items from the Consent Agenda. Cowherd wanted to remove #2 (Crested Butte Art Market Special Event Application Closing the 1st and Elk Parking Lot on Sundays from June 13, 2021 to October 10, 2021, with the Exception of September 26, 2021 to Allow for the ARTumn Event) because he thought Town should preserve parking for the electric vehicle charging station.

Haver moved and Dujardin seconded a motion to approve the seven items left on the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Schmidt recognized there were many people who wanted to talk about housing. Regarding housing, the Town had put together a lot over the years. Everyone in resort

communities were in crisis. Russ announced there would be a public meeting on affordable housing at The Center for the Arts that would include the Housing Authority, the County, and Mt. Crested Butte. Schmidt asked commenters on housing to limit comments to two minutes. Merrill asked Russ for details on the public meeting. Dujardin pointed out there were two hands up, so he did not think the two-minute limitation was necessary.

Kent Cowherd

- He had been riding bike on the Perimeter (Boardwalk) Trail. He was surprised to see the trail had been closed because of the bird sanctuary. He asked the Council and Town to trust but verify.
- He listed the words: trust, respect, and process. There had to be some level of trust in government. He had great respect for the police department. He believed the Marshal's Office and the Town Council had made changes in the recent months. It felt to him like an overly heavy-handed retaliation for the national problem. He asked the Council to be patient and take turns when speaking. He asked for a more professional approach in the future.

Shaun Horne

- He thanked the Town Staff and Council for solving the problem for events happening at the end of Elk.
- He acknowledged that about a fourth of the (1st and Elk) parking lot had been taken off the plate because of handicapped parking.

Cole Thomas and Eric Rankin - Owners of Butte Bagels

- They were having trouble finding employees.
- They saw people being pushed out of their homes.
- They proposed to close every business the first week of July as a protest to set the tone of what Crested Butte would look like if people could not live here.

Catherine Vader

- She echoed Horne's comments thanking the Town and Town Council for working together to keep events going at the top of Elk.

STAFF UPDATES

- Schmidt referred to the staff report from MacDonald.
- Schmidt brought up Waste Management stopping to accept glass for recycling. MacDonald stated there was a contract that was effective until the end of the year. She talked with other entities about action that could be taken, and she would use the next couple of months to gather information. MacDonald reviewed reasons Waste Management wanted to stop collecting glass. She said Town would be exploring a variety of options. Dujardin recognized they needed to find an acceptable solution.
- Schmidt asked about GCEA metering limits. MacDonald explained the limits would apply to installations going forward. GCEA was focused on greening the

grid and wanted to move away from large individual projects. Dujardin felt it would be useful for the Town to comment. MacDonald agreed to draft a letter to GCEA for the Council's consideration on the next agenda. Dujardin asked for a report to understand the effects of the decision. MacMillan noted potential impacts on buildings such as the school.

- Schmidt asked about using the $150,000 CDOT grant for the traffic mitigation and calming. MacDonald explained the grant was awarded specifically for patios.
- MacDonald pointed out there were no applicants for the seasonal parks' positions. She warned the Council to expect a diminishment in services for the summer. Dujardin suggested the Council discuss under Other Business because it touched on several issues.
- Schmidt acknowledged the Town picnic would be Friday, June 4th. He outlined details, and he identified the location at Rainbow Park.
- The Valley Housing Fund was looking for partners for the Redden project.

LEGAL MATTERS

Sullivan wanted to let Council know that Marcus Lock, attorney for the plaintiffs in the Scenic Butte case, conveyed that they were still considering whether they would appeal the ruling. Regardless of appeal or not, there would be opportunities for the Town to comment on the road. It was premature to write a letter just yet.

They were looking at changes to the Town's sales tax code that were being recommended in a model ordinance from CML. The impetus was the Wayfair case. Sullivan anticipated to have something before the Council in June.

Schmidt voiced his concern about work at Trappers Crossing.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Reconsideration of Closing of the RV Dump Station and Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation.
Staff Contact: Community Development Department Mel Yemma and Troy Russ and Public Works Director Shea Earley

Yemma explained Town Staff refined the recommendation to the Council to reconsider closing the RV dump station with a sunset of two years with traffic mitigation measures. She identified there were two alternatives for traffic mitigation and that each alternative had two options. She began with Alternative 1A. This alternative would be a controlled environment, with one entrance. Next, Yemma said Alternative 1B would be the same option, but Alternative 1B would incorporate permanent changes, including curbing and gutter modifications and modifications to the RV hookup locations. Yemma outlined Alternative 2A, in which Butte Avenue would be a temporary one-way. She reviewed traffic flow and the cost of Alternative 2A. All traffic would need to go one way through the neighborhood or enter from the public works shop. Yemma described Alternative 2B that would require changing the location of the RV hookups. This alternative would not

be a controlled environment. Yemma reiterated the Staff recommendation was to re-open the station for a two-year period to allow time to develop and implement a regional solution for the RV dump station.

MacMillan asked whether traffic mitigation measures considered for Maroon and Sopris were considered for this area of Town. Russ explained there was a nexus with Maroon and Sopris. There was no data on the RV dump station, and there was no evidence there was a problem. Mitchell said the neighborhood asked for speed bumps and four way stops. Dujardin thought some sort of traffic calming measures were appropriate. The Council did not need to wait for data to respond to citizens. Russ recommended setting up thresholds and gathering evidence. Merrill asked Russ about speed bumps. She heard people did not want them because of the noise and people speeding in between the bumps. Secondly, Merrill asked Russ about planter boxes, on which she understood there was a staffing issue. She saw safety issues all around Town, and issues needed to be addressed by the school and Peanut Lake. MacMillan asked regarding Alternative 2A and a one-way going south on 8th Street. Russ reported that one-way streets increased miles traveled, and there were more turning movements on streets. He cautioned against one-way streets. Dujardin was not comfortable with a one-way on 8th. He was in favor of 1A or 1B. Schmidt favored 2A with the one-way, and he wanted a meter installed to charge people.

Kent Cowherd - 901 Teocalli Avenue

- He believed the best option was 2A because it saved on the amount invested.
- He would add a pay station.
- Regarding the exit point, he suggested reversing the direction to pointing out of Town to dilute the impacts.
- He recommended traffic calming measures on the route and the side streets.
- He thought the public input was evidence the Council needed to address concerns.
- The Town did not need good data for temporary solutions.
- He would put the staging area on the fence line with the water treatment plant.

Cari Freeman - Owner of the RV Park in Riverland

- She thanked the Council for reconsidering their decision.
- She wanted to support the neighborhood and the options that worked best for them.
- If the Council decided to reopen the RV dump station, she asked the Council to make it effective immediately.
- The campers were arriving.

Kat Carpenter

- She appreciated the Council considering reopening the RV dump station.
- She was concerned with Option 2. It did not make sense to put in a one-way street.
- Option 1 made the most sense because it did not concentrate traffic entering the neighborhood.

JD Crichton

- He thanked the Council for revisiting the decision.
- He asked if there was any opportunity to begin with a smaller, less intensive balance between 1A and 1B. Yemma confirmed they could add the pay station to option 1A.
- He asked about the hookups.
- He agreed the one-way facilitated easier egress. He questioned if there was an opportunity for a longer queue. Yemma explained that if the queues were full, RVs would line up on a different block.
- He stated data made the decision more objective.

Suzanne Pierson

- She formerly was a RV owner. She recalled when there was nothing. It was nice to have something there.
- The quickest way to get the RVs moving in and out as quickly as possible was correct signage to reduce pollution from the running engines.
- She hoped the Council made the reopening temporary.
- She asked the Council if they could share what other options at which they were looking.
- She liked 1A and 2A, the simple, less expensive options.

Schmidt polled the Council on their preferred options. Haver appreciated the willingness for the people in the neighborhood to consider a temporary solution and the STOR Committee for their letter and information. He had faith in the STOR Committee to identify a solution. Haver liked the two-year sunset, camera monitoring, and heavy white stripes at stop signs. He thought there was sense to a one-way on the one block. He was leaning towards 2A. Mitchell's preference was 2A. She liked the white stripes, and she thought there should be a pay station and video camera monitoring. MacMillan was in favor of opening the RV dump station. He appreciated the two-year sunset. He was in favor of 2A. He would love to see calming measures, or at least the data. Dujardin stressed putting in a one-way was a bad idea. He acknowledged that there were not a lot of people from the neighborhood present. He preferred 1A. He elaborated that adding the pay station was important. Dujardin thought a speed bump would go a long way for the community. He really, really wanted to advocate for not putting in a one-way on Butte Avenue. Merrill asked for the Staff preference. Russ stated the one-way had the potential for unintended consequences. Traffic would be concentrated on Gothic Avenue. He said one-ways created dominoes that would have to be monitored. Merrill preferred 1A or 2A. She liked the idea of monitoring with cameras and the striping. She would be open to a four-way at Teocalli and 8th. Yemma provided background on the one-way idea. She affirmed there would be outreach. Schmidt felt strongly for 2A. He identified turn around points with the other options. Schmidt thought they could have the area well signed. He reported on what was being considered for the future. He explained the STOR Committee would have two years to find a solution and would take the lead in working with surrounding entities to find a solution.

Roland Mason

- He appreciated the Council revisiting the decision.
- He acknowledged two County Commissioners were on the line.
- The RTA - Riverland project would probably not happen as far as including a dump station.
- There were other options.
- Two years would be a good timeline.
- He saw benefits to both 1A and 2A. He suggested saving funds for a future solution.

Jonathan Houck

- He did not state CB South was an option, correcting information that was reported.
- There was not a silver bullet.
- Other potentials were showing themselves.
- Having a timeframe and clear understanding drove action in the community.

Matt McCombs

- The Forest Service wanted to be a full partner in figuring out how to move forward.
- Visitors benefited from the service, and they were coming to the National Forest.
- The Forest Service wanted to be a key partner in the solution.

JD Crichton

- He confirmed the current scenario embodied a safe zone.
- He identified 2A would be bringing in a risk of liability if user error or an incident happened. Without some form of containment, it added an aspect of risk.

Schmidt thought the majority of the Council wanted to put in a pay station and keep the two-year limit. Earley identified the cost of a pay station would be $11,000. MacDonald said Town could open the dump station without the pay station, and it would take time to have the pay station installed. Merrill asked about the return on the $11,000. There was discussion on details of the pay station. MacDonald noted that stop bars were painted around Town. Painting the stop bars would happen. Haver did not have a strong opinion either way. He suggested saving the donations. Mitchell would drop the $11,000 expense, and the suggested donation should be more than $10. Schmidt heard the Council did not want to do the pay station, but the suggested donation amount should be higher. Dujardin echoed Crichton's last comments. Dujardin thought they were adding more fuel to the fire, but 1A would be the simple solution to move forward. Schmidt pointed out RVs would have to turn around somewhere. He did not see a problem with the one-way.

Mitchell made a motion to reopen the dump station with plan 1A with the caveats there would be two years of planning for change (two-year sunset), a voluntary dump station with a requested donation of $15 for sewer and $5 for water, white stripes at the four-way stop signs, and video monitoring.

Merrill would want Staff to monitor. If it became atrocious, the Council could revisit. She confirmed the Council could revisit to make a one-way.

Merrill seconded the motion made by Mitchell.

Dujardin wanted to check back in on the speed bumps because it seemed the neighborhood was consistent in wanting them. Russ stated speed bumps were punitive to everyone and were unsuccessful. He suggested pop up 15MPH speed signs in the middle of the road. A traffic calming program would be implemented if it became worse. Dujardin appreciated the effort.

A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

Mitchell relayed from a text from Susan Kerns that it made sense to have a one-way, and most RVs had the dump on the right side.

2) Discussion on Lifting the Elk Avenue Outdoor Mask Mandate and Emergency Order.
Staff Contact: Town Manager Dara MacDonald

MacDonald reviewed the changes that came from the County today. The public health order was updated and wearing masks outdoors was no longer required under the County's public health order. MacDonald explained the County would be shifting to the green level at the end of May. Masks worn indoors would only be required in certain settings. Joni Reynolds felt comfortable that outdoor activities were quite safe. Merrill felt safe dropping the order and remaining consistent. She was all for it.

Haver moved and Mitchell seconded a motion to remove the mask mandate on Elk Avenue.

Dujardin appreciated the updates and hoped that everything worked out.

A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

1) Ordinance No. 8, Series 2021 - An Ordinance of the Crested Butte Town Council Granting a Ground Lease to Gunnison County Electric Association, Inc. for the Installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station on a 20 Foot by 20 Foot Portion of the First Street and Elk Avenue Public Parking Lot.
Staff Contact: Town Planner II Mel Yemma

Schmidt read the title of the ordinance. He acknowledged the Council would be setting the ordinance for public hearing.

Haver moved and Merrill seconded a motion to set Ordinance No. 8, Series 2021 for

public hearing at the June 7th meeting. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

2) Agreement with Interstate Parking and Budget Amendment.
Staff Contact: Community Development Director Troy Russ

Schmidt read the staff recommendation from the staff report, recommending approval of an $80,000 amendment to the Crested Butte budget for the purchase of additional parking signs and for the contracting fee for Interstate Parking of Colorado, LLC to provide parking management and enforcement services for the seasonal pilot parking program for Crested Butte. Yemma pointed out there would be active enforcement of two hour parking, and there would be neighborhood and employee permits. She explained that Staff surveyed employees, and the recommendation was to give each business one free permit. Additional surplus permits would be distributed based on business size and payment in lieu fees paid. There was one neighborhood only parking zone. Yemma confirmed the plan was the same as presented at the last work session.

Yemma outlined the costs. She explained the parking system was a pilot program that could be adapted. The total budget amendment was for $80,000, and the net cost to Town was anticipated to be about $45,000. Mitchell asked about the $60,000 line item for labor. Dujardin thought the side streets should be two-hour parking, too. Schmidt did not think they should give permits to businesses. Russ reviewed the distribution of employee parking permits. Russ recognized there would be better performance on Elk. The permit program was needed to complement the two-hour enforcement. Dujardin thought there needed to be some open parking. Merrill felt like the implementation was a step at a time. She was amazed at how well the system worked in Breckenridge. She had faith and would not mind trying, knowing they could make tweaks along the way. MacMillan stated it was a well thought out pilot program. They could see how it went. He supported the pilot parking program. Haver wanted to hear from the public. Mitchell identified a lot of people from CB South would not come to Town. Dujardin imagined they would be adding that friction factor. The baby steps were good. He supported the plan in general, but they needed to respect the side streets for what they were.

Michael Gottlieb

- He reported to have a home on 5th Street between Elk and Sopris. He wondered how they would be affected and about the ease of getting permits.
- He asked how guests would be permitted. Yemma explained how the permits would be distributed.
- It seemed like a great idea.

Sierra Cucinelli

- Her concern was there would only be one parking permit per business.
- The parking plan was needed.
- She was grateful for the work done by the Council.
- She never parked on Elk, and she always parked on the side streets.

- She agreed with Dujardin for the locals to have another two-hour option on the side streets.

Kent Cowherd

- He encouraged the Council to adopt the plan as presented.
- He recommended that they not cherry pick the plan.
- He wondered what the big deal was in making it hard for cars.
- Elk Avenue would have spaces available with the plan.
- They should recognize the studies and data and adopt the plan as presented.

Gareth Lloyd from Interstate Parking

- The plan was evolutionary.
- They always worked with communities to make changes.
- There would be a lot of space on Elk Avenue.
- Most two-hour parkers could park on Elk.
- Based on the data and what was observed, he believed the plan was a great first step.

Shaun Horne

- He supported the parking plan taken in total.
- The real problem was that a lot of employees parked on Elk.
- It was important to have customers able to park close.
- He encouraged the Council to adopt the plan as a whole and be flexible.

Daniel Greivell

- He asked if the plan was related to the one-way (on Elk Avenue).
- Russ confirmed the Town had to do the plan regardless of a one-way. The parking plan would be a pilot program for both winter and summer, and in winter, Elk would be two-way.

Tom Rolleczek

- He reiterated that making off street parking permit only would be a disservice to locals.
- Most people treated Elk as a reservation for guests.
- He thought the first step would be two-hour parking and not permit only.

Kyleena Falzone

- She would be okay with employees parking in the long-term parking.
- They should be taking care of guests more.
- Employees could walk.

Jill Voyles

- She asked about smaller long-term parking lots being employee-only. Russ reported that employee parking permits would be spatially allocated.

- Yemma said there would be plenty of supply in the permit program and in the lots. They could consider adapting in the future.

Schmidt asked what the plan would be for special events. Yemma stated Staff would work with Interstate Parking for a plan. They were also working with The Center for the Arts. Haver recalled they had seen that if they opened spots on Elk and side streets with two-hour parking, people would not need to use the side areas. He was comfortable with the plan. Merrill echoed Haver. Merrill was comfortable moving forward as presented. Schmidt wished they would have taken the baby step of limiting to two-hour parking on Elk. He thought the employee permits on Sopris and Maroon were too much. Dujardin identified that allowing two-hour parking in the red zone reflected on the map in the packet was the best way to keep the friction from blowing up in their faces later.

Haver moved and MacMillan seconded a motion approving an $80,000 amendment to the 2021 Crested Butte budget for the purchase of additional parking signs and contracting fee for Interstate Parking of Colorado, LLC to provide parking management and enforcement services for the seasonal pilot parking program for Crested Butte.

Dujardin thought it still needed to be recognized it was a disservice to the community without a change to the red area of the map. There would be headaches, and they would hear the complaints. Merrill was confident Gareth (Lloyd) heard. She was all for the plan and the motion. Schmidt did not think the side streets needed to be blocked for employee parking.

A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes," except for Schmidt, who voted, "No." **Motion passed.**

3) Resolution No. 8, Series 2021 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Approving the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) Between the Town of Crested Butte, a Home Rule Municipality ("Crested Butte" Or "Town"); the Crested Butte Fire Protection District, a Colorado Special District ("CBFPD"), and Crested Butte Search and Rescue, a Colorado Nonprofit Corporation ("CBSAR").
Staff Contact: Community Development Director Troy Russ

Schmidt read the title of the resolution. Russ explained the agreement was for the transfer of Town Parcel 1 as shown on the map, and the IGA would transfer title from the Town to the Fire District. The two parties came to an agreed upon value. The Town secured four deed restricted units, whose estimated worth was identified as $1.2M. The Fire District would need to parcel the annex into the Town after subdividing with the County. The agreement outlined preliminary annexation terms. Town would be asking for a utility easement through the property; a 20-foot trail to the Slate River; a sidewalk along Gothic; and the training burn facility would be in a hidden location, which would be terms for the transfer of the property. Russ reported the transfer of property would be complete after CBFPD obtained all BOZAR approvals, approvals from Gunnison County, and voter approval of the bonds CBFPD intended to issue to pay for costs to construct the emergency services facilities.

MacMillan asked about the Spann property to the north and whether housing could be added. Russ stated in either case, annexation or not, Town wanted the utility corridor to protect the environment and for the area to come into the town on Town's terms. Schmidt recalled the area was for open space. He identified a big part of the deal was that CBFPD needed the bond issue to pass. The discussion focused on the area to be annexed and that the housing was important. Dujardin appreciated coming to a creative solution.

Kent Cowherd

- He noticed there was a proposed helicopter landing pad.
- Russ pointed out the burn building and the helipad had to achieve BOZAR approval.
- Sullivan explained the IGA set out the bones of what the parties' understanding was at this point in time.
- Russ identified the helipad on the map for Schmidt.

MacMillan moved and Dujardin seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 8, Series 2021 and the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Crested Butte, the CBFPD and the CBSAR transferring Title of Transfer of Title Agreement for Town Parcel #1, Block 80, Slate River Major Subdivision. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

4) Crested Butte Art Market Special Event Application Closing the 1st and Elk Parking Lot on Sundays from June 13, 2021 to October 10, 2021, with the Exception of September 26, 2021 to Allow for the ARTumn Event.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

The agenda item was #2 from the Consent Agenda. The event was pulled from the Consent Agenda to discuss the availability of parking for the electrical vehicle charging station. MacDonald confirmed GCEA was comfortable limiting access to this charging station on Sundays because demand could be handled with other charging stations; however, they might change their minds in the future. Cowherd confirmed MacDonald answered his question, and if there was capacity, it was not a problem.

Haver moved and MacMillan seconded a motion to approve item #2 from the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

5) Comment Letter to Gunnison County Regarding the Upper Slate River Valley Development.
Staff Contact: Community Development Director Troy Russ

Schmidt referred to the letter that John Hess emailed. Dujardin wanted to give the opportunity for members of the public to speak. He expressed the letter was well written; however, the letter was missing a request for a moratorium for building in that corridor. Merrill asked about a moratorium she heard happened in the 90s. Schmidt did not recall

a moratorium from the 90s, and he provided context to the time. Merrill agreed the letter was well-written.

Jim Starr

- He noted he was not speaking on behalf of the Valley Housing Fund.
- In the late 90s/early 2000s, the County had a moratorium in the Somerset region to facilitate the mining of coal.
- Moratoriums tended to be temporary, and they could be extended.
- He asked the Council to add a request to the letter for a moratorium for the purpose of public input and for a special district. He thought it was critical for the integrity of the iconic landscape.
- The moratorium was important for a temporary hold. The Town and County could work together on what made sense to protect the iconic area.

Tim Szurgot - From Wildbird

- They were grateful the Town considered writing the letter.
- The economic reality had changed, with homes getting larger and larger.
- The protections were not enough to protect from the onslaught of development.
- They were asking for the letter to ask for a pause in development.

John Hess

- Town did a moratorium because people were looking to develop what he thought might have been 600 units in the Verzuh Ranch, so there was precedent of the Town doing a moratorium.
- A house of that size meant a lot of bedrooms, with a septic system next to the river.
- He was concerned about the wildlife habitat.

Schmidt agreed with Dujardin and Hess about asking the County to place a moratorium to look at the corridor. Merrill agreed. Haver wanted to hear from Staff and Sullivan. He was curious if anyone on Council reached out to the Commissioners. Schmidt heard from the Commissioners that no formal application had been made. Russ explained the letter was about the Slate River Valley, in general, to get the letter to the Commissioners. Russ thought the Town had to be empathetic and help them when asking for the moratorium. He identified that there was a responsibility of the Town to take on the issue with the County. The moratorium would force Russ's department to reallocate resources. The Town had to commit to studying the river and helping with the process. The letter had to be thought through. MacDonald reminded there was no pending application. Russ pointed out Town did not have jurisdiction. Russ stated affordable housing and the Compass would be pushed off to allow for work related to asking for a moratorium. MacDonald outlined the work plan and described the Community Development Department as having no give. MacDonald reviewed the mechanics of a moratorium.

Jim Starr

- He agreed with what Russ was saying. Town had to speak in terms of a moratorium. He was not sure it would take a lot of time.

- A wetlands expert was assisting.
- It would take research and data collection, and there was a way to do it without burdening Town Staff.
- He thought it was important to reference the moratorium specifically without mentioning the project.

Russ thought the letter could be more direct. He was worried the cow was out of the barn in terms of timing. Moratorium was a dangerous word. Russ was concerned they were sending a letter that could antagonize a partner. He did not know how willing the County would be without the Town helping them. MacMillan suggested the Town could offer to help to fund a study. Russ affirmed Staff would write the letter asking for a moratorium to be put in place. Russ would reach out to Starr to understand resources that were available. Dujardin asked the Council to direct Staff to get the letter sent in an expedient manner. Merrill was comfortable. Russ confirmed that he had good direction to redraft the letter.

Dujardin moved and Merrill seconded a motion to have Troy redraft the comment letter to Gunnison County regarding Upper Slate River development. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Will Dujardin

- He transitioned jobs, so his availability for EOC meetings was different. It would be harder to take notes.
- He had a BLMCC meeting that went well. He thanked the Council for adopting changes to the SOPs and the complaints. BLMCC might be reaching out about Juneteenth. They were looking at reopening the Coalition to have a big meeting on July 7th.
- The Grant Committee was circling back on a missed request that was submitted before the deadline from the West Elk Soccer Association for $1,200 for portable goals. The request would be added to the next Consent Agenda.
- He was looking for back up from Council to look at the Council's compensation going forward and looking at a long-term approach. He suggested considering more meetings, understanding the time that it took, and the compensation.
- He was one of the people looking for housing. He did not know where he would be living after June 30th.

Chris Haver

- The RTA was reviewing four proposals for the RTA and Mountain Express building at Whetstone on the south side of Riverland.
    - The Western wrapping on the bus would be disappearing.
    - They were starting to consider and make movement for purchasing housing for employees.
    - They were helping on the new bus stop in front of the library in Gunnison.

- The Housing Authority was working on updating their website to make it more user friendly and informative. They were picking out designers.
    - They were working on how to evaluate criteria for decision making when it came to projects.
    - They were in the middle of the annual audit.

Mona Merrill

- There would be a Center for the Arts meeting tomorrow.
- She was in contact with Joe (Lavorini) from the STOR Committee asking about the next subcommittee meeting.
    - They committee would meet in two weeks.
    - The RV dump station seemed to be on the fast track.

Jim Schmidt

- The Mayor/Managers meeting was hosted by Gunnison Valley Health.
    - They talked about what they were doing for mental health in the valley.
    - They established a crisis team and were focusing on mental health.
    - There was a search for a new hospital director.
- The going away party for Molly Minneman was nice. Schmidt thanked Minneman.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Schmidt was willing to continue a Council meeting until the next day when it ran after 10PM. He thought the Council functioned much better sitting at a table looking at each other. He urged Council members to come back to Council Chambers starting in June. He felt strongly they needed to be at Town Hall.

Schmidt pointed out a pay increase could not be given to themselves. The pay raise would apply to any new people elected in November. Schmidt asked Zillioux to update with information from other towns. Haver brought up having a mini retreat after appointing the next Council member. They could look at pay, meeting times, and bringing on the new person. Dujardin acknowledged it was a deeper conversation. In the long run, they had to adjust to what time was worth to people in the community and in general, looking at the long-term approach to the Council and talent. Schmidt affirmed the Council would have a mini retreat after appointing the next Council member.

Merrill agreed with Schmidt on his comments regarding in-person meetings. She was trying to staff her restaurant and would be using Zoom, but she would prioritize in-person meetings. Haver and Dujardin would be back the first meeting in June. MacMillan said he would be, too. Dujardin was impressed with how many people from the public attended the meeting on Zoom.

Dujardin wanted to talk about Parks and Rec hiring and seasonal staff. He asked whether the Council needed to dedicate funding to make it happen. MacDonald cautioned the Town would be offering wages for seasonal positions that were higher than full time

employees. The pay plan would be reconsidered this winter. The Council had to look at it holistically. Merrill thought it was a dynamic thing that was hard to figure out.

Mitchell announced her resignation. She sold her house and was leaving Town. Schmidt appreciated her service. Dujardin appreciated getting to know her.

The Council accepted comments from Jill Voyles, who was a member of the public on Zoom.

Jill Voyles

- She thanked Schmidt for his intelligence and his long-term experience and Dujardin for his vulnerability.
- People were waiting to speak about affordable housing.
- There was a housing crisis.
- They needed to figure out the best way to keep families and the community here.
- She asked why they were letting homes be hotels and what the Council was doing right now to make the problem at the forefront.
- There was a huge class separation.
- Some people were here to serve.

Schmidt thanked Voyles for her passion. The Council was aware of the problem. He reminded of the upcoming housing meeting that would be at The Center for the Arts.

DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING FUTURE WORK SESSION TOPICS AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- Monday, May 17, 2021 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council
- Monday, June 7, 2021 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council
- Monday, June 21, 2021 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Schmidt read the reason for Executive Session: for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purchase of affordable housing.

Dujardin moved and Mitchell seconded a motion to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

The Council went into Executive Session at 11:02PM. The Council returned to open meeting at 11:17PM. Mayor Schmidt made the required announcement upon returning to open meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 11:17PM.

James A. Schmidt, Mayor

Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk (SEAL)

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