

MINUTES
Town of Crested Butte
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 19, 2016
Council Chambers, Crested Butte Town Hall

Mayor Michel called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

Council Members Present: Jim Schmidt, Erika Vohman, Roland Mason, Laura Mitchell, and Paul Merck

Staff Present: Town Manager Todd Crossett and Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

Finance Director Lois Rozman, Town Planner Michael Yerman, Parks and Recreation Director Janna Hansen, and Public Works Director Rodney Due (for part of the meeting)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Item number 4 under New Business, Resolution No. 2, Series 2016 -- Resolutions of the Crested Butte Town Council Approving New Town-wide Affordable Housing Guidelines, was removed from the agenda.

Mason moved and Merck seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of item number four. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval of January 4, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes.**
- 2) Approval of January 11, 2016 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes.**
- 3) Approval of Appointments to the Creative District Commission.**

Schmidt moved and Mason seconded a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as written. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Keith Bauer - 108 2nd Street

- Described hearing the sound of 10,000 mosquitoes or an electric weed whacker last summer while eating dinner outside.
- Discovered the sound was that of a drone.
- Thought it was a weird invasion of privacy, and he encouraged the Council to consider a policy on drones.
- Michel said the issue would be added to the Council's list.

Mike Arbaney - 206 2nd Street

- Loved to ski powder out the Slate, and he wanted to have the ability to do it in the future.
- Michel said that Silent Tracks was on the agenda for informational purposes only, and there would be an opportunity for public comment after their presentation.

Mason suggested that they move item number three under New Business in front of the presentation by Silent Tracks.

Schmidt confirmed with Arbaney that he wanted to be able to continue to ride his snowmobile to access backcountry skiing.

STAFF UPDATES

Lynelle Stanford

- Updated the Council on upcoming special events including: Fat Bike World Championships, Alley Loop, and Big Air on Elk.
- Reported that Judge Eden's MOU would be addressed later in the spring.

Lois Rozman

- Sales tax was up 1% for November, and it was up 11% YTD.
- For the first month (November) marijuana sales were down.
- Her department had been working on the conversion to an online system for sales tax and business licensing. She thanked her staff for their hard work. She thought they could collect better economic data relative to certain events.
- The Town was now fully running on the new server. There were four large server boxes combined into one, which would save energy.
- There was a lot done with computers and technology in 2015.

Janna Hansen

- Had been working towards a budget amendment to the general capital fund the past couple of weeks.
- They were working on the project to relocate the bike jumps from Blocks 79 and 80. They had been working with Amy Nolan from the Crested Butte Devo Team, and they were working to submit a grant request.
- Renner sent a letter indicating they wanted to fix the tennis courts. Crossett summarized that weather permitting the courts would be fixed.
- Winter sports were rolling.
- Construction on Big Mine utilities would be taking place from August 1 to September 30. Summer users were being notified.

Michael Yerman

- There had been 21 applications turned into the Housing Authority for Anthracite Place.

- On February 9, Town would be hosting an open house for affordable housing. There would be two presentations, one at 4PM and one at 6PM. They had commitments from local banks to help educate people on loans
- Cypress would be coming back on January 25 to discuss the pre-annexation agreement.
- BOZAR's year-end review would be held tomorrow at 6PM.

Rodney Due

- Crews were working diligently to keep the streets clear.
- There were people questioning notification when crews were peeling the (snow) pack. Due would start to use e alerts to notify people.

Todd Crossett

- Requested time under Other Business to discuss scheduling of retreats.
- The planning of Big Air was going well. Operations and risk management were being refined. A temporary risk manager was brought on to oversee the plan from Town's perspective.
- Staff had been working on the capital budget. Opportunities were created, but Crossett reminded the Council that a lot of maintenance had been deferred.
- The Pro Challenge would be announcing the route at the end of January. Town did not have a budget line item if they made a monetary request.
- They were working on a RFQ for Town engineering services.

PUBLIC HEARING

1) Transfer of the Coal Creek Grill Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Located at 129 Elk Avenue From Coal Creek Corporation to J.J. Ridley Inc.

Michel confirmed that proper public notice was given and nothing had changed from the time the staff report was written. The hearing was opened to public comment. There were no public comments, and the public hearing was closed. It was opened to Council discussion.

Schmidt questioned the applicant, Doug Dodd, on who Cari Brown was. Dodd said she formed his corporation, but she was not routinely involved with the corporation itself.

Secondly, Schmidt referred to a diagram of the bar area, and he recalled the previous owner used the parking space for seating. Dodd was aware of the issue, and he had no intent of pushing the boundaries.

Mitchell moved and Schmidt seconded a motion to approve the transfer of the Coal Creek Grill Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License located at 129 Elk from Coal Creek Corp to J.J. Ridley Incorporated. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

1) Award of Contract for Engineering Services Relevant to the Upgrade to the Wastewater Treatment Plant to FEI Engineers not to exceed \$250,000.

Mitchell moved and Merck seconded a motion to approve the award of the contract for engineering services relevant to the upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant to FEI Engineers not to exceed \$250,000. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes."
Motion passed unanimously.

2) Presentation by the Cemetery Committee with Updates on Projects and Improvements in 2015.

Members of the Cemetery Committee that were present at the meeting: Jessie Earley, Betty Warren, Molly Minneman, Kay Flint, Valerie Hoagland, and Bruce Alpern.

Earley presented on behalf of the committee. She reviewed projects done by the committee including: chapel repairs, photography inside the chapel for insurance purposes and historical information, noxious weed maintenance, road repairs and additions, etc. Earley described improvements to the chapel such as the removal of the carpet. A list had been created of items in the chapel, which was helpful for visitors as well as for insurance purposes. Earley reported they had been working on noxious weed management for a number of years. They had been doing both conventional and natural weed maintenance.

Earley explained the Adopt a Memory Project. She listed three ways people could help: 1) Adopt a plot; 2) Donate money; or 3) Research individuals who were buried there. She further explained that they chose the headstones of people who had no family remaining. Only stabilization work was done, and there were no cosmetic repairs. Earley showed slides depicting monuments before and after the restorations.

Earley also mentioned road repairs. They would develop a loop on the southeast portion of the cemetery to help ensure that visitors were not driving over existing plots. Warren added that roads would be built around the perimeter. They purchased gravel and culvert materials last year.

Additionally, the committee had arranged for surveying and engineering, including the Town purchasing a GPS system used in part to locate plots. They were also working to evaluate lots in question and on re-mapping the cemetery. They thought they might free up additional sites for purchase. They were also working on the cemetery guideline revisions, considering it was a natural cemetery as opposed to a groomed cemetery. They eliminated trees on plots and had designated areas where trees could be planted.

Members of the committee thanked the Council for their support and funding. Schmidt confirmed with Warren that a plot could hold four caskets or 16 cremains. Hoagland and Flint were introduced as the committee members with multi-generational families in the

cemetery. Flint continued to explain her family history associated with the cemetery, and she expressed she was grateful for the progress. She also recognized the chapel was an important piece of Crested Butte's history. Crossett thanked the committee for their work, and Michel concurred.

3) Introduction and Presentation by Silent Tracks.

Crossett began by explaining that Silent Tracks wanted to present to the Council and the public to talk about their organization. Council was not making a decision or considering a decision. The backcountry was outside Town's jurisdiction, and the further conversation would be with the Forest Service (FS) or Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Town was a stakeholder. Michel explained the process for tonight's meeting would be: presentation, Council questions, and public comment. People were to direct comments to the chair, and there was to be no back and forth discussion.

Bill Oliver and Cathy Frank were board members present representing Silent Tracks. Frank provided the background of the organization, and she identified an objective was to stimulate discussion on how to deal with impacts. Frank provided history related to a previous decision made by the FS on winter travel management in the backcountry. She listed problems they saw with the existing travel management plan, related to how backcountry use had grown dramatically. The existing winter travel plan was 21 years old. The types of users were changing, and each new sport brought more people to the backcountry. Frank listed non-motorized and motorized activities.

Frank stated that in early 2015, there was a Federal court ruling mandating that all National Forests implement winter travel management plans, including addressing over the snow vehicles. Frank showed pictures of the trailhead parking areas at Slate River and Gothic. She concluded that the Gang of 9 was successful because of collaboration with all stakeholders. Silent Tracks wanted to be a stakeholder in representing human powered users in the Gunnison Valley as they move forward in the winter recreation travel planning process.

Next, the Masters in Environmental Management (MEM) program at WCSU was mentioned. Oliver was the MEM Program Liaison. He listed three teams: education, stakeholder engagement, and research. The education team recommended that early stakeholder engagement was critical. The stakeholder engagement team started the collaboration process. They recommended a stakeholder letter and stakeholder engagement survey. The research team came up with a draft survey that could be used at trailheads to define users, areas used, areas desired, and times and frequency of use. An interview with the FS highlighted three areas of concern: 1) present trailhead conditions, 2) analysis of crucial habitat, and 3) trail management.

Members of Silent Tracks thought it was better to start early in addressing tensions. Winter problems were exacerbated because of driving to trailheads, and a solution would take a lot of time and collaboration. They encouraged the community to address it now. There was no data on how the backcountry was used. They encouraged the Council to

take a stand to formulate a plan to move forward with a winter travel management plan, and they hoped Town would address the issue by writing a letter to the FS.

The discussion was opened for public comment:

Mike Arbaney

- Told the Council he would like the ability to do all activities up the Slate River Drainage as well as other drainages as they moved towards a decision.

Brian Schneider - 620 9th Street - Business owner on Elk.

- Diversity was huge.
- Asked the Council not to limit options. They were a benefit to tourism.

Brittany Konsella - Reported to live in Mt. Crested Butte.

- Encouraged the Council to continue the process of data gathering.
- The winter travel plan was not up for renewal for five years, and she didn't believe the process needed to be rushed.
- The trail uses in the winter were not like the summer. She thought summer usages were more important to address than winter.
- No change in access was needed.
- User groups needed to co-exist.
- The current management plan was working.

John Wirsing - 115 9th Street

- Access to the backcountry was reduced already, particularly when Gothic was cut off.
- His warning to the FS was that plans for travel management disadvantaged some people.
- Concentration was not the answer.
- There were plenty of places to go to not hear a motor.
- He encouraged the process and maintaining access.

Maureen Hall

- Silent Tracks wanted to start dialogue.
- They were asking Council to write a letter indicating they wanted to start the process.
- There was a lot of congestion. The Crested Butte area in general was experiencing significant growth, and conflicts were increasing.
- It was time to start the process.
- Silent Tracks was in support of data and collaboration.

Scott Yost - 701 Red Lady

- Questioned what Silent Tracks' mission statement was, and Frank showed a slide with it.

- He wanted to know if they excluded motorized use, and he was trying to understand their goal.

Chris Rourke

- Asked what conflict was.
- Oliver told the story of a friend who snowmobiled for the past 20 years in the valley, and he stopped three years ago due to difficulty unloading sleds and noisy areas that used to be pristine. Oliver felt there wasn't much tension as compared to what could happen in the future, which was a valid reason to look at issues. Environmental issues were creeping into increased usage.

Thomas Hein - 131 Floyd Street in Crested Butte South

- Access (to the backcountry) was something that kept people here.
- A new management plan was not needed.
- The tension was from people who only wanted non-motorized activities.
- The trailheads were a County issue. He suggested signage and better plowing.
- He didn't think that habitat was a critical issue.
- Told the Council to take their time.

James Utt - VP of Gunnison County Sno Trackers, snowmobile club, and he owned a snowmobile tour company.

- They were public lands and no particular group should close down access to other user groups.
- He hoped to be a part of the stakeholder group.
- Supportive of collecting data.
- He suspected they would come up with the same solutions again.
- Asked the Council not to take a stand at this time.

Briant Wiles

- Commended Silent Tracks for their collaborative approach.
- Said they should be careful for views represented and to move forward collaboratively.

Mark Bennett - 120 Diamond Lane

- Slate River would be the primary topic at this time. Thought it seemed convenient for Nordic skiers to gain the Slate River Drainage.
- Said that snowmobilers had to access Slate from the Washington Gulch side.
- Thought the current plan was working.
- Multi-use was the way to go.

Merck recognized there were more people and parking needed to be enforced. He said they needed to keep working together to keep lines of communication open. Schmidt was the mayor when the Gang of 9 was formed, and Town facilitated the process. He was disappointed with the County. He would like for the Town to encourage the FS. Mason thought it was good to see the presentation by Silent Tracks and the people that

attended. Michel summarized and listed three items of note: 1) Go slow and be cautious. 2) More data was needed. 3) Needed to consider management of trailheads.

Crossett said that if the majority of the Council wanted to see a letter written on behalf of Town, they could direct him to include it on an upcoming agenda. Michel said the Council would bring it up under Other Business if they wanted to further direct Staff.

LEGAL MATTERS

None

COUNCIL REPORTS UPDATES AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Paul Merck

- There would be a Cold Harbor meeting next week. He talked to the board president. It was described they were functioning 10% like ORE did, and 90% was working with Western to create a sustainable project on Hwy 50. Michel wondered if they should give a presentation to Council. Merck thought it would be down the road. He wanted to get back to the 10% of helping people to make their homes more efficient and more affordable to sustain.
- Attended One Valley Prosperity Project (OVPP) meeting. They discussed how to collaborate to stop poverty in the valley, including early childhood access to pre-school to help kids thrive. They discussed healthier food for children, suicide prevention, substance abuse programs, etc. Another item of importance was the immigrant population feeling safe with law enforcement. Additionally, Gunnison County was experiencing a health provider shortage.

Roland Mason

- Had been nominated chair of RTA.
- RTA decided to move forward with purchasing two compressed natural gas (CNG) busses. During test runs, the busses started in 20 below weather, and there were only small, minor negatives reported. The purchase would move forward as long as the contract for the fueling station went through.
- Michel added the CNG busses would have 30% less carbon emissions, and the particulate matter would smell of ammonia. The air quality would be better, and the impact on the ozone layer would be less.
- Mason said they would acquire four more CNG busses by 2020.
- They discussed winter air service issues, specifically diverted United flights. Representatives from RTA asked United to join a meeting to explain, and their answer was a definite negative.
- Michel said they considered subsidizing bus trips to Montrose in the spring when United suspended air service, and they decided not to proceed.
- Merck wanted to know why United decided not to land. Mason said one plane was diverted to Montrose. Schmidt further explained that United used a sub-carrier no one knew. They were cancelling planes for anticipated weather and barometric pressure changes. It created a scramble for travellers.

Jim Schmidt

- The Cemetery Committee met the other day. He acknowledged they did a wonderful job presenting, and he recognized the hard work done by committee members.
- They conducted interviews for the Creative District. There were eight candidates for seven positions. They didn't get the diversity they wanted. Everyone had some tie to the arts, but they were a real good bunch.
- Attended a Gunnison County Housing Commission meeting. They discussed Anthracite Place, and they decided no pets would be allowed, with the exception of service animals. The cost of rent was discussed and that it included sewer, water, garbage and heat. Schmidt said tours could be taken next Wednesday or Thursday between 1PM and 2PM.
- Mason wondered if they were on schedule. Schmidt said some things were on schedule and some things were behind schedule.

Erika Vohman

- Attended four meetings last week.
- There was nothing to report from the Weeds Commission.
- Attended a Chamber meeting. She wanted to pitch zero waste events, and they were open to looking for ways to cut consumption.
- She had worked with Swift on Plastic Bag Free CB. They were working to create a survey for business owners. The manager of Clark's was amenable to the initiative.
- Attended a housing meeting for OVPP. Aspen had 2,931 units in their affordable housing inventory, and 40% were rental units. Their RETT was approved and extended, and 1% of all sales in the city went to affordable housing. Aspen also considered land banking. They allowed people to retire in the units. Accessory dwelling units were not being built in Vail. Also, in Vail people could buy out of their deed restrictions. Vohman added that in Aspen they considered transportation hubs when purchasing land for affordable housing.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

It was asked if anyone had contact with Ladoulis. Michel said Ladoulis would be present at the next special meeting, and he would meet with him on Sunday to discuss what his thoughts were. Merck wanted policies defined in the handbook.

Crossett brought forth the topic of scheduling a couple of retreats. The first retreat was needed to get a handle on priorities for the next six months, and then they would move into longer term. The Council discussed various dates, and it was decided that a half-day was not enough time. The Council agreed they would start at 11AM on both February 1 and February 2.

The Council briefly discussed moving the meeting from February 16, but it was determined there would be a quorum present.

Schmidt said the Council had talked about banning plastic bags in the past. He saw practical reasons, such as people arriving without bags that made a ban less than ideal. He would like to see people collect plastic bags to be used to pick up dog poop around Town. He wanted to challenge the group to find a way to reuse bags creatively. Michel agreed there could be a way to create a circle of success.

DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING FUTURE WORK SESSION TOPICS AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

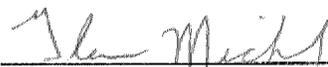
- Monday, January 25, 2016 – 6:00PM Special Council
- Monday, February 1, 2016 – 6:00PM Work Session – 7:00PM Regular Council
- *Tuesday*, February 16, 2016 – 6:00PM Work Session – 7:00PM Regular Council

Schmidt referred to the list of upcoming agenda items, and he was disappointed not to see short-term rentals included. He also wanted the discussion of private clubs on Elk Avenue removed if they were not going to discuss it, but the idea would be best addressed when there wasn't an imminent proposal.

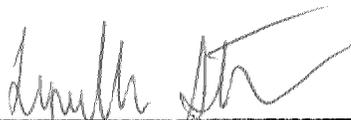
Mason recalled they needed to line up evaluations for the Town Attorney and Town Manager. Crossett requested that they come up with a modern process.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Michel adjourned the meeting at 9:42PM.



Glenn Michel, Mayor



Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk

(SEAL)

