

**CENTER TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022
5:30 P.M.**

A workshop to review Police Chief Applications was held at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:18 by Mayor Garcia.

ROLL CALL

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

AGENDA

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes – There were no changes to the minutes.

Court Report – There were no questions.

Police Report – The cases have increased. Interim Chief Fresquez described the increases. Seven Peaks went well, the department assisted with the festival. Interim Chief Fresquez will be looking into utilizing and approving Monte Vista Police Department MTC code and possibly ordinances. The drag races went really good. The volunteers and officers worked hard and did really good. Mayor Garcia asked about the people that are walking around, Interim Chief Fresquez said that unless they do something criminally there is nothing they can do; Some of them have been cited into County. Saguache County does not have a functioning jail. Mayor pro-Tem Martinez said that the homeless will not go somewhere for help even if they offered a place (tent City) or a ride.

Public Works Report –

Utilities- The poles are waiting to be installed.

Water – The billing is still causing issues. There are still waiting on some of the meters which are back ordered.

Streets and Parks –SRT project - the engineering part was awarded to Davis Engineering.

Building Report – Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez asked about the drive way. There is nothing in code that states they can't. If they need to get to a utility then it will be cut since it is in the easement. The cost will be to the homeowner.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Trustee Barela, seconded by Trustee Gonzales.

Roll Call – All in favor. Motion Carries.

PAYABLES

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

MANAGERS REPORT – Brian reported on the Planning commission. There is interest for this Board.

Brian will send out the ordinances concerning the commission will be sent out and a work session will be scheduled on how to form the planning commission.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Dave did not have anything new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Dark Skies Initiative – Dani Robben with the Dark Skies Initiative came to the meeting. The mission of the program is to bring new things to the SLV concerning the dark skies. They are trying to protect the night sky and establish an International Dark Sky protection. In 2020 the museum got a grant to establish a tour about our dark sky friendly. The Sangre de Cristo coalition was established. Ms. Robben asked that the Town consider adopting a lighting management plan preserving the night sky. The Town of Center is currently not in the boundaries, but hopefully once it's approved the Town may be able to be included. Ms. Robben handed an ordinance adopted by Blanca. Mayor Garcia asked if the Town would have to purchase new lights. The IDA does not expect that smaller communities do that. It would be for future development. Brian said that the Board will discuss it further and that Ms. Robben would be willing to help the Town.

Murals – 2 Signs on Hwy 285 & Hwy 17 – Saguache County Tourism is applying for a grant and we submit a project we may be able to get some funding. They would like to move the Hwy 17 sign to a better location. Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez has been working with her and discussed some of the projects that she would like to do. She suggested that maybe we could get something made out of metal that the Town is known for (possibly the water tower) and put them on the poles. Also, possibly the angel wings that could go on the M&M liquor store wall or possibly a mural. Brian said that we would need a cost and a plan of what would be on the signs.

Donation Center Head Start Book Fair – Brian said that he had talked with the Headstart about a donation. Mr. McClure asked that the Town donate \$500 for the little kids. A motion to donate \$500 to the Head Start Book Fair was made by Trustee Duran, seconded by Trustee Beiriger. Roll Call – All in favor. Motion Carries.

Car Purchase – Utility and Police – Interim Chief Fresquez said he did an analysis with Enterprise Fleet. They will not be going with Enterprise but the report was good. Interim Chief Fresquez is looking to buy 2 vehicles. He is looking to buy a new car and a new k-9 vehicle. There are three vehicles that they will

sell and or give code enforcement a newer explorer. The older cars do not have the safety equipment that the newer cars have. Dave said that he has looked at 4 trucks one to include a new snow plow. Two of the current trucks are year 2000s and have almost 200 thousand miles. One to Utility, one to water and two to Streets and Parks. They are fairly good prices for trucks. Interim Chief Fresquez said that we need to start a vehicle rotating system. The payments for the police car purchase would be \$25,000 there is a current payment of \$21,000. The budget for the trucks has been in place for 3 years. Brian feels that it is a good idea right now. Interim Chief Fresquez and Cpl. Ruybal are certified for TVI. Brian stated that they have worked with Paula to make sure that the budget can sustain this purchase. The payment for Dave's trucks would be \$44,000 and his budget is \$56,000. A motion to proceed with the purchase of the vehicles and disposal of the old vehicles was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez, seconded by Trustee Duran. Roll Call – all in favor. Motion Carries.

OLD BUSINESS

North 90 Wells – Dave said he got a hold of the water attorney's and the engineers and they saw no reason that they could take our wells whether they are working or not. Dave has a call into sub district one, the Water Conservancy said they have them already in the works.

Dish Partnership – Brian said that the Dish would like the partnership with the Town and this is a continuation of the other dish event. The events that will be in the Town and the owners of the buildings will pick up the cost of the event held at the old Ford Garage. The Drive in will be a ticketed event, although if they show an ID with the 81125 they will get in free. Mayor Pro-Tem said she's not opposed to the donation just to the amount since we had just given them money. It is for Economic Development and the event will be free to the community. They were originally asked for \$10,000; Brian did look in the budget and felt that \$7,000 would be feasible. Trustee Duran asked what the money would be used for; it is for the partnership with the Dish. Trustee Barela also feels that the \$7,000 is too much money. Trustee Duran made a motion to donate \$7,000 for the dish, this motion died for a lack of a second. Trustee Gallegos made a motion to donate \$5,000 to the Dish, seconded by Trustee Barela. Roll Call – All in favor. Motion Carries.

Pathway – Dave said as it stands there is an agreement Heather Healy with Healy Law Office that will help fight this issue. There's talk of doing the cost by percentages of load. This firm is use to going up against FERC and the PUC. The Board is going to have to make a decision if they would need to make the money available to help in the fight. Attorney Trujillo said that he sees no other way or how we can avoid it. There may be more municipalities that may join the fight. A motion to approve no more than \$30,000 for the fight on the pathway issue was made by Trustee Barela, seconded by Trustee Duran. Roll Call –All in favor. Motion Carries.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Planning commission

Cost on Re-drilling the wells.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Gallegos, seconded by Trustee Barela. Roll Call – All in favor. Motion Carries. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Submitted by,

Rose Marie DeHerrera-CMC
Town Clerk

Anthony Garcia
Mayor