

TOWN OF SILVER CLIFF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 5, 2024

Mayor H.A. Buck Wenzel called the meeting to order. The Board of Trustees of the Town of Silver Cliff, Colorado held their regular meeting at the Town Hall at 5:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation were said.

PRESENT: Mayor H.A. Buck Wenzel, Mayor Pro Tem Jake Shy, Trustee Lisa Nolan, Trustee Jordan Benson, Trustee Braden Wilson, Trustee Troy Bomgardner

ABSENT: Trustee Fred Hernandez

STAFF PRESENT: Brittany VanDeusen-Deputy Town Clerk, Attorney Dan Slater

ATTENDEE INTRODUCTIONS: Tracey Ballard (Valley Beat), Jordan Hedburg (Online-Tribune), Jeremiah Coleman (WMFD Chief), Courtney Miller (Rotary Van), Jodi Richardson (SC resident), Joyce Perelli (SC resident), Ashley Franklin (County Resident), JoAnn Schlabach (Trustee Elect)

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. APPROVAL OF February 6, 2024 REGULAR MINUTES
- b. TREASURER'S REPORT
- c. FINANCIAL REPORT
- d. BALANCES AS OF JANUARY

General Fund	\$ 285,590.59
Museum	\$ 41,525.79
Conservation Trust Fund	\$ 16,125.58
Total	\$ 320,809.13
CD's	\$ 136,955.22
APRA FUNDS	\$ 167,850.29
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 648,047.47

- e. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Motion by Trustee Jordan Benson to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jake Shy. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Update from Wet Mountain Fire Protection District Chief- Jeremiah Coleman
Jeremiah Coleman, the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District Chief came and presented the group information on what WMFP has been doing and what their plans are for the following year. They had 316 calls this last year, only 14 of them were in Silver Cliff. Their average arrival time to the town is 14 minutes, and their overall average arrival time to all zones is 7 minutes and 13 seconds. The department is working on a 2-year training schedule. Currently, Jeremiah is trained to be an Engine Boss, so he can be deployed throughout the state. There are three career firefighters with the WMFD from Springs, Trinidad, and Pueblo West. Currently they have 18 apparatus in service, the oldest one being a 1972

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truck. They just ordered a new Type 3 apparatus for \$700,000, that will be arriving in June or July, then it will be shipped off again for customizations. The department is exploring grants for their station remodel, with no luck yet due to matching funds not being available. The cost of the remodel will be close to \$1.4m. The remodel will include living quarters. A plan is in the works for starting a residency program. Candidates would be volunteers for the department and be responsible for station duties to live there at the station. Since the shooting incident, the fire department has been equipped with bullet proof vests, which are red instead of black, they are still needing 10 more vests. Jeremiah will visit the board again in a few months to update the Board of Trustees with more updates.

b. Update on the Rotary Van Service- Courtney Miller

Courtney Miller came to respectfully give the Town of Silver Cliff on the happenings of the Rotary Van Service, which has gone through significant changes here lately. The Town of Silver Cliff has supported the Rotary Van Service financially in the past. June of 2024 will mark the 20th year that Rotary has had a service. It's a 501c3 organization that started with all volunteers. The Van Service started with the purchase of a van for \$1. Since COVID hit, they were concerned they'd lose their drivers, so they started paying drivers more than just a stipend and lunch costs. They also split and paid the administrative duties. In January 2024, the Rotary Van Service lost funding from UACCOG and UAAAA. This was a loss of around \$73,000 which accounts for 78% of their funding. This called for drastic changes in expenses. They decided to go back to all volunteer positions, including drivers and administration. They no longer pay for lunches or stipends. Currently, to cover the costs they do have, they are charging a small fee for riders. It costs \$10 to get a ride around town, \$20 for a ride to Pueblo, Salida or Canon City, and \$30 to trips to Colorado Springs. A sponsorship program is available for those who cannot afford those fees. The Rotary Van Service is reaching out to organizations and churches in the community to partner with. Courtney said another option for funding could be Veteran Affairs for veteran passengers, which they are looking into. The clinic is another option for partnering. Heart of the Rockies Medical Center has a van that doesn't get used often. HRMC is looking to hire a driver of that van for their patients. Right now, the Rotary Van Service has 5 steady volunteer drivers and 4 more drivers that drive when they can. Courtney received 2 more applications for volunteer drivers. Courtney thanked the Board of Trustees for their previous support and hope they can support again in the future.

c. Consideration of Approval of Resolution 03-2024 Opposing ADU's

Currently the Town of Silver Cliff ordinances and the International Zoning Code have in place what's allowed regarding ADU's (accessory dwelling unit). These units have a living space only, no kitchen and no bathroom. HB-24-1152 prohibits subject jurisdictions from enacting or enforcing certain local laws that would restrict the construction or conversion of an accessory dwelling unit. Colorado Municipal League strongly opposes this bill and is asking municipalities for their support. This bill would take control away from local governing bodies. Attorney Dan Slater recommended that sending this to CML and the legislators listed in

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paragraph II would be beneficial as well. Mayor Pro Tem Jake Shy made the motion to approve Resolution 03-2024 stating the opposition that the Town of Silver Cliff has against House Bill 24-1152. Trustee Jordan Benson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

d. Consideration of Approval of Resolution 04-2024 Recognizing the Town of Silver Cliff's Limited Resources and Prioritizing Silver Cliff Residents

This resolution is to declare that the Town of Silver Cliff is not a sanctuary of illegal immigrants. Our town does not have the resources to support them. Trustee Jordan Benson made the motion to approve Resolution 04-2024, stating that the Town of Silver Cliff is unable to accommodate an influx of illegal immigrants financially or physically, and cannot be a sanctuary for illegal immigrants. Mayor Pro Tem Jake Shy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

e. Consideration of approval of Resolution 05-2024 Access Across BLM for the Silver Cliff Pit

Building and Zoning is seeking the boards approval of this resolution so that it can be sent in along with an application for an easement from BLM to gain access to the Silver Cliff Pit for Seifert. Trustee Jordan Benson made the motion to approve Resolution 05-2024 stating that the Silver Cliff Board of Trustees is requesting an easement from BLM for access to the Silver Cliff Pit. Trustee Braden Wilson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

STAFF REPORT

See Attached

COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Troy Bomgardner had an update on the Work Force Housing Committee. The committee is working on re-writing their by-laws to present to Custer County. The Work Force Housing committee would work as an advisory board to the County.

Trustee Jordan Benson has a recycling meeting this month and will update the board next month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joyce Perelli mentioned that she was appreciative that the website included the meeting packet along with the agenda for the meeting. She says it's very informative. Joyce asked where the easement from BLM would be, and if it was going to be along an existing roadway. The board could not answer that confidently because the Building and Zoning Official was not present at the meeting to answer that question. Joyce also asked where the definition of what an ADU was listed, the board answered that it is defined both in Silver Cliff Ordinances, statutes, as well as IZC.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OPEN COMMENT

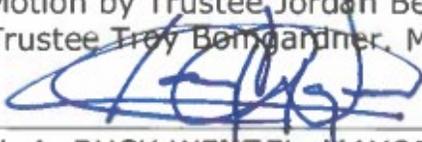
Mayor Pro Tem Jake Shy spent the day with Isaac Seldon (BZ Official), to go to Pueblo to get a truck. That trip was good for Jake to spend time with Isaac and to get to know

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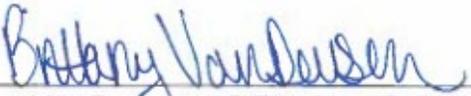
him better. Jake stated that it affirmed to him that Isaac is a good fit for the position and that he's really starting to make the position of Building and Zoning Official his own, and that Isaac is able, serious, and happy within his position. Mayor Buck also commented that Isaac has been doing a great job dealing with people as well.

ADJOURN

Motion by Trustee Jordan Benson to adjourn the meeting at 5:37p.m., seconded by Trustee Troy Bergardner. Motion carried.



H. A. BUCK WENZEL, MAYOR

Attest: 

Brittany VanDeusen, DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

