

PITKIN TOWN MEETING

Newcomb Community Center

August 9th 2021 at 7pm

To participate remotely, please call **(720)386-9023** and use access code **257210**

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Eddy Balch called the meeting to order at 7:07pm. Trustees Ramon Reed, Jerra Garetson, Lucinda Lull, and Tom Gibb were present. Attorney Chris Mochulsky was present. Minutes taken by Clerk Sara Gibb
2. **Public comments*:** Peter Cole (Pitkin Broadband Committee) reported that a meeting was held with Region 10 and representatives from Visionary Broadband. Visionary Broadband will work on a proposal/plan for presentation to the Town. Funding is available from different sources, the Town would be required to match funds.
3. **Town Attorney Report**:** The Town decided to vacate less than the entire width of the street. The Town will transfer 65 feet of the street. A survey request was put in on July 27th. Once the survey is completed the Town will be ready to pass the ordinance.

There are two ways for 9th street to become a park – permanently, the town would vacate the street and the neighbors would give up their interest and donate the land for a park.

Temporarily – could be renewed as a temporary park, town would retain its interest in a street/right-of-way. Attorney Mochulsky will research this method in more depth.

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

8-1 Approve meeting minutes: July 12th regular meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 12th meeting as amended made by Trustee Ramon Reed. Seconded by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Motion carried 5-0.

7-6 Discuss and vote on obtaining new fire ban signs for the entrance to Town

Motion to approve the purchase of Fire Ban signs from Wood Product Signs and the purchase of 6x6x10 pressure treated posts made by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Seconded by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Motion carried 5-0.

Rand Makowski obtained an estimate from Wood Product Signs for replacement fire ban signs – new reflective aluminum hinge signs – two signs for a total of \$1376 and four posts at \$345 each. Rand obtained quotes for wooden 6x6x10 treated lumber posts for around \$100 each. Pressure treated lumber would save almost \$1000

compared to the cost of metal posts. Trustee Tom Gibb stated that the signs would be a good investment.

Public comments: Jesse Garetson, Linda Cole, Fred Archuleta

7-7 Discuss and vote on the Town of Pitkin remote attendance policy

Motion to adopt the Electronic Participaton Policy as amended made by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Seconded by Trustee Tom Gibb. Trustee Ramon Reed – no, Lucinda Lull – yes, Trustee Jerra Garetson – yes, Mayor Eddy Balch – yes, Trustee Tom Gibb – yes. Motion carried 4-1.

Trustee Jerra Garetson would like the policy to allow for some leeway. For example, a 24-hour notice might not be possible if someone is caught traveling or ill. She does not agree with a “three strikes and you’re out” policy. She would like each case to be addressed individually. Trustee Ramon Reed has the same objections he expressed at the last meeting. He stated the document as-is is not strong enough at encouraging attendance at the meetings. He stated someone attending remotely should not count toward the quorum. Mayor Eddy Balch stated that a person participating remotely should count toward the quorum.

Public comments: Marie Rossmiller, Peter Cole, Rodger Lull

8-2 Discuss and vote on PVFD land and building donation request and street vacation

Please see attorney comments above. Waiting on a survey of 5th Street.

8-3 Discuss and vote on an updated fee schedule for the Town of Pitkin and Resolution 2021-6 adopting a fee schedule

Item tabled. To be updated at a later date.

Trustee Tom Gibb is not in favor of adding the cost of outside evaluation into the basic permit fee. The Town OWTS ordinance does not give explicit permission for the cost of an outside evaluation to be charged to the applicant.

7-8 **BOARD OF HEALTH** – Discuss and vote to approve an OWTS permit for 124 State Street

Board of Health convened at 8:21pm to discuss item 7-8 only. Additional information from the engineer and installer were provided to the Board of Health. The Board of Health has no additional questions regarding this permit.

Trustee Ramon Reed asked who is NAWT certified and licensed by the county to be able to perform inspections prior to backfilling. Mayor Eddy Balch read from Ordinance 2021-2, which does not require NAWT certification or county licensing for inspections prior to backfilling.

Motion to approve the OWTS application for 124 State Street made by Board of Health member Jerra Garetson. Seconded by Board of Health Member Tom Gibb. Motion carried 4-0. Trustee Ramon Reed abstained.

Public comments: Jesse James Garetson

8-4 Review treasurer's report; Vote to approve August 2021 disbursements

Motion to approve August 2021 disbursements made by Trustee Ramon Reed. seconded by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Motion carried 5-0.

Updates/Planning/Discussion:**

- Discuss Zoning Code revisions – this will occur during a work session
- Discuss updates on a new park area in the Town of Pitkin – Sara Gibb stated that Parks and Rec volunteers have been researching the process for applying to build in wetlands. It is a complicated process that will require a significant time commitment. Trustee Ramon Reed stated that the land below town is not a natural wetland. It is created because of the lack of ditch maintenance by the property owner below the area. Parks and Rec volunteers will move forward obtaining estimates for delineation, clearing, and fill for the area below town. Trustee Jerra Garetson reported that there is a great deal of interest in the 9th Street location. There is also interest in providing funding.
- Set work sessions and discuss future agenda items

Work session set for Monday, August 23rd at 7pm to discuss the snow plow policy (first) and the Zoning Code (second)

5. Reports:**

- Town Mayor – Eddy Balch - Mayor Balch was contacted by Chuck Severance with the Woodland Park 4wheel drive club. He has been working to open the Alpine Tunnel Road. Some work was completed in the Williams Pass area. Grant applications for major rock removal and repair on the road itself are ongoing. Approximately \$400k in grant funding has already been secured.
- Town Clerk – Sara Gibb – Working on moving accounts from Bank of the West to Gunnison Bank

and Trust. Would like the Town to start thinking about securing a backup internet source at Town Hall and a new computer.

- Building Inspector – Tom Gibb (interim)
- Sanitarian – vacant
- Fire Department – Rand Makowski
- Zoning Board – Jesse James Garetson
- Cemetery – Mark Rossmiller
- Environmental Health – Cyndi Wick
- Streets – Jesse James Garetson
- Ditches – Vacant – This Thursday will be the last day that Fred will be in Town full time so someone else will need to take over ditches after that day.
- Town Hall – Garry Winget – Last week we met with the State Historical Fund rep and an engineer to check the crack in the wall at Town Hall. The engineer suggests that there might be movement of the soil toward the pit toilets. A retaining wall may need to be installed between the corner of Town Hall and the toilets. Mr. Winget is prepared to write a grant for possible award in a year. There was also discussion about filling in the toilets.

Regarding parking at the end of the ADA ramp that accesses the first floor of Town Hall, Mr. Winget reported that the engineer suggested two things: one, pouring concrete and creating a parking area for a single vehicle or two, grading the area and using road base in the area. Jesse James Garetson, Street Commissioner, asked if the road base would compact enough for wheelchair use if it were in a parking space.

The Board is in favor of solution two – grading the area and using road base and working within the budget of \$3,900. Mr. Winget is to make neighboring properties aware of the plan prior to commencement. Clerk Sara Gibb will communicate this to Mr. Winget.

Public comments: Gayla Gibb

- Parks and Rec – Sara Lamar

9. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Lucinda Lull. Seconded by Trustee Jerra Garetson. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held **Monday, September 13th** 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>