



MEETING MINUTES of the IGNACIO TOWN BOARD

Monday, May 18, 2020 – 6:30 PM

Remote Public Meeting

- I. **CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER:** Mayor Cox called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. She gave the zoom etiquette information, and observed a Moment of Silence, Moment of Gratitude, and Reflection of Hope.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Stella Cox, Trustee Edward Box III, Trustee Sharon Craig, Trustee Sandra Maez, Trustee Alison deKay, Trustee Tom Atencio, Trustee Dixie Melton

Absent:

Guests: Clark Craig, Mandy Brown, Lisa Weber, James Brown, Chris May, Trennie Collins

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Trennie Collins, lives in Durango. Several local citizens have established Ignacio COVID Mutual Aid to provide food and services. So far, have served 2000 pounds of food, helped over 60 families; working with TARA Food Pantry in Arboles, Pine River Shares and Four Corners Mutual Aid. Ignacio COVID Mutual Aid is distributing food on Saturdays at 10 AM at ELHI. Four Corners Mutual Aid provides assistance with utility bill payments as well.

IV. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes from April 21, 2020 and May 4, 2020

B. Financial Records – Check Register and April Budget to Actual Report

Action: Trustee Craig moved to approve the consent agenda; Trustee Maez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. None

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. VDC Proposal Discussion

Vector Disease Control provided a 3-year proposal that would reduce costs. The one-year contract would be \$9460. The 3-year contract would begin at \$9280 with a 3% increase per year. Trustee Craig asked if the annexed areas (including the Mobile Home Park) are included in the price and service area. Mr. Garcia stated he will confirm. Trustee Atencio asked if this is in the budget; Mr. Garcia stated that the budget is a couple hundred dollars short.

Action: Mayor Pro Tem deKay moved to accept VDC's 3-year contract provided the annexed portions of the Town are part of the price that was quoted; Trustee Melton seconded the motion. Mayor Cox requested a roll call vote; the motion passed unanimously.

B. COVID-19 Update – Town Facilities Reopening

Public Works have been doing staggered shifts, as have the administrative staff; Police Department has been operating at full capacity. Discussion ensued regarding what other communities are doing. Mr. Garcia stated that he and Chief have completed the self-certification with SJBPH. Trustee Atencio stated that if any staff member objects to coming to the office they will not be penalized. Mr. Garcia suggested that Town Hall phones be answered between 10 AM and 2 PM beginning June 1, and staff will be available by appointment only. Public Works will continue working staggered shifts. The Board concurred.

Mr. Garcia asked for input from the Board regarding the requirement of wearing masks. Trustee Maez stated that she does not feel it should be mandatory outside; she wears a mask when she is in grocery stores or another business. Trustee Craig stated that she disagrees with making wearing masks mandatory. Trust Melton stated that this raises the question of enforcement. Would it be up to the business to enforce it on their customers? Mr. Garcia agreed that enforcement is a difficult topic. Mr. Liberman stated that municipalities can go stricter than the state; counties can be more lax than the state provided they obtain a variance from the State Department of Health. Law enforcement can enforce State, County, and/or municipal orders with regard to protecting the public.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Police Department

Chief stated that the Town has limited supplies of masks; he hopes to obtain more in the near future, but it is currently very limited.

Governor will release new guidelines on May 25 and June 1. Federal campgrounds open on the 20th, and state campgrounds were opened last Saturday. Current requirements for Town Hall, based on Health Department guidelines are as follows: no more than 2 people in the lobby, we would be required to put tape on the floor to mark the 6 foot distance, hand sanitizer available on the counter, and we would need to sanitize door handles, counter, etc. after every customer. Increases in the number of cases in San Juan County New Mexico are a concern to us; currently increasing about 200 per day.

School District will do a drive-through graduation on Saturday; the plan meets the State guidelines.

Colorado financial shortfall is somewhere between 3-4 billion this year, and as much as 8 billion in the next couple of years. This will affect the gaming grant funds, which help finance the police department.

B. Public Works

Irrigation is now running; pond is 100%, but the river is not providing water at this time.

Mr. Howlett is maintaining a staggered schedule with his employees, with proper social distancing.

Parks, street sweeping, water, sewer and gas are all operating well.

Mayor Cox expressed appreciation for PW putting the banners up for the school.

C. Town Clerk/Treasurer

Ms. Dunton stated that her report is in the packet; if there were any questions, she would be happy to answer them. There were no questions.

D. Town Manager

The Planning Commission has not met since the establishment of Remote Public Meetings; Mr. Garcia will speak with the PC Chairman regarding moving ahead on the Draft Land Use Code.

Two new grant applications have been submitted: Broadband Planning Grant has been submitted to DOLA and we anticipate receiving approval soon. The Rock Creek Development Planning Grant has also been submitted to DOLA; SEH is ready move forward once the funding comes in. There will need to be public hearings scheduled once we are funded.

Mr. Garcia encouraged the Board Members to set their appointments with the consultant to work through the first stage of the Organizational Assessment and Strategic Plan.

There is a food vendor who usually comes for Labor Day weekend; he has requested to set up next to Town Hall over Memorial Day weekend and stay for two-three weeks, and Mr. Garcia requested direction from the Board. The concurrence of the Board is that our focus needs to be on our own local restaurants that are struggling in this current health crisis. Mayor Pro Tem deKay suggested looking at the policy on vendors, and stated that he would need to comply with State Guidelines for restaurants.

As a result of the Work Session with the County Commissioners, the Tribe has expressed a willingness to answer questions that the Town Board had on the Traffic Code that the Tribe recently adopted. These questions include: will this traffic code impact the jurisdictional agreement that the Town and Tribe are working on? What was the Tribe's intent in expanding their current traffic code? Mr. Garcia has sent these questions to the Tribe's legal team and, once he gets a response, he will forward it to the Board. The County Commissioner's Office will set up a Remote Public Meeting and the Board will be noticed when that Work Session between the County Commissioners, Tribe and Town Board will take place.

E. Town Attorney

Mr. Liberman stated that he has been following the emails between Mr. Garcia and James, the Tribal Attorney. He has also been forwarding items to Mr. Garcia and Ms. Dunton that come to him through the Attorney's ListServ.

VIII. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem deKay stated that she has had her interview with Sandhya, the consultant, and she has some ties out here, is a very nice lady, and is easy to talk with.

Trustee Craig stated that the CML Meeting will take place in June; the decision will be made at that meeting whether or not she will continue on the CML Executive Board. Mayor Cox expressed appreciation for Trustee Craig's role on the CML Executive Board.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Action: Being no further business before the Board, Mayor Cox adjourned the meeting at 7:59 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday, June 1, 2020, at 6:30 PM via Remote Public Meeting.

Stella Cox
Stella Cox, Mayor

06/16/2020
Date

Tuggy Dunton
Attest: Tuggy Dunton, Town Clerk