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**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
5:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Mayor Aragon, Council Member Cotton, Council Member Holt, Council Member Lattin, Council Member Pierce, Council Member Volger
- II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 7<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010** – Minutes were approved as read.
- III. LIQUOR LICENSES**
  - 1. Liquor License Renewal – Pagosa Bar Inc., 460 Pagosa Street**
  - 2. Liquor License Renewal – Artisans of the Southwest, 175 Pagosa Street** – Council Member Cotton moved to approve the liquor license renewals for Pagosa Bar and Artisans of the Southwest, Council Member Volger seconded, unanimously approved.
  - 3. Special Events Liquor Permit – Folkwest Inc., Free Friday Folk ‘n Bluegrass in the Town Park, June 4, 2010**
  - 4. Special Events Liquor Permit – Folkwest Inc., Pagosa Folk ‘n Bluegrass Festival on Reservoir Hill June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010** – Council Member Pierce moved to approve both special events liquor permits for Folkwest Inc. on June 4 at Town Park and June 5 and 6 on Reservoir Hill, Council Member Lattin seconded, unanimously approved.
- IV. DELEGATIONS**
  - 1. LaPlata Electric Sub Station – Keith Newbold** – Mr. Keith Newbold presented on behalf of the Parelli Group concerns about the redesign of the substation across from Parelli on Hwy 160. The current Ponderosa substation is not necessarily noticeable; however the proposed expansion increases the site monumentally by 8-9 times of the current site. The site plan presented to the County Planning and Building Department shows a tower possibly 40 feet high to assist in the increased amount of electricity available to the community. The Parelli Group leased or purchased acreage at and around the ranch area to preserve the beautiful views. The Parelli Group has requested LPEA to design the site with natural barriers to decrease the overwhelming view but LPEA has been unresponsive until just recently. According to the Archuleta County records, the LPEA site is designated agriculture. The only way LPEA can ask for a variance is if there is no impact to the surrounding community. Mr. Newbold is asking the Town Council to weigh-in on this subject and possibly pass a resolution asking the County Commissioners to mitigate all adverse effects of the proposed site. Mr. Ron Meyer, Manager of Engineering for LPEA, says the proposed substation is bigger than what is there now and LPEA needs to take into consideration the financial responsibility for the company. Mitigation includes the possibility of a 7 foot block wall that LPEA has requested Parelli assist with costs. The possibility of an earthen berm big enough to hide the tower would not be possible on this site. He explained the fifteen year build-out plan for Pagosa Springs will include bigger transmission lines coming into Archuleta County. Council Member Pierce suggests talking with the Commissioners prior to their decision on the approval of this site plan. Mr. Phil Starks said the additional dirt removed from the sub station, approximately 20,000 cubic yards, was to be given to the sanitation district to get the proposed

wastewater plant out of the 500 year plain.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Nuisance Violation update at 303 S. 8th Street** - There have been complaints over the last few years regarding auto parts and non operational vehicles on the property causing a nuisance. Contact was made with the property owner who rebuilds old cars as a hobby in the garage structure on the property, who has quickly cleaned up the area after each incident. It was determined that a fenced area to hide the items to be used was the best solution. The property owner has made arrangements for the materials and plans to erect the fence within the next few weeks. Council Member Volger says that the staff's use of discretion in enforcement matters in this area is very appropriate and supports the option to build a fence. Council Member Lattin agrees with the building of the fence which would be under six feet high wooden picket fence similar to the neighbor's current fence. Council Member Pierce agrees with building the fence and hopes this property owner will not have a violation next year. Mayor Aragon appreciates the way Town Planner Dickhoff handled the violation and his excellent diplomacy.
- 2. Clean Up Week Proclamation** – Over the last two decades the Town has assisted the residents to clean up and make improvements to the community. This year's clean up week is scheduled for May 17 to 21. Town residents can dump their items in the dumpsters provided, and the streets crew will be picking up larger items at certain streets around town. Council Member Holt moved to authorize the mayor to sign the Clean Up Week proclamation, proclaiming that Monday May 17 through Friday May 21 be designated as Pagosa Springs Clean-Up Week 2010, Council Member Volger seconded, unanimously approved.
- 3. Town Council Retreat May 13<sup>th</sup> Discussion of Agenda** – The retreat is scheduled for Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Community Center. Some of the items to be discussed include policy versus administrative process and the capital improvement plan.
- 4. Southwest Colorado Council of Governments Liability Insurance** – The newly organized SWCCOG intergovernmental agreement includes most of the southwest Colorado political subdivisions. Earlier this year, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs awarded the SWCCOG a \$3 million grant to fulfill the objectives set forth in the Beanpole II grant application. As part of the agreement with DOLA, the SWCCOG must have liability insurance in force prior to the contractual agreement being executed. Resolution 2010-07 proposes the Town of Pagosa Springs sponsors the SWCCOG application for membership in the Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA) which the Town is a member. Council Member Holt moved to approve Resolution 2010-07, a resolution consenting to participation by the Southwest Colorado Council of Governments in the Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency, Council Member Volger seconded, unanimously approved.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Parelli Natural Horse-man-ship Job Creation Performance** – In 2005 the Town of Pagosa Springs invested \$500,000 in infrastructure for the benefit of Parelli Natural Horse-man-ship, Inc. In exchange, Parelli agreed to create and maintain twenty-five (25) new full-time equivalent jobs in Archuleta County by December 31, 2010. Parelli records audited by Region 9 Economic Development indicate that Parelli has added a total of 25 new jobs to its base employment as follows: 6 new employees in 2005, 6 in 2006, 5 in 2007, 5 in 2008, and 3 in 2009. Even in the current economic downturn, Parelli has met its performance requirements for 2009; therefore the Town manager will execute a release from obligation on the final \$100,000 letter of credit. In 2010, Parelli added additional jobs moving portions of their business from California into Archuleta County.

## VII. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- 1. Parks and Recreation Department Report** - The basketball program ended the 29<sup>th</sup> of April, tee ball began April 21 and will run through May 19. The youth baseball season will begin in late may and run through early July. The youth tennis and hooked on fishing programs will begin later in May. The parks crew has completed reseeding efforts on portions of Yamaguchi Park. The parks and streets crew have removed the old Arts Council building and are working to

expand the playground and the north parking lot. Darryl Coster has completed the digital survey of the proposed skate park site at Yamaguchi Park. Once Pillar has received the geotechnical tests, the firm can begin work on the redesign of the skate park. It is anticipated the redesign and preliminary construction cost estimate of the skate park will be available by mid-May. The whitewater features in the San Juan River next to Town Park will take place in the fall due to high water. Mr. Anthony Doctor was publicly appreciated for his financial contribution to the whitewater fund and also for his volunteering efforts.

- 2. Planning Department Report** – The Historic Preservation Board has scheduled activities for the first two weeks of May for Colorado Historic Preservation Month. The activities include historic photo displays at some art galleries, old Pagosa related films at the theatre, youth scavenger hunt, guest speakers and book signings. Negotiations are underway for securing the ground lease from the Mural on Main Wall to be placed on Centurylink's property. Hart Construction has been awarded the contract and demolition will proceed upon signing of the ground lease. The Wayfinding sign committee has selected PQC Builders to construct the two initial Wayfinding signs. One will be placed at the southwest corner of Hot Springs Blvd and one at the overlook parking fountain. Construction should begin within the next week or so. The planning department will be presenting the CDOT Highway Access Management Plan for formal adoption by the Town Council. Failure to adopt the plan may result in reduced funding opportunities from CDOT. Council Member Holt would like to discuss the CDOT access plan during the retreat and possibly have a CDOT representative available. Town Manager James Dickhoff has been working with CDOT to install a left turn arrow at Hwy 160 and Hot Springs Blvd. He is also working with CDOT to set up quarterly meetings with CDOT and the Town and County planning staff to keep up to date and in coordination of projects. An annexation request from the Links located at 109 Ace Court, west of the Hillside Inn, has been received and will be presented to the council. Council Member Holt has issues with annexing the access to the Links on Solomon Drive. Town Planner James Dickhoff will be out in the community this month giving residents encouragement should their property need additional cleaning up. This process is to help the property owners take advantage of the free clean-up week the Town is offering in May. Several organizations have helped residents with hardships to clean up their property free of charge. Mr. Cappy White is happy to hear the possibility of discussion with CDOT on a quarterly basis; he would hope that CDOT would address the issue of lowering the eastbound downtown speed to 25mph similar to the westbound traffic. Ms. Wendy Saunders agrees with Mr. White regarding the speed of the Hwy 160 in the downtown 35mph/25mph area to assist pedestrians to cross the street safely.
- 3. Town Tourism Committee Report** – The February lodgers tax collections indicate an increase of 13.32% over February 2009, and March lodgers tax reflect a 16.47% increase over March 2009. The visitor center saw a 139% increase in fulfillment requests compared to March 2009. A reservoir hill task force has been formed to develop strategic plan for reservoir hill to provide more activities in the downtown. Council Member Pierce has concerns with the TTC taking on this project and would encourage the Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the Parks and Recreation Department supervisors to participate.
- 4. Town Manager Report** – JR Ford's proposed bio-mass project is moving along with meeting with the forest service to identify locations for the forest thinning. This project could potentially employ 20 people in the area with the help of Don Goodwin of the Education Center. The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation will be interviewing the top three candidates for the executive director position on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The CDC has set a starting salary range of \$70,000 to \$95,000 for the new PSCDC executive director. Sales tax revenues for February increased by .05% compared to February 2009. The first major capital improvement project identified by Council according to the Capital Improvement Decision Matrix is the reconstruction of Lewis Street from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> streets. An RFP was sent out and is due back by Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. Several engineering firms have come to look at the project in preparation for bidding the project. Lewis Street may qualify for new stimulus monies available from CDOT which may put a hold on the construction phase of the Lewis Street reconstruction project. Mr. Cappy White asked about the use of stimulus monies and has talked with other business owners about funding projects that generate sales tax revenues and attract new businesses. He believes the Wayfinding and signage project would be a good place to put the stimulus monies. Town Manager Mitchem talked with County Administrator Schulte and agreed to discuss the possibility of the use-tax at the mid-month joint worksession.

**VIII. Next Town Council Meeting May 20, 2010 at 12noon**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT** – Upon motion duly made, the meeting adjourned at 6:43pm

**Ross Aragón  
Mayor**