

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CREEDE, COLORADO – A TOWN
February 28, 2003**

REGULAR MEETING

The City Council of the City of Creede – a Town, County of Mineral, State of Colorado, met in regular session in the Creede Town Hall at the hour of 7:30 p.m. There being present at the call of the roll the following persons:

COUNCIL MEMBERS: JB Alexander, Chuck Barnes, Gene Dooley, John Goss,
BJ Myers, Merle Knous,
ABSENT: Jennifer Homsher

Mayor Myers, presiding, declared a quorum present:

Those members of staff also present were as follows:

Sandra Wright, City Manager

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

CREEDE MESA GROUP

The water rights being proposed in the contract was discussed. The Council and Creede Mesa Group representative Bo Freedle, agreed that they need more of a “safety net” with regards to how to monitor how much water is used for the eight homes being planned for the south side of Bachelor Road. The Group has researched having each residence placed on a water meter verses have a master water meter, and feel that individual meters are more financially reasonable. They discussed how long this metering should take place to determine the total needs of the eight residences. One year seemed to be the consensus of opinion.

Freedle said they are talking to engineers about having the water lines set up in such a way that future leaks can be detected easier. The Council asked Freedle to draw up a conceptual design of the development, nothing fancy, so the Council can have McLaughlin look at it. Freedle agreed.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GRANT

The Chamber is considering submitting a GOCO application to help with the restrooms and picnic areas of the new visitors center, however, the grant would have to be submitted through the City and would require that the City own the property for 25 years. It was pointed out that there isn’t enough time to properly prepare a GOCO application for this funding round, and more research needs to be done with the various funding sources.

Deb Downs, the regional DOLA representative, has advised the City and the Chamber that DOLA has several problems with the grant application that the Chamber submitted for the building costs. Among those problems is cost of the land, does the Chamber have enough funds in their budget to maintain the high cost of public restrooms and the amount of funds the Chamber is proposing to contribute to the grant.

Chuck Powers, who is the Chamber Board member spearheading the visitor center project, said that the Chamber has some funds on hand that he will be asking the Board to commit to the project if it moves forward. He said he will be approaching the County Commissioners on Monday to try to have them commit to the maintenance on the restrooms as their part of in-kind funding. He went on to say that CDOT requires land appraised after the Chamber was awarded the enhancement grant. The appraisal was within \$10,000 of the grant. He also said that because CDOT considers that land right-of-way land, technically they could condemn the land for the visitor’s center’s use. The Council advised Powers that GOCO will not fund for anything on condemned land.

The question of applying for other sources of funding was discussed, and Powers said that a couple of the other funding sources have said that they need to find out the projected shortfall in funding before they will consider any funding.

Mayor Myers asked the Chamber to get some of these answers before her planned trip to Denver to attend the DOLA funding committee meeting.

The Council was asked about their feeling of committing the City to holding the property for 25 years to be able to apply for the GOCO grant. The Council felt it needs time to take this into consideration.

RON HAGUE – REPLAT

The Council discussed the proposed re-plat of Ron Hague's property on Main Street. Basically, Hague is asking to divide his property east/west while the plat of the property is north/south. The property is in B-1 zoning, so there are no size or setback requirements. There was concern about notifying the neighbors to determine if they have any issues with the proposed re-plat. It was decided to refer the matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission for recommendation, and to talk to neighbors. This issue will be re-addressed at the March 10th meeting.

REPLATTING OF LOTS SOUTH OF TOWN HALL

Councilman Dooley asked where the re-platting of the area south of Town Hall stood. It was pointed out that this whole issue had been an error on Davis Engineering's part, and therefore they were to re-plat the area in question at their expense. Mayor Myers is to follow up with this problem.

SOUTH CREEDE EXTENSION

Councilman Knous made a presentation to the Council based on some extensive research he has done regarding who should pay for the extension of services in South Creede. There was considerable discussion regarding whether the property owners should be required to pay tap fees after they have paid the cost of putting in the water lines.

Knous also expressed concern about future plans for the property in this discussion, and the possibility of Mark Tiley selling off his lots to different people, and therefore causing a need for more water taps and more expense to the City. He also expressed concern about Tiley requesting that the street between his two sections of lots be vacated.

Knous also said that he has talked to several people about whether the property owners should pay for the new street and the extension of the water lines to that area, and has had varying feedback. He encouraged the Council to talk with other around town to get more feedback on this issue to help the Council make a decision on this issue. This discussion will continue at the March 10th meeting.

ACTION 22

This is a group that monitors various resolutions the state is considering which could impact Creede. Each Action 22 member has a vote in their recommendations. The Chamber is a member, but cannot vote for the City, and has recommended that the City join this group.

The Council asked for information about how much it cost to join the group and how often it meets before they make a decision about whether to join and who the delegate should be. This information will be gathered for the March meeting.

VIRGINIA CHRISTENSEN FUNDING ROUND

It had been suggested at the last Council meeting that perhaps the left over funds from the fall Virginia Christensen funding round be made available for a small funding round in April. There is approximately \$22,000 available. Councilman Alexander moved, and Councilman Dooley seconded, to use left over funds from 2002 for one round of funding in April. Unanimous. Mayor Myers declared the motion carried.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

Councilman Dooley told the Council that the UGMM/Community Center Board has said they would like to keep the recently acquired exercise equipment at the Community Center even after the new recreational building is completed rather than re-housing it there. Mayor Myers reminded the Council that the exercise equipment was donated to the City and the City should make that decision.

DAYS OF '92 FUNDING

The Council discussed the fact that it may be possible that the Days of '92 committee have ceased their fund raising efforts based on the \$5,000 donated to them from the Virginia Christensen fund each year. One of their major funding efforts, the vendors, has been turned over to the City's Recreation Department with a 25/75

split of the income. In addition, Mayor Myers reported that they have not asked for donations from the businesses the past couple of years, and two years ago when each business pledged 2% of the gross income from the two days of the mining events, that the Committee never came to collect those funds, or sent a thank you letter for any funds donated. It use to be that the businesses would have their name put up at the arena, and therefore the donation could be charged to promotional expenses for tax purposes.

It was felt that this should be checked into further, and if in fact they have slacked off on their fundraising efforts, the \$5,000 donation from the Virginia Christensen fund should be seriously reconsidered. The \$5,000 was committed as an on-going donation when the Days of '92 Committee told of loosing funding after the mining companies moved out. The on-going commitment was made in good faith with the understanding that the Committee would continue their end of the fundraising.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Councilman Alexander moved, and Councilman Dooley seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. Mayor Myers declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by City Council

Sandra S. Wright, City Manager

Betty Jean Myers, Mayor