

CENTER TOWN BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2023
5:30 P.M.

A workshop was held at 5:30 p.m. regarding stop signs in Town.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at by Mayor Garcia at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Garcia	P
Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez	P
Trustee Beiriger	P
Trustee Gonzales	P
Trustee Gallegos	P
Trustee Barela	P

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez, seconded by Trustee Barela.

Roll Call –All in favor. Motion Carries.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bill McClure – Mr. McClure said that he has always been a strong supporter of the Town of Center. Mr. McClure said that he would like them to reconsider the rehiring of the Public Work Director. Mr. McClure said he has nothing against the Mr. Hurtado. Mr. McClure said that he bailed the Town out of debt; Mr. McClure said that he is concerned about the utility funds. There are a lot of salaries being paid out of the Utilities and would like the Public Works Director to have the knowledge of the utilities. Mr. McClure is questioning the starting wage. Department heads should be hired by the Board not the Town Manager. The Town is also paying the financial person who lives in another City. All this money is not going to stay in the Town.

Adeline Sanchez – Ms. Sanchez said that there are a lot of people talking about the Town Council. The Board has an obligation to the community. They will not talk and get answers. Ms. Sanchez said she was here to represent the community. Ms. Sanchez told the Board to become knowledgeable about Town Government. Who’s making the decisions? The Town Boards job is to govern the people. Hiring qualified people for the job. There are a lot of concerned people. There Is an election coming up and people can be replaced. Ms. Sanchez said that she wants answers to her concerns.

Mitchell Garcia – Mr. Garcia would like to talk about history. Mr. Garcia talked about the founding of Center and the agriculture. Mr. Garcia talked about the populations and the reasons for the changes in our populations. Brian has been here during the losses of the population. Brian told him that he disagreed.

Mona Garcia – Ms. Garcia talked about the history. There are no jobs and people are leaving. Ms. Garcia does not want Center to turn into a Ghost Town. Ms. Garcia would like the Town to give incentives. Ms. Garcia would like the people to be given respect at meetings. There are little things that the Town can do for the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes – No questions.

Court Report – Rose and Natalia talked about some of the concerns from the court proceedings.

Police Report – 62 cases were handled for the month. The Dept. has been busy. Two officers have been on which really helps. Mayor pro-Tem Martinez said Officer Adolph has been very busy.

Public Works Dept. Reports – Duane presented the report.

Utilities – There was an outage due to a semi-truck hitting a power pole. The utility crew got everything attached back up to the new system. Skyview Cooling is running well, no issues. The old bucket truck will cost about \$11,000 to repair. Duane recommends that they sell it during the auction. Once everything is underground would need a big truck and a smaller truck. A new truck would be \$90,000+. The Mayor would like to take a look at the truck.

Water- the Town is getting push back about the Back Flow preventers not getting tested by the commercial users. They have sent out certified letters to all commercial customers that our not complying. It is the commercial business responsibility to get it done yearly. The requirement is about 90% of backflows being protected.

Streets and Parks – There were no questions.

Building Report – There were no questions.

PAYABLES

A motion to approve the payables was made by Trustee Gallegos, seconded by Trustee Barela. Roll Call –All in favor. Motion Carries.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Trustee Duran resigned her position. Brian read the State Statue concerning the vacancy. Brian explained the process.

NEW BUSINESS

DOLA Planning Grant – Brian talked about the grant and match. \$25,000 grant that will take a match, it was already budgeted for in the Economic Development. A motion to approve the DOLA planning grant was made by Trustee Beiriger, seconded by Trustee Gallegos. Roll Call –All in favor. Motion carries.

New Moon Celebration – Ann Cunningham talked about Sceed is organizing the will have a celebration; they are trying to build and celebrate the Saguache Community. Wild and scenic festival will be held at 8:00 p.m. They would like to borrow the new stage from the Town.

Prop 123 – Opt In – Passed about the State legislation for affordable housing. Entice developers to the Municipalities to develop. The municipalities have to incur 9% increase to affordable housing units. There really is no negative affect to opt in. Mr. McClure recommended that the Board would approve the opt in. Mayor asked for more information. Brian will get it for Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager’s Contract – A motion to approve the Town Manager’s Contract was made by Trustee Gallegos, seconded by Trustee Beiriger. Roll Call – All in favor. Motion Carries.

Update 50’s Celebration – Rose told the Board that everything is all set for August 19, 2023. The Board asked if Rose could give an update after the Celebration.

CALENDAR ITEMS

August 22nd - Farm Fresh Direct – new addition – Council who could attend 11:00 p.m.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Board Vacancy

Prop 123

Report how the Festival went.

ADJOURMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Gallegos, seconded by Trustee Beiriger. Roll Call – All in favor. Motion Carries.

Submitted by,

Rose Marie DeHerrera-CMC
Town Clerk

Anthony Garcia
Mayor