

PITKIN TOWN MEETING
Newcomb Community Center

August 14th 2023 at 7:30pm*

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Eddy Balch called the meeting to order at 8:24 pm. Trustees Chris Nasso, Jerra Garetson, Lucinda Lull and Tom Gibb were present. Attorney Chris Mochulsky was present. Minutes taken by Clerk Sara Gibb.

2. **Public comments*:** Keith Rogers

3. **Town Attorney Report**:** No report

4. **For Council Action**:**

8-1 Approve meeting minutes: July 10th regular meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 10th regular meeting made by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Seconded by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Motion carried 5-0.

8-2 Discuss and vote on a request from the Pitkin Volunteer Fire Department (PVFD) regarding Sage Lane

Chief Rand Makowski presented a request from the PVFD. They would like to put in part of the alley [Sage Lane]. They'd like to use the rest of Sage to slope in order to have most of the lot usable and to avoid putting in a retaining wall at the back of the lot. Would the Town give permission to put in the alley and to slope the rest of the alley to their lot?

Trustee Tom Gibb asked if the firehouse sits on grade with Main Street, which would cause a steep slope from the alley. Mr. Makowski confirmed. Trustee Tom Gibb stated that he needs the alley to go up the hill to install a soil treatment area for a building he owns. He believes some retaining wall will be required. He would like to see an elevation/grade schematic. Mr. Makowski believes the alley can stay at the same height and drop the driveway. Mayor Eddy Balch would like to know the radius of the trucks to ensure they can make the turns.

Motion to table 8-2 until Rand and Tom meet and discuss the request and until further information is provided made by Trustee Chris Nasso. Seconded by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Motion carried 5-0.

8-3 Discuss and vote on ordering flashing stop signs for the Town of Pitkin

White lines were painted ahead of the stop signs. An effect was noticed while the paint was fresh but that is decreasing as the lines become dusty. Mayor Balch suggested a reflective rumble strip to be used in the summer.

Mayor Balch would like to try a reflective strip in front of the stop sign next summer and see if that is effective.

Item tabled.

- 7-4 Discuss and vote on signing a use agreement with PHCA for use of the Newcomb Community Center

Mayor Eddy Balch is concerned regarding the lack of insurance coverage. Attorney Mochulsky does not believe it would be in the Town's best interest to use the NCC as a shelter without insurance coverage.

Item tabled.

- 8-4 Review treasurer's report

Treasurer Sara Gibb stated that ditches and streets are over budget again. She would like to stay within budget rather than continue to make reallocations and adjustments.

Motion to reallocate \$3,880.00 from 5160.4 Streets: Improve and Open to 5160.3 Streets: Ditches and \$1,240.00 from 5160.4 Streets: Improve and Open to 5160.1 Streets: Maintenance made by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Seconded by Trustee Chris Nasso. Motion carried 5-0.

Vote to approve August 2023 disbursements

Motion to approve the August 2023 disbursements including the Archuleta tree mitigation for \$950 made by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Seconded by Trustee Chris Nasso. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Special Additions to the Agenda**

- None

6. Updates/Planning/Discussion:**

- Discus traffic on Armstrong Street and camping in the Town of Pitkin

Clerk Sara Gibb summarized complaints received by the Town of Pitkin. Trustee Tom Gibb attested to the validity of the complaints regarding campers on Jake Schellenberg's property. At one point, Trustee Tom Gibb attempted to drive Armstrong from 3rd to 2nd but could not because it was blocked by a truck and camper. According to ordinance, Mr. Schellenberg has been outside of the Town's camping ordinances. Trustee Chris Nasso asked who made Trustee Tom Gibb the authorized Town agent. Trustee Tom Gibb stated that he was not asked to investigate. Trustee Chris Nasso does not believe the ordinance is enforceable in these circumstances. The Town does not have information on when campers arrived at certain locations. Attorney Mochulsky will review the ordinances to determine if they are enforceable. Trustee Lucinda Lull stated that the ordinances need to not be in conflict with one another as the current ordinances seem to be.

Regarding speeders in town, Trustee Jerra Garetson shared that a local truck sped by her home twice recently while her grandchildren and their friends played outside. At first pass, the truck slammed on its brakes. Then it circled the block and the owner shook their fist at the group when passing by for a second time. The children were playing in the ditch and it was "very close." She encouraged everyone to slow down and be careful.

Public comments: Ed Pianalto (2 comments), Jesse Garetson, Chad Varnell, Suzy Metzler (2 comments), Pete Olson, Marie Rossmiller

7. Reports:**

- Town Mayor – Eddy Balch – Alpine Tunnel repairs are postponed due to snow but at this point repairs will begin on August 16th. Initially this year there will be blocks placed. Williams Pass will not be open this year and there may also be closures on the main Alpine Tunnel road. The repair contract is for \$650,000. Some additional issues have been identified. This is a two-year contract, which should be finished next summer.
- Town Clerk – Sara Gibb – Snowplow sign up/map will be at the post office this week. Email will be sent, website will be updated, and letters will be sent to property owners. Please see written report for the following:
 - Building Inspector – Tom Gibb
 - Zoning Board – Jesse James Garetson – A spreadsheet is being developed to monitor building permits. Zoning Board meeting is Monday night at 7pm.
 - Cemetery – Mark Rossmiller
 - Environmental Health – Gayla Gibb
 - Streets – Jesse James Garetson – Dug out culverts at 12th and State and cut a ditch to prevent water from running onto State Street. Moved the portable radar sign to Main Street. Street signage has been marked with orange poles for snow plowing. A company was hired to cut down a rotten tree at Main and 7th. The Archuletas agreed to pay half of the bill to protect their home.

- Ditches – Vacant – Rocks were placed at the upper head gate to keep the ditch flow up. More rocks will need to be placed as the creek flow diminishes.
- Town Hall – Ramon Reed
- Parks and Rec – Vacant

**8. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Lucinda Lull, seconded by Trustee Jerra Garetson.
Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:48pm**

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held **Monday, September 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>

Reports

Commissioner and Community

- Building Inspector –Tom Gibb – Multiple building permits previously issued are in progress which are easily seen as you tour Pitkin. Several storage building permits have been approved and some others are pending.
- Zoning Board – Jesse James Garetson – A spreadsheet is being developed to monitor building permits. Zoning Board meeting is Monday night at 7pm.
- Environmental Health – Gayla Gibb – Currently, paperwork is coming in to show that those who received letters this summer are being compliant. Some inspections, some access issues resolved. I'm sure more will be coming in as the season progresses.
- Streets – Jesse James Garetson – Jesse James Garetson – Dug out culverts at 12th and State and cut a ditch to prevent water from running onto State Street. Moved the portable radar sign to Main Street. Street signage has been marked with orange poles for snow plowing. A company was hired to cut down a rotten tree at Main and 7th. The Archuletas agreed to pay half of the bill to protect their home.
- Ditches – Vacant – Rocks were placed at the upper head gate to keep the ditch flow up. More rocks will need to be placed as the creek flow diminishes.
- Cemetery – Mark Rossmiller – There has been some significant activity since the last report. There have been 2 Cemetery Work Days or clean up sessions. One had 14 volunteer participants and the other had 11. Grass and brush was trimmed, layout work for future sales was done and some fencing work was done. We could really use some younger volunteers to help with fencing work. Two plots and 7 Memorial Wall plaques have been sold. The Memorial Wall has been completed and 58 plaques are installed and on display. We are planning a sign to explain to visitors what the Memorial wall represents. Arrangements have been made with Wood Products to make the sign and design work is in progress. I have purchased posts and hardware to mount the sign and it should be in place soon. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 17.
- Town Hall – Ramon Reed – A very successful Melodrama was put on by the PHCA, with three sold-out performances. I commend the PHCA volunteers for their good work and follow-up leaving everything in good shape. Preparation for the foundation and stonework repairs are moving forward with a new stone mason contractor who is also working on the Hotel. I anticipate the Grant Project can be completed this fall. I have had discussions with the Hotel owner about doing a joint septic system. Currently his engineers are working on a proposal that we should have ready to present to the Board of Trustees by the September meeting.
- Parks and Rec – Vacant – No report