TOWN OF OAK CREEK
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2024
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Knoebel called the regular meeting of the Oak Creek Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, February 1, 2024.

Town Officials present at roll call were: Mayor Knoebel and Trustees: Bernie Gagne, Kelly McElfish, Ben Turati and Melissa Dobbins.

Others present: David Torgler, Town Administrator/Clerk; Kelsi Edwards, Utility Billing/Deputy Clerk; Elliot Lawrence, Yampa Valley Housing Authority's Deputy Director; Andy Benjamin, Chair, Planning Commission; Soren Jespersen, Mary Alice Page-Allen, Sascha Stanger, Billy Texter, Amber Texter and Trevor Ballantyne.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Kelly Lipsie advised the Board that he was concerned about Chief Maher due to recent events at The Colorado Bar & Grill and a phone call he received from the Chief regarding drug sales to high school students.

EN RE: YAMPA VALLEY HOUSING AUTHORITY PRESENTATION

Yampa Valley Housing Authority's Deputy Director, Elliot Lawrence, provided a presentation about the Yampa Valley Housing Authority (YVHA) and the solutions they are developing to address Steamboat's housing crisis, including the Mid Valley development and Brown Ranch.

EN RE: SARVIS CREEK WILDERNESS EXPANSION AREA

Soren Jespersen, consultant working on public land presented information and answered about the proposed Sarvis Creek Wilderness Area Expansion Project seeking to add 7,200 acres to the existing wilderness area. Trustee Dobbins made a motion that the Board sign a letter of support for the proposed Sarvis Creek Wilderness Area Expansion Project which will add 7,200 acres to the wilderness area.

Trustee McElfish seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1; Trustee Turati voted no.

EN RE: STAFF & BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Kelsi Edwards advised the Board that there will be a local Town Board candidate Meet and Greet on March 7, 2024, 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

David Torgler advised the Board that a ballot drawing was held earlier in the day to determine candidate order on the April 2nd Town ballots. Ballots will now be printed and sent out on or before March 21st. WinterFest will be held on February 24th. Rossi Meadows are open for winter skiing. On Monday, February 5th at 1:00 p.m. Routt County and the City of Steamboat Springs will hold a joint meeting with CDOT Director Shoshana Lew along with Transportation, Rick Ridder, to discuss CDOT transportation matters including passenger rail, west Steamboat growth, Bustang and expanded transit needs to access the Front Range.

Mayor Knoebel reviewed upcoming WinterFest activities and thanked the ladies at the Bank of the San Juans for their involvement.

Trustee McElfish reminded everyone that Soroco will be hosting a kid's dance on Saturday, February 10th, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

EN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Gagne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Dobbins seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

No further business coming before the Board, same adjourned sine die at 7:22 p.m.

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David Torgler
Town Administrator/Clerk

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Nikki Knoebel, Mayor

Date:_____, 2024_____