

## RICO TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 19, 2025

Call to Order 7:00 PM

### Trustees Present:

Mayor Patrick Fallon  
Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard  
Trustee Gerrish Willis (zoom)  
Trustee Scott Poston  
Trustee Benn Vernadakis

### Trustees Absent:

Trustee Joe Dillsworth  
Trustee Chris Condon

Staff Present. Chauncey McCarthy, Anna Wolf, Wilton Anderson (zoom)

### Approval of the Agenda

#### Motion

To approve the agenda with the changes.

Moved by Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 5-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, and Trustee Scott Poston, Mayor Patrick Fallon.

### Approval of the Minutes

Pat abstains from the vote as he was not present.

#### Motion

To approve the minutes.

Moved by, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 4-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, and Trustee Scott Poston,  
Abstained Mayor Patrick Fallon.

### Consent Agenda

#### Payment of the Bills

#### Motion

To approve payment of the bills.

**Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis**

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 5-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, and Trustee Scott Poston, Mayor Patrick Fallon.

**Action Items**

Consideration of second reading of Ordinance 2025-05 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado amending the year 2025 budget and approving supplemental appropriations of money

Mayor Patrick Fallon gives summary.

**Motion**

Move to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2025-05 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado amending the year 2025 budget and approving supplemental appropriations of money

**Moved by Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard**

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 5-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, and Trustee Scott Poston, Mayor Patrick Fallon.

**Swearing in of the new members of the Rico Board of Trustees**

**Trustees Present:**

Mayor Patrick Fallon  
Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard  
Trustee Gerrish Willis (zoom)  
Trustee Scott Poston  
Trustee Benn Vernadakis  
Trustee Thomas Clark  
Trustee Gregg Anderson

**Trustees Absent:**

**Public Comment:**

**Presentation**

Performance Services

Stephen Riveras, Dave Koch, Kate Sawyer and give presentation.

The Board has a discussion.

Public Comment: Jim Baron

## Montelores Coalition

Kalin Grigg and Tom Rice gives their presentation.

### **Action Items**

#### Consideration of a proposal for code-compliance and renovation of a 1-bedroom house, Presbyterian Manse

Mayor Patrick Fallon and Benn Vernadakis recuse themselves due to financial gains.

Mayor Pre Tem give introduction

Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy gives summary.

Public Comment: Jim Baron

### **Motion**

I move to approve the proposal from Uncle Woody's Woodwork for code-compliance and renovation of the one-bedroom house at 110 E. Mantz Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$33,425, and to authorize Town staff to purchase materials necessary for the project, with a total project cost not to exceed \$43,425.

**Moved by** Trustee Gregg Anderson, seconded by Trustee Scott Poston.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 5-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, and Trustee Scott Poston,  
Abstained Mayor Patrick Fallon, Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

#### Consideration of first reading of Ordinance 2025-06 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado adopting the year 2026 town budget; appropriating sums of money; and setting and certifying town mill levies

Mayor Patrick Fallon gives summary.

Board has discussion.

### **Motion**

move to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-06 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado adopting the year 2026 town budget; appropriating sums of money; and setting and certifying town mill levies with the Manse improvements added as a line item of \$43,425.

**Moved by** Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.

#### Consideration of first reading of Ordinance 2025-07 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado repealing ordinance no. 241

Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy gives summary.

Board has discussion.

**Motion**

Move to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2025-07, an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado repealing Ordinance No. 241.

**Moved by** Trustee Scott Poston, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.

Consideration of first read of Ordinance 2025-08 an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado, amending ordinance no 2001-7, and 2005-5 to implement the amendments to the mill levy for the street reconstruction and maintenance fund, the allocation of sales tax revenue for street reconstruction and maintenance from the general operating fund, and the reallocation of existing mills levied for the sewer fund to the street reconstruction and maintenance fund as authorized by the Rico electorate at the November 4, 2025 election.

Mayor Patrick Fallon gives summary.

The Board has a discussion.

Public comment: Jim Baron.

Legal to give path forward.

**Motion**

I move to approve on first reading Ordinance No. 2025-08, an ordinance of the Town of Rico, Colorado, amending Ordinance Nos. 2001-7 and 2005-5 to implement the amendments to the mill levy and the reallocation of revenues for the Street Reconstruction and Maintenance Fund as authorized by the Rico electorate at the November 4, 2025 election.

**Moved by** Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Scott Poston.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.

Water usage fee waiver request, Account 120, Jude Guthridge

Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy gave summary

Town Board has discussion

**Motion**

I move to approve a reduction of Account No. 120's water bill from \$2,362 to the standard monthly rate of \$42.

**Moved by** Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Trustee Gregg Anderson.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.  
Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.

### **Staff Report**

#### Clerk's report:

Election update.

Getting the New Marshal set up.

CMCA conference update

Ordinance review to come to the Town Board soon.

Reorganizing the Court house.

#### Manager's report

Rico won the Small community of the Year.

The Church committee will report to the Board in January. Electric backup heaters installed.

Planning commission seats are coming to the Board to assign next month.

The Ice Rink will be delivered on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.

Holiday Ice rink kickoff party on December 26<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

### **Discussion Items**

#### Water system update

Town manager Chauncey McCarthy gives update.

Board has discussion

#### Special event permit

Town manager Chauncey McCarthy gives update.

Board has discussion

For Profit and over 100 people should require a special event permit.

Town Staff to bring Dolores County special event permit to the board in December

Mayor Patrick Fallon: We have an Executive Session for matters scheduled on the agenda pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) to conference with the town attorney for the purposes of receiving legal advice on a specific legal question related to extension of the temporary moratorium on the acceptance of new land use applications for major or minor subdivisions, and residential or commercial planned unit developments as proposed in Ordinance No. 2025-09, as well as matters related to Leah Lane and the associated legal costs Leah lane lawsuit

### **Motion**

I move to go into an executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) to conference with the town attorney

for the purposes of receiving legal advice on a specific legal question related to extension of the temporary moratorium on the acceptance of new land use applications for major or minor subdivisions, and residential or commercial planned unit developments as proposed in Ordinance No. 2025-09 as well as matters related to Leah Lane lawsuit.

**Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.**

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.

Mayor Patrick Fallon:

It's November 19, 2025 and the time is 21:49o'clock p.m. For the record, I am the presiding officer, Mayor Patrick Fallon. As required by the Open Meetings Law, this executive session is being electronically recorded.

Also present at this executive session are the following persons:

Board of Trustees: Cristal Hibbard, Thomas Clark, Gregg Anderson, Benn Vernadakis, Gerrish Willis, and Scott Poston

Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy,

Town Clerk Anna Wolf

Town Attorney Wilton Anderson

This is an executive session called pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) to conference with the town attorney for the purposes of receiving legal advice on a specific legal question regarding extension of the temporary moratorium on the acceptance of new land use applications for major or minor subdivisions, and residential or commercial planned unit developments as proposed in Ordinance No. 2025-09 as well as matters related to Leah lane lawsuit I caution each participant to confine all discussion to the stated purpose of the executive session, and that no formal action may occur in the executive session.

Town Attorney Wilton Anderson: As Town Attorney, it is my opinion that the receipt of legal advice from myself concerning the extension of the temporary moratorium on the acceptance of new land use applications for major or minor subdivisions, and residential or commercial planned unit developments as proposed in Ordinance No. 2025-09 constitutes a privileged attorney-client communication that is authorized for discussion in an executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b). I am therefore recommending that no further record be kept of this executive session.

MAYOR: The time is now 22:33 p.m., I have turned the recording device back on because the privileged attorney-client communication is finished.

MAYOR: The time is now 22:33 p.m. and the executive session is concluded. If any

Board of Trustee member believes that any discussion in the executive session was inappropriate and not related to the topic and purpose of the executive session announced in the motion to go into executive session, please state your objections at this time.

Hearing none, as Mayor, I hereby attest that this recording reflects the actual discussion at the executive session. It has been made to satisfy the recording requirements of the Colorado Open Meetings Law. I hereby request that the Town Clerk retain the record for a 90-day period.

It is now 22:34 o'clock p.m.

**Motion**

Move to continue the question of the Temporary moratorium to a date uncertain.

**Moved by** Mayor Patrick Fallon, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.

**Motion**

To Adjourn

**Moved by** Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard.

**Vote.** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Voting Yes Trustee Gerrish Willis, Mayor Pro Tem Cristal Hibbard, Trustee Benn Vernadakis, Trustee Gregg Anderson, Trustee Thomas Clark, Mayor Patrick Fallon and Trustee Scott Poston.



Anna Wolf  
Rico Town Clerk



Patrick Fallon  
Mayor

