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**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2009**  
**Town Hall Council Chambers**  
**12:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Mayor Aragon, Council Member Holt, Council Member Jackson, Council Member Pierce, Council Member Volger
- II. **LIQUOR LICENSES**
  1. **Liquor License Renewal – Mountain Spirits Inc 135 Country Center Drive** – Council Member Pierce moved to approve the liquor license renewal for Mountain Spirits Inc, Council Member Jackson seconded, unanimously approved.
- III. **DELEGATIONS**
- IV. **NEW BUSINESS**
  1. **Naming of Town Park Pedestrian Bridge** – At the July 7, 2009 meeting, the late Roger Behr, Commander of American Legion Post 108, recommended that the new Town park pedestrian bridge be named either Veterans Memorial Bridge or Archuleta County Veterans Memorial Bridge. The consensus of Council was favorable to the naming of the bridge requested by Mr. Behr. The American Legion Post 108 has stated that they would be willing to pay for the posting of the name on the bridge. Council Member Volger moved to name the new pedestrian bridge the Veterans Memorial Bridge with the recommendation of the plaque which includes logos from all branches of the military, Council Member Holt seconded, unanimously approved.
  2. **Selection of Skate Park Site** – At the request of Council, staff has evaluated the Town-owned parcel of land due east of the local post office and due north of Spring Street at the west end of Reservoir Hill as a possible site for the new skate park. The site is large enough to accommodate the current skate park design, and the parcel on the south side of Springs Street which is owned by the Town could eventually serve as a parking area with restrooms. With the Town Park and Yamaguchi Park sites no longer being considered, it is staff's opinion that this parcel is currently the most viable. Council Member Volger has had many people tell him that they think that the Springs Street site is a wonderful location with amazing potential. Joan Slavinski feels the Springs Street site is most appropriate and a skate park will draw more families to visit. Glen Sterkel has concerns about the flood plain if the Town Park site were selected, he agrees with the Springs Street site. Mike Musgrove thinks the Springs Street site is an excellent site and appreciates the work the Council has done on this project. Pam Schoemig with the Lodgers Association has concern about using the Town Park for the skate park; she likes the Springs Street site as an alternative. Mr. Gene Willis believes the Springs Street site would be a good location for a skate park. Mr. Hoch thanked the Council for all their hard work and is still willing to make a donation for the site. Council Member Jackson moved to approve the Spring Street site for evaluation and possible construction of new skate park, Council Member Volger seconded, unanimously approved. Council Member Pierce told the younger group that she was impressed with their efforts. Parks and Recreation director, Tom Carosello, thanked the Council for their assistance and said the School District returned \$3,000 to the County who has agreed to give the money to the Town for the preliminary investigation of the Springs Street site.
  3. **July Sales Tax Brief** – The Town of Pagosa Springs' July '09 sales tax revenue declined - 2.88% compared to July '08. This brings the total year to date revenues up from June to a -

5.21%. The Town will continue to function at the 15% decreased expenditure budget until Council says otherwise. Councilmember Holt amazed that were hanging in there. We are doing very well in this economy.

- 4. Allocation of Budgeted Funds to AEDA** – The AEDA has proposed two significant projects that will add value to the Pagosa Springs economy: deploying of an economic gardening website and the conducting of a research study to garner market intelligence to assist with the development of the Lone Eagle Strategic Plan. The Economic Gardening Website similar to the Castle Rock site, is a collaborative effort with the AEDA, the Town of Pagosa Springs and the Chamber of Commerce. The site will provide tools for businesses to ensure they are competitive in the marketplace. The market intelligence study completed by Simon Walls, Ph.D. a marketing consultant, has been hired to conduct the study utilizing a quantitative methodology. This lone eagle study will assess the “make-up” of the individuals that fit the AEDA “lone eagle” model and obtain a greater understanding of the mindset and attributes of these entrepreneurs. The Town budgeted \$15,000 for the Archuleta Economic Development Association, with the 15% reduction in expenditures; the amount available to AEDA is \$12,750. The AEDA is excited to receive these monies to get going on these two valuable projects. Mary Jo Coulehan, along with Bart Mitchell presented to Council some enhancements to economic gardening and the potential for this website to answer questions for current and potential businesses in Pagosa Springs. The website would link to the Chamber of Commerce as well as the AEDA’s website and create a pro-business environment. Council Member Jackson would like Mr. Mitchell to give the statistics of what the AEDA has accomplished with the past funding from the Town. Mr. Mitchell explained that the AEDA has helped over 40 businesses with classes and many start lone eagle companies. Council Member Pierce questioned the amount of money the AEDA was asking for; Mr. Mitchell explained that the Council had already granted \$15,000 to AEDA but that with the Town budget cuts, the available amount is \$12,750, the presentation was simple a way to show the Council what they were spending the monies on. Mr. Bob Scott has joined the AEDA board and would like to move forward with the Town’s economic development. He encouraged the Council to attend an upcoming Economic Planning session scheduled late October or early November to move forward with a vision. Mr. Bill Hudson asked the Council to consider giving service organization monies to those organizations that purchase locally. Mr. Mitchell explained that the 2010 budget requests include funds for the lone eagle forum, the economic gardening web site and a database for blogging. Council Member Jackson moved to authorize the Town manager to execute payment to AEDA in the amount of \$12,750, Council Member Volger seconded, unanimously approved.
- 5. Resolution 2009-21: Amendment of FY 2009 Budget** – Throughout the year, adjustments are made to the approved budget to accommodate for unseen incidents or actions by Council, if a department of fund balance should go over the budgeted amount, a budget amendment must be completed by Council, and this amendment is reflected in the Capital Improvement Fund. The amendments to the Capital Improvement budget include increases in Revenues due to a CDOT grant that was not granted until after the first of the year. A State Trails grant that had been considered as revenue was not awarded to the Town. Unexpected expenditures include clean-up week, Paverstone work around the Town Hall, and street lighting expenses. Council Member Holt asked about the street lighting going up so much and Town Clerk, April Hessman, explained that when developing the new Capital Improvement Fund, not enough was put into the street lighting budget. Council Member Pierce moved to approve Resolution 2009-21 amending the Town’s 2009 approved budget to include increases in revenues and expense items, Council Member Holt seconded, unanimously approved.
- 6. Request by the Humane Society for additional funding** – Since 2000 the Town has contributed to the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs which provides shelter for stray and abandoned animals. The 2009 budget reflected a significant decrease for the shelter, from a usual \$20,000 contribution to only \$10,000. With the declining economy, an additional 15% was reduced mid-year causing a 58% reduction from what the Humane Society had received from the Town in 2007 and 2008. Representatives from the organization have appealed for relief indicating a restoration of \$6,500 and bring the agencies funding level to \$15,000 for 2009. Mr. Michael Whiting asked for a more systematic approach for service organization requests from the Town, his organization, Southwest Land Alliance, did not

request money for the 2009 budget due to the economic decline. For an organization to come to David Mitchem or the board and ask for additional monies after a budget cut has been in effect is not the proper approach in his opinion. Council Member Holt moved to defer this item until the next meeting, where Mr. Mitchem could provide information on the Town's budget and the Humane Society can provide their financial records, Council Member Jackson seconded, unanimously approved.

- 7. Review and possible action of September 17<sup>th</sup> Town/County Work Session – No discussion.**

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Ordinance #744 (Second Reading) Repeal and Re-Adoption of Section 6.2 Flood Damage Prevention Regulations of the Land Use and Development Code –** This is a repeal and re-adoption of Section 6.2 Flood Damage Prevention Regulations along with associated additions and revisions to the definitions of the LUDC. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has undertaken an initiative to modernize and update the National Flood Insurance Program maps which are used to regulate the flood plains. As a result of this project, FEMA requires that all NFIP participating jurisdictions, which the Town of Pagosa Springs is, update their Flood Damage and Prevention Regulations to reference these updated maps and meet the minimum regulation guidelines. Council Member Volger moved to approve Ordinance No. 744, Second Reading, to repeal and re-adopt Section 6.2 Flood Damage Prevention Regulations and the associated additions and revisions to the definitions of terms located in Article 12 of the Land Use Development Code, Council Member Jackson seconded, motion carried with one abstention (Council Member Pierce).

- VI. Approve August Financial Statement and Accompanying August Payments –** Council Member Holt moved to approve August Financial Statement and Accompanying August Payments, Council Member Jackson seconded, unanimously approved.

- VII. Next Town Council Meeting October 6, 2009 at 5pm –** The October mid-month meeting has been rescheduled to the fourth Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 12:00noon. 2010 budget Council work sessions will be tentatively scheduled for the weeks of October 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

- VIII. ADJOURNMENT –** Upon motion duly made, the meeting adjourned at 1:07pm

**Ross Aragón  
Mayor**