



551 Hot Springs Boulevard
Post Office Box 1859
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone: 970.264.4151
Fax: 970.264.4634

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011
Town Hall Council Chambers
5:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Mayor Aragon, Council Member Cotton, Council Member Holt, Council Member Jackson, Council Member Lattin, Council Member Volger
- II. **APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 1 & 17, 2011** – Minutes were approved as read
- III. **LIQUOR LICENSE**
 1. **New Liquor License** – Rohrbacher Moore LLC dba Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, Requesting a Tavern License at 2313 Eagle Drive, Pagosa Springs – Council Member Volger moved to approve the new liquor license for Rohrbacher Moore LLC dba Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, Council Member Holt seconded, unanimously approved.
 2. **Liquor License Renewal** – Springs Resort dba Pagosa Resort & Spa, 165 Hot Springs Blvd
 3. **Liquor License Renewal** – Los Garcias Inc dba Tequilas, 439 San Juan St
 4. **Liquor License Renewal** – Los Bernal LLC dba Chato’s Mexican Restaurant, 230 Country Center Drive – Council Member Volger moved to approve liquor license renewals for Springs Resort dba Pagosa Resort & Spa, Los Garcias Inc dba Tequillas and Los Bernal LLC dba Chato’s Mexican Restaurant, Council Member Jackson seconded, unanimously approved.
 5. **Special Events Liquor Permit** – Pagosa Springs Community Facilities Coalition, Concert at the Ross Aragon Community Center 451 Hot Springs Blvd March 25, 2011 – Council Member Volger moved to approve the special events liquor permit for Pagosa Springs Community Facilities Coalition Concert at the Ross Aragon Community Center March 25, Council Member Jackson seconded, unanimously approved.
- IV. **DELEGATIONS**
 1. **2011 Tourism Conference** – On February 22, 2011, the Town Tourism Committee, organized by Ms. Jennifer Green, held the first annual Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Conference & Business Expo. The event was a huge success, bringing in guest speaker Al White, Colorado Tourism Office Director, Robert Patterson of MMG Worldwide and many others. An estimated 150 participants learned about tourism and marketing their Pagosa Springs business. Ms. Jennifer Green received a letter of appreciation from Mayor Aragon for her outstanding marketing and tourism expertise and he and the Council congratulated her for excellent preparation and execution of the expo. Jennie Green expressed her thanks to the community for their support and hopes this event helps to put Pagosa on the map.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
 1. **Capital Fund Budget Amendments** - In 2010, Council approved the expenditure of \$195,000 for a street sweeper, however a grant from CDOT CMAQ funds to pay for a portion was not received until 2011 so the new sweeper had to wait until 2011. The cost of the sweeper is approximately \$192,000, Street Department Supervisor, Chris Gallegos, is hoping to trade in the sweeper to Timco (Rocky Mountain Street Sweeper) for the approximately \$32,000 bringing the final cost to \$160,000. The grant will cover 82.79% of the costs, approximately \$132,500; the town’s portion will be approximately \$27,500. In November 2010, Council

approved the use of Capital Reserves to purchase improvements at the Community Center of \$21,910; this amount will be split with the Community Center Coalition. Due to the bidding process and installation, the funds will not be expended until 2011. Council Member Jackson moved to approved the expenditure from the Capital Fund Reserves of \$38,455 for the Street Sweeper Match and Ross Aragon Community Center Multi-Purpose Room Improvements, Council Member Holt seconded, unanimously approved.

- 2. Economic Rebates from the Lodgers Tax Fund** - In 2010, Council approved a 50% lodging tax rebate on increased tax collections during the year. An additional expenditure item in the 2011 budget in the amount of \$15,000 for the rebate program from reserves needs to be added to the budget for this incentive rebate. Due to the cancellation of the Air Show, the net impact to the TTC reserves will be approximately \$8,500, leaving over \$53,000 in reserves. Council Member Holt moved to approve the expenditure from the Town Tourism Committee Reserves of \$15,000 for 2011 Lodging Tax Rebates, Council Member Jackson seconded, unanimously approved.

VI. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- 1. Community Center Report** – Several free, fun, educational programs are available for the community. The last event, “Pagosa Sounds”, was a big hit from the high school age talent. The next concert is March 25th, “Magical Mountain Music”. The electricians have completed the upgrades to the multi-purpose room lighting and the curtain has been ordered with hopes to complete installation mid-April. Several bubbles in the gym floor were repaired; possible replacement will cost \$60,000-\$70,000. Mayor Aragon appointed Council Members Cotton and Volger to work on the Community Center Multi-Purpose Room floor problem and bring back some options to the Council.
- 2. Planning Department Report** – During the February 15, 2011 meeting chairs were approved Kathie Lattin as PC Chair and Bobby Hart as vice chair for 2011. The Historic Preservation Board approved Shari Pierce as Chair and Wendy Sutton as Vice Chair for 2011. Several new events are scheduled for Historic Preservation Month (May). Greenways, Inc will present the final proposed Town to Lakes Trail route plan sometime in March. Staff is working with property owners along Lewis Street regarding preliminary engineering for the 100, 200, and 200 blocks. Davis Engineering is estimating the end of March to have the RFP ready to put out for bidding on this project. It is estimated there will be very limited number of retaining walls required for the Lewis Street project. The Wayfinding committee is working on a banner program, including over the highway banner, light pole banners, and Town entrance banners.
- 3. Town Tourism Committee Report** – With two locations yet to report, lodgers tax collections for January is down -1.29%. Traffic at the visitors center increased 13% in January compared to 2010. The TTC Tourism Conference held February 22nd was a huge success with overwhelming positive feedback. Jennie Green, TTC Director, have been invited to attend the Press & Media networking event in Denver March 8th. Sponsored by the Colorado Tourism Office and Visit Denver, only 20 tourism professionals as well as 50 key press and media were invited to attend this function. Mr. Bob Hart said that Mary Tighe, community grant writer, will begin research and writing for a Wayfinding and Signage grant.
- 4. Geothermal Department Report** – The geothermal upgrade proposed by the Hardin Group and NREL is meant to provide renewable energy sources to Pagosa Springs’ residents and businesses at a cost savings. The Town of Pagosa Springs has applied for a \$355,000 geothermal installation training grant from the Governor’s Energy Office. Total project cost is estimated at \$505,000, with \$150,000 in match coming from a variety of sources (includes \$29,625 in-kind match from the Town of Pagosa Springs). If funded, the Town will partner with the CO Workforce Training Center in Durango; Geo-Net-Zero (a Michigan based training geothermal training firm); and New Century Career Centers (an Ohio firm who will oversee reporting and verification) to implement the geothermal training courses for local plumbing contractors and their employees. NREL (National Renewable Energy Laboratory) was hired to help prepare an RFP for the geothermal upgrades, the RFP is delayed a bit, NREL hopes to get it out anytime now.
- 5. Town Manager Report** – After the Cuchara Ski Area offered a chair lift to the Town at no cost, Town Manager Mitchem executed an agreement with Hart Construction to move the lift without a bidding process due to the limited time constraints. Hart Construction has donated

thousands of dollars to the town's river project over the last few years and just recently donated to the ski/sledding hill. To complete the phase II Riverwalk trail across the recently purchased Watters property, an easement from the Springs Resort is required as well as a survey in order to identify the legal description, then the Town can apply for the grant.

VII. Next Town Council Meeting March 24th, 2011 at 12noon

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Upon motion duly made, the meeting adjourned at 5:45pm

Ross Aragón
Mayor