

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hotchkiss Board of Trustees

February 14, 2013

1. Mayor Koontz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present were Marlin McCracken, James Roberts, Georgia Hopper, Lindee Cantrell, and Dustyn Foster. Carrie Wingfield was not present.
2. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. James Roberts moved to approve the minutes for January 10, 2013 as presented, seconded by Dustyn Foster, with all in favor.
4. **Public Hearing – Amended Sidewalk Ordinance**
Mayor Koontz opened the Public Hearing and read the procedures for the hearing.
For – Tom Wills stated the Planning Commission had worked on this amendment to make the code more comprehensive. This amendment will have a 50/50 split between the Town and the property owner to help repair and replace sidewalks in Town. The amended ordinance takes in all areas of Town, those with sidewalks, areas needing sidewalks and that area not needing sidewalks.
Against – None
Mayor Koontz closed the Public Hearing.
Mayor Koontz told the Trustees there will be a work session on February 20th at 6:00 p.m. for Trustees to discuss/review the amended sidewalk ordinance before adoption.
5. **Jerry Thompson – Annual Farm Lease Update**
Jerry has farmed the sanitation land for nine years. In that time he has reseeded, plowed the fields, continued working on weed control, prairie dog control, and soil testing. He has piped the entire irrigation system, completed one irrigation cement box and has plans for another. He allows grazing of cows in the fall.
Jerry's daughter, Julia, gave the Trustees a written report of the work and progress of the farm for the last 9 years.
The Trustees asked how the rent and supplies are paid on the property. Mr. Thompson said he pays the Town yearly and the amount depends on purchases made by him and his profits. Most of the years he has paid the Town the \$2,500 as stated in the agreement.
Mayor Koontz thanked them for their report and the new bids for the next five year lease will be considered at the March meeting.
6. **KVNF Membership**
Dustyn Foster moved to pay the 2013 dues of \$25, seconded by James Roberts, with all in favor.
7. **First State Bank Parking Lot Discussion**
Mayor Koontz and Attorney Briscoe have been talking to the First State Bank about the bank owned lots on Bridge Street. The bank is willing to partner with the Town and gravel those lots for public parking. The property is for sale by the bank at this time, and the Bank would want it signed to state they are providing parking for the public. Attorney Briscoe received a bid of \$ 4,000 to complete the earth work and put a three inch road base down.
Lindee Cantrell asked if the Town would receive their money back if the lots sell. Attorney Briscoe said that had not been discussed and the bank does not feel road base is an improvement to the lots. Marlin McCracken and Georgia Hopper said it would be nice for funeral parking.
Mayor Koontz stated it would clean up that area and if the lots sell then the Town would probably be out the money invested. Mike Owens, Director of Public Works, said parking is not a problem in that area and if the Town is going to spend money it should be spending it on the Town owned parking lot. Marlin McCracken asked if the bank could buy the road base and the public works employees do the work. Mike Owens stated the Town's equipment would not do a good job and it would take 8+ hours of employee time. Mayor Koontz said they can continue talking to the Bank about splitting the labor and road base, payment back to the Town, and talk to other businesses in the area to see if they would like to contribute.

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8. Excessive Crime Coverage Discussion
Town Clerk Searle told the Trustees the Town currently has \$ 250,000 in excessive crime coverage and should consider additional coverage. The Trustees reviewed levels of crime coverage and costs.
Dustyn Foster moved to increase excessive crime coverage to \$ 2,000,000 for \$600 per year, seconded by Lindee Cantrell. The motion passed with Georgia Hopper and Marlin McCracken voting against.
9. North Fork 20/20
Dustyn Foster was not at the meeting. Tom Wills reported they are reviewing all the information they have gathered. The first week in March they will be showing movies of the interviews with local people collected during Pass the Mic project.
10. Downtown Improvement Discussion
Tom Wills reported that after input from Mike Owens and Marshal Miller the committee will place the new flower planters next to buildings. There will not be bench type planters on Bridge Street. Mike Owens reported he had walked around Town with a CIRSA representative and he had the following concerns/recommendations; no planters in the sidewalk area or on the curb, splinters from wood planters are a problem, certain preservatives cannot be used, trees and grates are a hazard due to blocking the view for traffic and danger in the walking area. CDOT also has comments/regulations on location of items on Bridge Street/HWY 92. Tom Wills said the planters will be built by the Hotchkiss High School FFA members with Dustyn Foster's help. They are looking for a place to store the mine timbers while the planters are built. Mayor Koontz asked if a planter could be finished by the March meeting for the Trustees to look at; Tom said he would try to have one complete.
11. Enhancement Trials Project Update
Engineer Fagan, Mike Owens and Mayor Koontz will meet with the County on February 22nd to discuss cooperation between the County and the Town on the trail projects. The County's timeline is faster than CDOT's so the joint project may not work. The Town is ready to submit the scope of the work on the trails to CDOT and will continue with the IGA.
12. Delta County Housing Task Force
Georgia Hopper was not able to attend the last meeting.
13. Hotchkiss Planning Commission
Tom Wills reported they are working on the sidewalk and trails plan and downtown improvements. Mayor Koontz said the annexation policy is still being worked on.
14. Leroux Creek Planning
Tom Wills reported for Carrie Wingfield. The board approved/recommend the Ed Tuft subdivision proposal on Rogers Mesa.
15. Five Minute Public Appearance
None
16. North Fork Creative Coalition – Joanne Tullis
Joanne Tullis told the Trustees they are working toward a Creative District for the three towns in the North Fork. The Creative District will promote artisans, arts, agriculture, graphic art, film, high-tech, performance tourism, wineries, etc. In 2012 the State awarded them the status of Emerging Creative District. This is not a taxing entity; it is funded with grants and donations. The Creative District Board is putting together an application to become a certified Creative District by April, 2013. They are requesting a letter of support from the Trustees. Lindee Cantrell moved to write a support letter, seconded by Dustyn Foster, with all in favor.

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17. Department Reports
Mike Owens asked if there were questions on his written report. There were none.
Mike told the Trustees he had checked with structural engineer, Dean Bosworth, concerning the poles used for the banners across Bridge Street. The poles will need to be engineered, the soil tested and meet CDOT regulations. The process may be very expensive. The Trustees asked Mike to investigate regulations and cost of replacing the current poles.
Mayor Koontz told Mike he has had a lot of positive comments on the snow removal.

Marshal Miller asked if there were questions on his written report. There were none.
Marshal Miller told the Trustees about the remodel of the Police Department. The current office does not meet safety standards and regulations. The remodel will allow more use of the space and provide additional storage. The remodel will be about \$28,000. Also, Marshal Miller will be looking into security measures for the front desk.
James Roberts moved to approve the remodel of the Police Department for no more than \$ 28,000, seconded by Marlin McCracken, with all in favor.
18. Hotchkiss Chamber of Commerce
Tom Wills reported the Chamber is working on their budget. The Visitor Center and DMEA payment center will have an open house on February 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
19. Mayor's Report
Mayor Koontz told the Trustees that the BLM had postponed oil and gas leases for the North Fork area.
Mayor Koontz will invite Pete Blair, Town Auditor, to a Town meeting as soon as the 2012 audit is complete, maybe May.
Mayor Koontz reported Oxbow Mine is cautiously optimistic about the Oak Mesa drilling. The March 14th Trustee meeting will be at Hotchkiss High School to involve the HHS student government. Amendment 64 for Recreational Marijuana and the amended sidewalk ordinance will be discussed that evening.
There will be a work session on February 20th to discuss the amended sidewalk ordinance.
Mayor Koontz reported Ryan and Michelle Sparks home burnt down and there is a fund set up at the North Fork Bank.
Three HHS athletes signed with colleges.
State Wrestling is this weekend in Denver.
Mayor Koontz said the Trustees/Staff/Attorney will be working to complete the amended Vendor ordinance.
North Fork Mosquito Abatement Board will have a work session on February 19th and their regular meeting on February 25th.
There will be a staff meeting on March 6th at 4:00 p.m.
20. Upcoming Events
Annual Book Sale at the Hotchkiss Public Library February 15th and 16th
HHS Basketball - Rangely 2/16, Paonia 2/19
21. New Business
Georgia Hopper told the Trustees she will be in jail for MDA February 24th.
22. Consideration of Bills
Lindee Cantrell moved to pay all bills, seconded by Marlin McCracken, with all in favor.
23. Lindee Cantrell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m., seconded by James Roberts, with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene F. Searle. Town Clerk

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