

RICO TOWN BOARD MINUTES

August 19, 2020

The regular Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Barbara Betts.

Members Present. Barbara Betts, Joe Dillsworth, Patrick Fallon, Sophia Kyriakakis, Nicole Pieterse, Brandy Randall and Stephen Roberts.

Staff Present. Kari Distefano and Linda Yellowman.

Guests Present.

Approval of the Agenda. The agenda for August 19, 2020 was presented for approval. Barbara Betts made a motion to approve the agenda for August 19, 2020 as amended. Patrick Fallon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item.

Consideration of a Minor Subdivision Application for the Ferando Subdivision, a Portion of Tract C, Town of Rico, Nicole Pieterse and Rob Cummings, representatives.

Tract C is a vacant tract that lies to the south of the Ferando Tract, which is owned by James and Kevin Ferando and to the north of Lot 40, Block 20 is owned by Rob Cummings and Nicole Pieterse. The two families would like to purchase the lot from the current owners, the Lackeys and subdivide it into two parcels, one of which would be owned by the Fernando's and the other would be owned by Nicole Pieterse and Rob Cummings. The proposed subdivision has less than three lots and the proposed lots are currently served by Town water and would not involve extensions of any other services, the applicants are allowed to combine the conceptual plan.

There are two waterlines running through Lot 2 (southern lot). Previously there were no formal easements dedicated to the Town for access to the waterline. This proposed subdivision would rectify that situation. This proposed subdivision also carves out a swath on the eastern boundary of the lots for a right-of-way dedication to the Town that is more in line with the traveled way that actually exists on the ground.

Joe Dillsworth made a motion to approve the Minor Subdivision application for the Ferando Subdivision, a Portion of Tract C, Town of Rico, Nicole Pieterse and Rob Cummings/representatives. Stephen Roberts seconded the motion. Nicole Pieterse abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes. The Rico Town Board minutes for July 15, 2020 were presented for approval. Sophia Kyriakakis made a motion to approve the minutes for July 15, 2020. Brandy Randall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of the Monthly Bills.

The Monthly bills for August 2020 were submitted for approval. Brandy Randall made a motion to approve the bills for August 2020. Stephen Roberts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizens Communication. Jim Ostrem mentioned the water issues. Being the water is hard, it has been hard on appliances and asked if something can be done about it. Kari said that Pat Drew and staff are working on a plan, possibly a filter at the pump. Will know more later.

Discussion Items-

Fall Fling. This event has been postpone.

Business License Enforcement.

There appear to be two unlicensed short-term rental operations in Rico. Both parties have been notified in the past that they will be fined if they continue to operate illegally. Staff have talked to the Town Attorney regarding this matter and have agreed to fine both owners \$300.00 with a caution that the fine will go up to \$500.00 if they continue to short-term their houses without a permit.

Upcoming Election.

Town Clerk said that the Dolores County Clerk Lana Hancock is working on getting a drop box for the mail in ballot in Rico at the courthouse before the November election. The mail ballot will be mailed out October 9, 2020. Hopefully the box will be installed before October.

Action Items.

Consideration of the Approval of the Pursuit of a Grant Application to Colorado Parks and Wildlife for the Construction of a Trail and a Bridge that would Extend the Existing Rio Grande Southern Railroad Grade Trail through Mike Popek's Property to the USFS Property to the South.

This trail was discussed at the last month's meeting. If we are to proceed with a grant application to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife this year, with the idea of beginning construction next season, staff will need the approval by resolution of the Rico Board of Trustees to go forward. The grant application is due October 1, 2020.

The bridge will be the most significant expense and based on estimates from the internet and we should expect it will cost between \$100, 00 and \$110, 00. These grants require a 30% match. The Conservation Trust Fund is administered by the State of Colorado and again can only be used for specific purposes related to recreation.

It is possible that the Town could acquire match funding from other organizations such as the Rico Center or the Rico Trail's Alliance. If we are going to apply for this grant, the Town should be prepared to cover the cost of match.

The Board discussed the cost for the trails and bridge. Pros and cons were heard from the public. Suggestion was made by the Board to postpone the approval to next month's meeting.

Discussion of Signage, Speed Bumps and the Consideration of the 1st Reading of the Readoption of the Model Traffic Code with an Exception to Establish a Speed Limit of 15 Miles Per Hour on All Roads Other Than Colorado Highway 145, otherwise Known as Glasgow Avenue within the Town of Rico.

Speeding continues to be a problem in Town. Staff have had a number of queries regarding more speed bumps and signs. Unfortunately, the only ordinance that was found that addressed speeding was Ordinance No. 2002-3 adopting the Model Traffic Code. The Model Traffic Code says that the speed limit in residential areas should be 30 miles per hour. Obviously that is

inappropriate for Rico. If Rico is to have a safer speed limit in residential areas, the Board needs to re-adopt the Model Traffic Code with an exception to establish a speed limit of 15 miles per hour on the side streets.

Consideration of an Agreement with the Artists of Rico to Administer the Showing of Artwork in the Rico Town Hall.

There has been some discussion among the Artists of Rico regarding showing work in the Rico Town Hall. Two representatives from the Artists of Rico met with staff and discuss a proposal that allows the Artists to administer the display of artwork on the Town Hall walls.

Sophia Kyriakakis made a motion to approve the Agreement with the Artists of Rico to Administer the Showing of Artwork in the Rico Town Hall. Brandy Randall seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of the Renewal of the Liquor License for the Enterprise Bar and Grill.

Everything is in order and recommend approval. Patrick Fallon made a motion to approve the renewal of the Liquor License for the Enterprise Bar and Grill. Seconded by Stephen Roberts. Motion passed with Brandy Randall abstaining.

Consideration of a Rico Land Use Code Amendment to Allow Certain Wire Fences.

It had been brought to the staff's attention by one of the Trustees that there are a couple of wire fences around houses, one of which has a dog that gets protective of his territory when we go to read the water meter. Based on the Rico Land Use Code paragraph in Section 204.3, that people should not only have wire fences, but they should not exceed four feet in the front. This presents a dilemma because many dogs can jump over a four-foot fence, especially in the winter and some landlords allow their tenants to have dogs without building fences to keep the dogs in the yards. The other issue is that although the Rico Land Use Code requires that people who want to build fences in the Historic Commercial District get a permit, fences in the rest of the town, as long as they are less than six feet high do not require permits. This issue merits some discussion by the Trustees to determine whether the Town should continue to enforce aesthetic regulations or revise the RLUC to make it easier to contain at-large dogs. The consensus from the Board was to keep what we have already and review each request case by case.

Council and Committee Reports.

Town Clerk.

Public Works.

Parks, Open Space and Trails.

Sewer Committee.

Town Manager's Report.

Water Tank Work Update.

The water tank repair and reseal project is proceeding on schedule. The two newer tanks are in fairly good condition but they have required some welding where there was corrosion. The project should be finished in a couple of weeks and we will be able to refill both tanks.

New Website.

The new website is scheduled to go live on September 9, 2020. While the format is somewhat different than the current website, the information is the same. The new web site will have a form that you can fill out if you would like to be included on an email list for Town information.

CDOT Sidewalk Work.

Krisinda Rapiejko of CDOT would like to meet with the Town and do a site walk to look at the areas of the proposed improvement for sidewalks in 2021. Ms. Rapiejko and other CDOT members are planning to be in Rico the week of August 24, 2020.

Executive Session.

Executive Session, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e), to discuss and determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations and instructing negotiations regarding the VCUP.

Adjournment. Barbara Betts made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 800 pm. Sophia Kyriakakis. Motion passed unanimously.


Linda Yellowman
Rico Town Clerk


Barbara Betts
Mayor

