

PITKIN TOWN MEETING
Newcomb Community Center

June 13th 2022 at 7pm

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Trustee Jerra Garetson was present. Mayor Eddy Balch and Trustee Lucinda Lull attended via telephone. Attorney Chris Mochulsky was present. Minutes taken by Clerk Sara Gibb.

2. **Public comments*:** Comnet Representative – Rene Roque, Vice President of Fiber Engineering for Comnet attended the meeting to share some information regarding the fiberoptic project. A new company called Comnet-Broadband has started. A hired management group is working to fix the local cell phone tower. The goal is to bring fiberoptic from OC to Pitkin. The improvement to the cell phone tower is required to support Firstnet (emergency connectedness). Do the residents want fiber to the home? A question and answer period followed. The following residents commented/asked questions:

Cindy Houtwed, Thomas Kelley, Marisa Archuleta, Linda Cole, Suzy Metzler, Eddy Balch, Jesse James Garetson

Mr. Roque requested that the Town contact State representative for the Town and Region 10 to inquire about grant/funding options.
The project will begin as soon as the Town issues the permit to continue through the town and the estimate comes back from the contractor. The project may take up to 90 days to complete. Mr. Roque will provide an update to the Town once the project is initiated.

Centurylink landlines will remain.

3. **Town Attorney Report**:** Attorney Chris initiated research into a franchise agreement with Comnet. A franchise agreement allows a utility to build under town roads and would define who performs the maintenance. In Colorado there is typically a 2-3% fee that would come back to the Town. The Town has a franchise agreement with GCEA currently. Comnet is unsure if they will bore or use the poles. This has to be decided first, and if they are going through the streets and alleys of the town franchise agreement could be entered.

- 4.

5. **Special Additions to the Agenda**:** None

6. **For Council Action**:**
6-1 Approve meeting minutes: May 9th regular meeting

An unfinished sentence will be deleted. The following paragraph provides the necessary information

Motion to approve the minutes as amended made by Trustee Jerra Garetson.

Seconded by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Votes as follows: Trustee Jerra Garetson – aye, Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb – aye, Mayor Eddy Balch – aye, Trustee Lucinda Lull – aye.

Motion carried 4-0.

- 6-2 Discuss and vote on proposal from Mike and Sally Graham to designate a historical site at the remains of the silver mill on 2nd Street

Mike and Sally Graham provided an example of a brochure for an historical attraction similar to the style they would like to produce for the mine remains.

Trustee Jerra Garetson thinks the interest is wonderful. She asked the Grahams if they would work with the PHCA on this project. She thinks that perhaps the best avenue to work on this project should be through the PHCA. Linda Cole, PHCA representative, stated that their first meeting was held today. This is a very generous offer from the Grahams. The goal is to make a picnic area at this historic site. The area may sit on town property. The PHCA is also thinking about creating a walking tour of historic places in town in order to help people understand more about the Town's history. Mayor Pro tem stated that 2nd Street runs into the mountain and Armstrong borders the county line and runs at an angle. The intersection of 2nd Street and Armstrong – Armstrong has 10-15 feet of flat before it goes up the hill. The large square alcove is that intersection and would be a perfect spot for this site. Armstrong is not an alley and is platted 80 feet wide.

Mayor Eddy Balch would like Clerk Sara Gibb to contact CIRSA and ask about designating a historic site and any implications of having the public at this site. Trustee Lucinda Lull wants the area to be surveyed to identify any adjacent property owners who may be affected, including the Estate of Melanie Shearer and Jim and Sharon Loving. The Board is overall favorable to the idea and would like initial research to take place before moving forward.

Public comments: Marisa Archuleta, Lin Pope

- 6-3 Discuss and vote on opting-in vs. opting out of local opioid government allocations

Mayor Balch stated that opting-in and allocating the funds is the best option.

Motion to opt-in and allocate the funds to the group in the county made by Mayor Eddy Balch. Seconded by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Votes as follows:

Mayor Eddy Balch – aye, Trustee Lucinda Lull – aye, Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb – aye, Trustee Jarra Garetson – aye. Motion carried 4-0.

- 6-4 Discuss and vote on signing the noxious weed IGA with Gunnison County
Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb stated that it would be helpful if someone showed the county where all the weeds are. If all weeds were sprayed it would likely take more than 3 hours.

Motion to sign the noxious weed IGA with Gunnison County made by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Seconded by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Votes as follows: Trustee Jerra Garetson – aye, Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb – aye, Mayor Eddy Balch – aye, Trustee Lucinda Lull – aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Public comments: Jesse James Garetson, Gayla Gibb

- 6-5 Review treasurer's report; Vote to approve May 2022 disbursements

Motion to approve the treasurer's report made by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Seconded by Mayor Eddy Balch. Votes as follows: Trustee Jerra Garetson – aye, Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb – aye, Trustee Lucinda Lull – aye, Mayor Eddy Balch – aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Additional disbursement – tractor hours \$1150 since the last meeting for Jesse James Garetson

Updates/Planning/Discussion:**

- Set work sessions and discuss future agenda items
Work session 2pm Friday the 17th

7. Reports:**

- Town Mayor – Eddy Balch – Mayor Eddy Balch reported that work has begun on the Palisades, specifically rock scaling. During this project, the road will be closed. The construction crew will attempt to have the road open during the weekend. The Town can provide another letter of support when the project proceeds and additional grant funds are required.
- Town Clerk – Sara Gibb – GCEA wants to know – Does the Town want the whole Town on a microgrid or certain buildings only? The Board said the whole town would be part of a microgrid if one was able to be developed for the Town.

Questions – Jesse James Garetson, Alicia Archuleta

Please see written report for the following:

- Building Inspector – Tom Gibb
- Fire Department – Rand Makowski
- Zoning Board – Jesse James Garetson
- Cemetery – Mark Rossmiller
- Environmental Health – Gayla Gibb
- Streets – Jesse James Garetson
- Ditches – Vacant
- Town Hall – Garry Winget
- Parks and Rec – Vacant

9. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Seconded by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Votes as follows: Trustee Lucinda Lull – aye, Mayor Eddy Balch – aye, Mayor Pro tem Tom Gibb, Trustee Jerra Garetson – aye. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held **Monday, July 11th** at 7:00PM. Council meetings are scheduled to adjourn at 9:00PM. At the council's discretion agenda item(s) not addressed by this time will be tabled until the next regular meeting. Approved minutes, ordinances, resolutions, agendas, and other Town of Pitkin public notices can be found at <https://townofpitkin.colorado.gov>

To add an item to the agenda, please submit it in writing to the Town Clerk at thetownofpitkin@gmail.com no later than **Wednesday at 5pm** prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Supporting documentation must also be submitted no later than 5pm on the Wednesday before the meeting.

**Public comment to the Board of Trustees is encouraged. Public comments on agenda items will be taken by the Mayor before final action on the item is taken. Comments may be limited at the mayor's discretion*

***Any item on the agenda may be subject to an executive session*

If special accommodation or alternative access is required, please contact the Town Clerk at thetownofpitkin@gmail.com or (970)787-0031 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting