

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
March 24, 2015
BOARD ROOM
6:30 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Mayor David Gregg
Mayor Pro-Tem Jan Dowker
Trustee Chris Buckridge
Trustee Jennifer Baker
Trustee Paul Alaback

Members Absent: Trustee Suzie White
Trustee Mike Henning

Staff Members Present: Town Administrator Mike Hart
Town Clerk Mary Cowdin
Town Attorney Greg Bell
Town Planner Sherry Albertson-Clark
Town Engineer Stephanie Brothers
Accounting Tech Melissa Colucco
Administrative Clerk Candice Brumit

Mayor Gregg Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Participation

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker wanted to read a proclamation about Alex Sabados, a student who went to school at Turner Middle School and Berthoud Elementary, and passed away on this day, five years ago. Mayor Tom Patterson signed the proclamation at that time, and declared March 24th to be Alex Sabados Day in the Town of Berthoud, CO. Dowker read the proclamation, which noted that Sabados had lived in Berthoud since 1st grade, loved the outdoors, and was an active member of the Boy scouts Troop 6. He served as an example and mentor to family, friends, and the community. Dowker went on to explain that this week has been called "Alex Sabados Day of Kindness Week", and that Alex's favorite color was orange. In recognition of other youth who have died of Cancer, the High School students organized a Kindness 5K and a Memorial Walk in which Dowker participated. Dowker also stated that Berthoud is known as a beautiful community and this event has grown each year.

Mayor Gregg thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker for the reminder.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Gregg asked if there were any changes needed for the Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2015. Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker stated that a change on pg 6 needed to be made, and was noted on her report.

Trustee Baker moved to approve the consent agenda that included the minutes from March 10, 2015. Trustee Buckridge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appropriate additional Funds for replacement of plow truck:

Town Engineer Stephanie Brothers introduced the new Street Superintendent, Scott Klemm.

Klemm has previous road maintenance experience with CDOT for the last 7 years and 3 years in Estes Park. He's also done cemetery work.

Klemm explained that a new plow truck could take 6-9 months to receive, and possibly cost over \$200,000. The truck being considered is around \$51,000, and would replace the current 2000 truck that has become unreliable. The older, used truck has passed a DOT inspection, has new tires, and would be a great deal.

Trustee Alaback asked about the longevity of the truck.

Klemm has driven the vehicle, and it seems to be very clean. Klemm stated that they would not keep this truck for very long, and look at getting rid of it before it gets worn out.

Town Administrator Hart explained some of the struggles with the budget last year, and that the current truck is at its end. In the 2017 budget, they will start looking at a new truck.

Engineer Brothers is requesting a supplemental budget appropriation for 2015 for \$51,000 for a larger truck with more capacity.

Town Administrator Hart and Klemm indicated that with trading in the old truck, that cost will be less. Scott Klemm will try to get as much as possible for the current truck.

Trustee Buckridge asked about trade value of the current truck and noted that this would be a good opportunity.

Klemm responded by stating that he would probably use the current CDOT prices.

Trustee Buckridge moved to approve Resolution 4-15, granting the supplemental budget appropriation of \$51,000 for a newer plow truck. Trustee Alaback seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Water Master Meter Vault Reimbursement Agreement:

Stephanie Brothers explained that the master meter vault will eventually be the emergency connection for emergency flow to get Prairie Star started. It will also help support the NW domestic water flow for Berthoud. This agreement covers the cost of \$135,706 including contractor costs and labor.

The master meter vault and Little Thompson had a water line that needed upsized, and water pressure would be improved by this joint project.

Town Administrator Hart explained that one contract is in place already.

Mayor Gregg asked if this is considered a regional project.

Trustee Baker asked if this included the booster station.

Brothers and Hart responded by saying that the Vault does not have anything to do with the booster station. They are currently working on getting electrical up to that booster station.

Town Administrator Hart explained that the money is already in the budget, and just needs approval. The IGA is already in place with Prairie Star.

Trustee Alaback moved to authorize Administrator Hart to sign the Reimbursement Agreement. Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Emerald Ash Borer Update:

Town Parks & Recreation Director, Jeremy Olinger, introduced Ryan Wakeley, current parks employee who is now also the new Town Forester. Roy McBride, part-time town arborist, resigned several weeks ago. The Forestry Dept is looking to expand and grow, and has been increased to 20 hours per week. Ryan Wakeley has previous forestry experience and a Forestry Degree.

Jeremy explained that Ryan would have 20 hours in the Forestry Dept and 20 hours in the Parks & Maintenance Dept and is hoping to eventually have a full-time Forestry employee.

Town Administrator Hart added that Ryan's additional experience will add flexibility to the position. Hart also expressed that this is a great opportunity for the Departments.

Trustee Alaback agreed. He also stated that this will be a great benefit, and help the town to know what to do with their trees that are infected.

Ryan has already been working for the Town of Berthoud for about a year and a half. Ryan gave a presentation re: Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) on the Front Range. EAB was discovered in Boulder in 2013, and has slightly expanded. Forty trees have been sampled and tested in 6 different 1 mile quadrants as the diagram shows. None came back positive for EAB. Current state recommendation is to chemically treat EAB.

Several staff members have been attending EAB meetings. We now have someone on staff M-F to answer questions and concerns.

John Goreski, from the Tree Committee, spoke about the public forestry department, its value, and necessary expansion. The EAB was brought in by the movement of wood. From the Greeley tree care workshop, the Tree Committee is trying to get more info loaded into the State database. Educating the public is very important. The Arbor Day presentation will also be focused on the EAB. The Loveland report didn't show the actual health of the trees being taken down. Some local municipalities have

decided to take down trees instead of treating them. Some have been testing trees by taking small amounts of bark. There are two recommendations for this year. Contractors have been taking down trees that didn't really need to be taken down, and the town needs to come up with a way to monitor public street trees. We'd like to be able to comment on trees and new developments coming into the town. Goreski suggested a plan to review more of the new developments landscape plans. Landscape plans have been approved years ago, but are still planting Ash trees, and Goreski would like to review these.

Trustee Alaback noted that the Tree Committee should be able to review these plans in the future. He liked the example used by Goreski.

Trustee Baker stated that Ash trees have been promoted in the past.

Goreski explained that Ash trees should not have been planted as much as they were.

Trustee Alaback explained that 30% of the trees are Ash trees. Alaback asked what the options would be for residents.

Goreski responded by explaining that residents need to be aware of treating their trees properly, and protect their current trees before taking the tree down.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker asked if this is something that will be sent out to the residents. Who should the residents contact with questions and concerns?

Town Administrator Hart answered that there's information being generated to hand out by the Tree Committee.

Goreski spoke about certain chemicals that are being used to treat the infected trees which are dangerous and affecting the bees. City of Boulder has already outlawed a dangerous chemical.

Trustee Alaback noted that these chemicals are available at local hardware stores. Pruning and helping to make the trees healthier could really help.

Goreski stated that a lot of the current Ash trees have already been affected by this bug.

Trustee Baker asked what tree should be used to replace the Ash tree.

Goreski gave some examples of some tree species that could be used in place of the Ash tree.

Town Administrator Hart explained that the Board can start to budget now for this solution.

Trustee Alaback noted that the trees in Fickel Park are already being watched for any infection, especially with the Ash tree. A lot of the trees that have been planted were planted several years ago.

Trustee Alaback also stressed the need to be careful on how the trees are replaced. It could help diminish the current bug and the next bug, but the new trees shouldn't be replaced all at once. It needs to be slow and gradual.

Goreski noted that a lot of the trees that are infected are in old town Greeley. A lot of the infected trees are in rental areas, and the property owners don't want the hassle of trees.

Trustee Baker stressed the importance of trees and the diversity of trees.

Town Administrator Hart and Goreski explained that there may not be specific species required in the current plan.

Goreski explained that the property values will be affected.

Trustee Baker was very glad about this report, but also asked about the wasp as a possible solution.

Goreski stated that the wasps being used don't sting, and that Boulder is trying to find out if this will work as a solution. The wasp may be a positive solution.

Mayor Gregg thanked Goreski for trying to get this info out. Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker stated that the Parks Dept is helping with getting this info out to residents. Goreski stated that the trees are a big draw to this area.

Jeremy wanted to expand on the 132 Ash trees that are in the parks, 40 in Fickel Park, and 48 are in the Cemetery. The 2015 plan: wants to continue educating community and staff. The website will have more info. Jeremy and Ryan will be working on the current inventory status & health of the trees, and decide on removing or replacing those trees. Hart noted that we had received a grant from Colorado Tree Coalition to help identify the trees and their condition. Goreski explained that Forestry service helped them come up with solutions about condition, size, and location of data about certain species. The database will hold a lot of info. Trustee Alaback mentioned that hopefully the updated Website will have more info on the tree situation. Goreski is hoping to have more beneficial information available. In Iowa, they opted to cut down all the Ash trees instead of treating them. Other towns are still dealing with the bug in the same way.

Mayor Gregg thanked Jeremy, Ryan and John.

Trustee Alaback was very impressed with this program, and appreciated the nice partnerships with Boulder.

Mayor Gregg thanked the experts and their efforts, and Dowker welcomed Ryan.

Resolution re: surplus equipment

Attorney Bell explained the resolution being discussed; a resolution to dispose of equipment valued at \$10,000 or less to be disposed of by staff.

Mayor Gregg asked for clarification of the personal property. Hart explained that it's determined by the value amount. The Town Administrator will report quarterly to the Board.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker asked about changing typo error. Attorney Bell will change the term Manager to Administrator.

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Trustee Buckridge moved to adopt Resolution 5-15, granting the Town Administrator authority to dispose of surplus personal property of the Town with the market value of \$10,000 or less. Trustee Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution re: Administrator contract

Bell explained this was the same resolution as presented at the last meeting. This new contract authorizes the change in insurance coverage for Town Administrator Hart, and will be renewed in 2017. Mayor Gregg asked if anyone had any questions.

Trustee Buckridge asked if there is a future plan to modify future contracts. Attorney Bell responded by stating that no other employees are on this type of contract. Town Administrator Hart noted the policy changes in the employee manual will be updated. Attorney Bell explained that all wording will be clarified.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker moved to approve Resolution 6-15, approving modifications to the Administrator contract. She also thanked Hart for saving costs to the town and bringing this to the attention of the board. Dowker also stated her appreciation for Trustee White's questions about the clarification of the changes in the contract. Trustee Alaback seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Town Administrator Hart spoke about the Arbor Day event. The Clean -up day event is May 16, 2015. The tire pile is now gone and the area has less mosquitoes. The Sheriff's Office and Attorney Bell are still working on removing a building at a location on 3rd Street. The grant presentation has been submitted for a wastewater grant. Berthoud Sportsmans Club members have asked to use additional parking on Town property to the north when Lake Loveland is high.

Attorney Bell stated that a group submitted a petition per Title 31, but he doesn't see a provision showing it to be sufficient for any action. A letter has gone out stating denial. City Star & CDOT entered into an agreement for sidewalk usage, and Attorney Bell wrote a letter to them about the streets being under the town's jurisdiction, not the State. The curbs are in the town's jurisdiction, also per Bell. The Attorney General responded by stating they do have jurisdiction on regulating sidewalks. City Star is in a lease they might want to get out of.

Town Administrator Hart stated the legal issue is who does control the sidewalks and curbs. The Board controls that authority. Mayor Gregg asked if we have guidelines & restrictions in place to prevent these issues. Town Administrator Hart explained that this could be two different issues. Attorney Bell explained that there are examples of both. Trustee Baker explained that there might be something already noted in municipal code. Town Administrator Hart mentioned that there have been several discussions about this issue. Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker asked if there are issues on Mountain Ave., who do we go to with concerns. Attorney Bell suggested the town govern the issues of the town; they might have a right-of-way. Trustee Buckridge asked if we are setting precedence by our response of doing nothing or responding.

Mayor Gregg mentioned that Hart is due for an evaluation, and is currently working on the format with Bruce Fickel. Trustee Alaback suggested that this be a more regulatory process. It could be useful for our budget plan.

Town Administrator Hart gave the dates of April 10th and 11th for the Strategic Planning meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Dowker explained that the evaluation program needs to be more consistent. There were six Alex Sabados awards given to students and a teacher today. Thursday is the Northern Colorado 287 Coalition meeting, and also the Planning Commission meeting. Saturday is the Berthoud Bash. Dowker also noted that the community expressed concern about meetings in the future that the community can input. Dan Betts, regional rep for Cory Gardner, sent an email saying he would join some of the community chats.

Trustee Alaback had been following through on the open space presentation, and has a meeting later this week.

Town Administrator Hart expressed that more of the board members need to participate in the Community Chat meetings and invite the community to participate. Trustee Baker mentioned the sign-up sheet for public participation. Town Administrator Hart mentioned that Claire Thomas has some ideas on getting the information and dates of the meetings out to residents. Mayor Gregg stated that the calendar would be very helpful. Trustee Alaback noted the effectiveness of the town website, Facebook stats, and posts.

Mayor Gregg Adjourned at 7:55pm.



Mayor David Gregg



Candice Brumit
Candice Brumit
Administrative Clerk