

**TOWN OF KERSEY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING  
June 15, 2022 – MINUTES**

The Kersey Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 15, 2022, at Kersey Town Hall, 446 First Street. Mayor Gary Lagrimanta at approximately 6:00 p.m. called the meeting to order. Trustees present were Nathan Roth, Michelle Vannest, Stan Sameshima, and Karen Dusin. Trustee Mike Theorine attended virtually.

Town Staff present: Christian Morgan, Town Manager, Haley Curtis, Deputy Town Clerk, Kaylee Damrell, Recreation Specialist, and Rick Zier, Town Attorney.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Additions to the Agenda** – Christian Morgan states there are no additions to the agenda, but the Kersey Days special event information will be presented by Kaylee Damrell, she is on her way and will be here a little closer to 6:30pm.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the consent agenda to include approval of the minutes of the May 10, 2022 regular meeting, approval of bills paid, and approval of bills to be paid. Motion made by Trustee Theorine and seconded by Trustee Roth to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Public Invited to be Heard** – None

**New Business**

1. Approval of Platte River Fort Liquor License Renewal – Hannah Long, Manager was in attendance. Hannah told the Board of Trustees Platte River Fort would like to renew their liquor license. Mayor Lagrimanta inquires if there have been any issues, and what their plans are for the summer. Hannah says there have not been any issues, they have food trucks on Friday nights, G5 from Severance has been there every other Friday. Motion made by Trustee Vannest and seconded by Trustee Sameshima to approve Platte River Fort Liquor License Renewal. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.
2. Approval of Resolution 2022-0010 Declining Full Participation in the Colorado State Run Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Haley Curtis presents to the Board of Trustees. Haley says in 2020 Colorado voters approved proposition 118, the Family Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program. This is a program that is sponsored and administrated by the State of Colorado in a very similar fashion to the unemployment program. Local Government entities may opt out. The premium is 0.9% of an employee's wages, split 50/50 between the employee and employer, each one pays 0.45%. Premiums will begin to be remitted January 1, 2023 with benefits beginning January 1, 2024. Haley goes on to say, if the Town does not opt out, the program will not be optional for employees as the Town would be a covered employer. The Town may opt out, and remit premiums for employees, however the staff's suggestion is to opt out and recommend each employee whom would like to participate do so directly through the state. Employees who choose to do this still get a full benefit. Board of Trustees inquire where the second half the premium comes from? Rick Zier says he thinks it probably comes from the States general fund. Board of Trustees agree it is the best option for each employee to make the choice for their family. Mayor Lagrimanta asks what the cost for each employee would be. Haley says there is a benefit calculator on the FAMLI website. Haley pulled up the website on her computer and calculated for a salary of \$50,000 per year it would cost both the employee and the employer \$225.16 per year. Motion made by Trustee Sameshima and seconded by Trustee Vannest to Approve Resolution 2022-0010 Declining Full Participation in the Colorado State Run Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

### **Public Hearing – Kersey Days Special Event Liquor License**

Mayor Lagrimanta opens the public hearing at approximately 6:32 p.m.

Kaylee Damrell, Recreation Specialist presents information to the Board of Trustees. Kaylee says, there is a map in your packet. The Beer Garden will be in the same place it has been in the past, the North East corner. She says, we are not going to use taps this year, but we will have the same trailer for storage of the beer. A couple of types of beer and seltzers will be purchased from Wagon Wheel, in cans. The last couple of years we have had trouble with the taps and end up going to buy canned beer, so we are just starting with canned this year. We are getting ice from the school, they will bag it for us, they just asked that we purchase the bags. The Weld County Posse will be checking ID's. Anyone can enter the beer garden, but cannot consume alcohol without a wrist band. Mayor Lagrimanta inquires if there is a requirement for a bartender service, like we would require at the Community Center? Kaylee says no, it will be Kersey Days Committee Members, like it has been in the past. Mayor Lagrimanta says, he knows the Posse will be there but will the people serving know when not to serve people. Kaylee says, it has not been required or an issue in the past. Trustees Roth and Vannest agree there have not issues in the past. Kaylee says, drinks are served on a ticket system People will purchase a ticket in the area where the Posse is checking ID's and redeem the ticket at the bar. There will not be any money at the bar.

Mayor Lagrimanta closes the public hearing at approximately 6:40pm

Motion made by Trustee Roth and seconded by Trustee Vannest to Approve Kersey Days Special Event Liquor License. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

### **Old Business**

1. Union Pacific Letter of Interest – Christian states we are just waiting 2 levels of upper management at Union Pacific to Approve it. It's just a waiting game now.

### **Staff Communication**

- a. Chamber of Commerce – Mayor Lagrimanta asks for a schedule of when they meet, so we can figure out a rotating schedule for Trustees to attend. Kaylee says they meet at the Community Center on the first Monday of each month.
- b. Tree Board – Trustee Dusin says they will be cleaning at Memorial Park on June 24, 2022 at 7:30am. On July 15, 2022 they will meet and work at Kohler Park, instead of having their regular monthly meeting. The planting of trees went very well. Josh had already dug the hole, which was a huge help.
- c. Town Manger – Christian says, there has been a group of people that was coming to Centennial Park on the weekends, and wanted to practice playing horseshoes. They called and asked if they can bring coolers with alcohol. Christian inquires of the Board of Trustees, what are your thoughts on allowing canned beer? Trustee Roth inquires, what does the Police Department say? Mayor Lagrimanta says, the first time there is a mess that's it. Trustee Vannest says she lives close to the park and there are parties with alcohol all the time. It gets loud and out of control, she does not support this. Trustee Theorine says, he does not have an issue with it; if they are going to do it, they are going to do it. Trustee Roth says he likes the idea of using the horseshoe pits. Trustee Roth inquires of Christian, are you thinking a permit process? Christian says, no it would be an ordinance. It could be restricted to Centennial Park where the horseshoe pits are. Trustee Roth says he would like to see them being used. If they are willing to come ask at Town Hall then he thinks it's a good idea. Christian says, it would probably be limited to just the park, not necessarily to playing horseshoes because that gets buddy for enforcement. Christian says he is just looking for guidance on if this is something he should spend time on. Mayor Lagrimanta asks Rick what his opinion is. Rick says, it can be just one park or part of a park it just has to be called out very clearly. We don't want to burden the staff with administration of a permit. Trustee Dusin says she like the idea if they come and ask.

We had two people leave from the Public Works department. We had two Operations Manager positions; one for water, waste water and facilities, and one for streets, parks and fleet. Mr.

## Unapproved Minutes – 06/15/2022

Herrick let me Christian knows about a month and a half ago that he was looking into another position closer to home. At that time Christian talked to the Board of Trustees about restructuring the Public Works department to having a Public Works Director and then some tech positions under that. Josh was interested in the Public Work Director position, the two days later he let us know that he took a job closer to home and we cannot match the money. We currently have three seasonal people. We posted the director position on our website and on the CML website. Public Works is a very tough field to hire in right now, many are leaving and no one wants to do the work. We did not have any immediate inquires. Christian says he started doing an inventory of our current staff, to see where we might be able to spare someone. The Police Department was not the answer, the Recreation Department was not the answer. Where we have the most available staff is in Admin. Christian thought of Kurt. After having a lengthy discussion with Kurt, Christian learned that Kurt has a pretty significant background in many functions of this role. He does not have the certifications, but is willing to get them within a reasonable time. Kurt was hired as the Interim Public Works Director, for a one month period. We will evaluate at that time. Kurt is enthusiastic and already familiar with our operations. Kurt will have this week with Josh to learn what he can. We will advertise for a Tech I for parks and streets and a Tech II for water and waste water. We will hold Kurt's original job open until he either is made the permanent director or reverts back to his original position. Christian says, if you'll remember back to November we had a very similar issue in the Police Department, and I would argue that it's probably the best it has ever been right now. That is the goal for Public Works as well. We will not find the just perfect person; Kurt is partially qualified now and will be fully qualified soon. Mayor Lagrimanta says he is behind Kurt. Kurt is in the audience this evening, and says he is very thankful for the opportunity, he has not done some of these tasks for a few years. It will take some time to learn, but he will make it work.

Christian says there were 15-20 applications for the Recreation Director position. We did 2 rounds of interviews, narrowed it down to the top 4. We made an offer to the top applicant, he declined mainly because this would have been a step backward for him. We all agreed that the number 2 candidate is also fantastic, he just has less experience. He is a teacher by trade, so he has valuable experience. His name is Brandon Unruh, and he starts on Monday. Mr. Unruh gets training with James through the summer

Christian says, the State of Colorado was as recipient of the Opioid Settlement. Every Town gets an option to accept the funds. Christian had expressed an interest for Kersey. He recently found out that we would get \$400 per year with a ton of reporting. The other option is giving our share to our region, which is the County of Weld. Christian thinks the County could put it to better use, so we gave them our share.

Clean up day was last Saturday. We accepted 30-35 loads, First Farm Bank had 2 shredder trucks here and it looked like there was a good turnout. We never break even on the cost of this event, its just a nice event for the community.

Weld County will be paving CR 53 North to CR 58, as agreed at the time of annexation. This was originally planned for September, but they are going to start next week and CR 53 will be closed for 10 days. They are working with the Fire Department for access. Christian asked them to come stripe 1<sup>st</sup> Street when they stripe that, and he thinks that will happen.

Christian states he is going to work on an RFP to contract out snow removal on the main routes. It's hard enough with a full staff.

Today we had a seasonal staff member in a Town truck that backed in to another car. There was an eye witness, whom said it would have been very easy for that seasonal to just drive away and not say a thing. This is a testament to someone's ethics. The owner of the car did not want to do anything about it. The Police did a report, and we do have to follow our internal policies when events like this happen.

Christian applied for congressional money when Hickenlooper and Bennett were part of the program. It includes the 16" water line, that would serve as a second incoming service line to Kersey. Christian says, we have talked about this before. It is probably a \$2,500,000-\$2,900,000 (\$2.5-\$2.9 million dollars) project, and a very long process. Last year we were not even considered, Christian says he just got notification that it has moved on to Senate this year. We would have to come up with \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) in matching funds, but that is a small price to pay for a project like this. We will have to figure out how to do that.

Christian finishes by saying that the CML conference is next week in Breckenridge. Mayor Lagrimanta and Trustee Roth are attending. Christian is planning to attend, depending on how things are going.

- d. Town Attorney – No report.

### **Board of Trustee Communications**

Trustee Dusin – Nothing.

Trustee Theorine – Nothing.

Trustee Vannest – Nothing.

Trustee Sameshima – Nothing.

Trustee Roth – Nothing.

Motion made by Trustee Vannest and seconded by Trustee Theorine to authorize the Town Attorney to prepare any required resolutions, agreements, ordinances, policies, letters, and memoranda to reflect action taken by the Town Board at this meeting and at any previous meetings, and authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to sign all such resolutions, agreements, ordinances, policies, letters, and memoranda. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Lagrimanta adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Curtis  
Deputy Town Clerk