

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF CREEDE, COLORADO – A TOWN  
April 13, 2004**

**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 7:32 p.m. There being present at the call of the roll the following persons:

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

Mayor Myers declared a quorum present:

Those members of staff also present were as follows:

Ben Gibbons, City Attorney  
Clyde Dooley, City Manager  
Pamela Wilson, City Clerk/Treasurer

**SWEAR IN NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

City Clerk/Treasurer Wilson swore in newly elected Mayor Seime and the three newly elected Trustees, Debra Wylesky, Martha Owens and Henry Brink. Seime, Wylesky and Owens will serve four-year terms until 2008 and Brink will serve a two-year term until 2006. The new Council members took their seats at the Council table.

**REVIEW AGENDA**

The following additions were made to the agenda: BJ Myers will precede the City Manager's Report under Reports and Presentations to ask approval of the Board to stay on and continue working on train issues for the City. Following the Manager's report a Mayor Pro-Tem will be appointed by the Board. During the WCRC presentation by Leigh Ann Vradenburg, Marvin "Zeke" Ward will also share some information that is of interest to the City.

The following deletions were made to the agenda: Under Old Business, Andrew Klotz of RPI is unable to attend this evening.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR March 8, 9, 17 and April 2, 2004**

Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Dooley seconded to approve the minutes of March 8<sup>th</sup> as presented. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

Trustee Dooley moved and Trustee Brink seconded to approve the minutes of March 9<sup>th</sup> as presented. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Wylesky seconded to approve the minutes of March 17<sup>th</sup> as presented. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

Trustee Dooley moved and Trustee Wylesky seconded to approve the minutes of April 2<sup>nd</sup> as presented. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

**ACCEPT AND PAY BILLS**

Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Brink seconded to approve the bills to be paid as described on the check detail report dated March 3 through April 5, 2004. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

**REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE ON TRAIN ISSUES**

Outgoing Mayor BJ Myers ask the new Mayor and Board of Trustees if she could get their approval to continue working on the train issues and represent the City on these matters. Because of her experience with and her knowledge of the train issues, Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Owens seconded to appoint the former Mayor, BJ Myers as the City's representative for the train issues and having Trustee Brink work with her to learn what he can about the matter. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

### CITY MANAGER'S/MAINTENANCE REPORT

City Manager Dooley was available to answer questions concerning his Manager's Report. Dooley also introduced Ben Davis and Robert Schlough of the Maintenance Department to the new Board. There was a brief discussion about the Building Inspector position that was recently vacated by Fred Eastland. Dooley explained what would be expected of this person and how he/she would be compensated. An ad will have to be placed in the local newspaper for this position. Dooley will get that in the paper along with an ad for a Seasonal Parks Employee as soon as possible. There was further discussion about the two reports. Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Owens seconded to have the City Manager send a letter to the County requesting them to maintain the access road from State Highway 149 to the fish hatchery/day care. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

Both Trustee Barnes and Trustee Owens offered to help with the "City News" newsletter. The *Mineral County Miner* will publish up to six hundred words a week for the City at no charge. Members of the community in the audience expressed that the City should utilize both sources to share information with the public. Zeke Ward of WCRC said that the City should e-mail the newsletter to Leigh Ann Vradenburg, also of WCRC and she would include it in the WCRC web site. Currently the City Clerk updates the calendar of meetings and events in the newsletter and handles the layout, printing and distribution of the newsletter. This is rather time consuming and sometimes gets moved to a back burner. She would appreciate any help with it she can get. Trustee Goss has offered in the past to proofread the newsletter for the Clerk. Copy is what is needed most. The best time to get going on this project each month is the last week of the previous month and the first week of the current month to get the information distributed on a timely basis.

The two six-month Certificates of Deposit (CD) the City has at First National Bank have been recalculated by City Manager Dooley with the interest rate for 36 months. This calculates at nearly three times the current rate for the six month. Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Dooley seconded to move the two six month CDs into 36 month CDs. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried. The City Manager and the City Clerk will check with the bank to find out if there will be any penalties and what they are if the change is made before the CDs mature.

It was also mentioned to the Board by Dooley that both Ben and Robert passed their small systems wastewater certification test.

The current Planning and Zoning Committee will remain as such until the Board appoints a member from among the Board members and the Mayor appoints someone from outside the Board and he himself sits on the Planning Commission. This will fill the requirements for a five person Planning Commission as per C.R.S. 31-23-203. A volunteer has been called for, but the members of the Council have asked that they be given a month to research what this appointment will entail.

### APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEM

Trustee Brink moved and Trustee Owens seconded that Trustee Barnes continue to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

### MICRO-HYDROPOWER

Trustee Barnes shared with City Council information he had where in 1995 the City of Creede contracted with The University of Colorado to have a faculty member and three post graduate students working toward their Masters Degree in engineering to visit Creede and study the situation on Willow Creek. [They discovered that what would be needed would be a twenty-four inch pipe running along the bottom of the flume to drive a micro hydropower generator.] This could generate two-thirds of Creede's consumption of electricity. This should be sold to San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative (SLVREC) in Monte Vista. Trustee Barnes went on to explain about Jim Metz, the Executive Director of SLVREC&D who has a home in Holiday Acres. Metz has been talking recently about bringing in an engineer to study the use of wind power down the Willow Creek canyon. This may generate the other one-third of Creede's

electricity so that Creede will be self sufficient. Zeke Ward attended a meeting a couple days ago that Barnes was unable to attend. Ward explained further the information he received in that meeting. Ward explained that the plant they run at Red Mountain Ranch where he works actually dumps eleven kilowatt hours in a twenty-four hour period when the big house is not up and running. Leigh Ann Vradenburg of WCRC talked about the Sustainable Energy Institute of Boulder. With a letter of support from the City of Creede, the Institute would apply for the grant for Creede that would pay for the feasibility study that is needed before these alternative energy sources can be implemented. Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Owens seconded that City Council agree to ask the City Manager to write a letter of support to the RC&D. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

#### RECREATION REPORT

Eloise Hooper was available to answer questions. Hooper also added that this next week three workshops will be starting. An infant and toddler music class for ages newborn through three years old; a basics of play writing workshop and on April 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a high altitude baking class. For further information people are encouraged to contact Eloise. Hooper also briefed the Board members on the status of the skate park that she and Deanna Phenix have been working on. The County has agreed to donate some fencing that they have available as well as the labor to put it in and any excavation and gravel necessary for this project. The property value that the City is allowing the skate park committee to use for this project is estimated to be \$100,000 and is considered to be a conservative estimate at that.

Trustee Barnes asked Eloise if she would review with the Board where some of the donations come from and how much she receives to help with the arts and recreation program. Currently the City provides an office and equipment and various supplies such as copier and paper, etc. as well as \$4,500 per year toward her salary. The County increased its donation by nearly \$1,000 from \$2,070 to \$3,000 per year. An annual donation of \$1,500 is required from Jon Graham of Muley's Trash Service. Hooper also applies for various grants and receives other monetary donations as well as in-kind.

#### WRITTEN REPORT

This includes the Chamber report. This report will be reviewed by Council at their leisure.

#### WILLOW CREEK RECLAMATION COMMITTEE (WCRC)

Zeke Ward made a brief presentation to update the new Board members about various projects they have completed and are working on now and will be working on in the future. Leigh Ann Vradenburg was present to ask the Council for a letter of support for a grant to address culvert and levee improvements (flood control issues) and twenty hours of backhoe time valued at \$1,100 to defray construction costs and as in-kind match for the grant. The City of Creede also continues to donate office and meeting space to the Willow Creek Reclamation Committee for this project as well as other projects. Vradenburg has already written a letter of support on City letterhead for the Council to review and approve. Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Brink seconded that the City should adopt this letter and sign it for Willow Creek. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

Leigh Ann Vradenburg also asked Council if they would approve her to work directly with the City attorney, Ben Gibbons and the Department of Wildlife (DOW) representative on the Fish Hatchery lease between the City of Creede and the DOW. Trustee Dooley moved and Trustee Wylesky seconded that Vradenburg be authorized to work directly with Gibbons and the DOW on the Fish Hatchery lease between the City and the DOW. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

#### TO INTRODUCE HIMSELF AND HIS COMPANY TO THE BOARD (KIP NAGY)

Kip Nagy made a brief presentation of a non-profit organization that was formed by both Tommyknocker Tavern and Kip's Grill. This organization is called Creede Athletics. Their primary purpose is to raise money to promote athletics for adults as well as youths in Creede. They would like to see that the ball field gets used a little more often and maybe get some hockey equipment for the ice rink. Nagy is not asking the City for funds, but

rather explaining that they sell food and beer on the streets during Chamber events and the Fourth of July to raise money. He explained the error he made last year in taking the wrong route to obtain his permits and does not want to do that again. He wishes to follow the proper procedure from now on and is asking the Council to consider his request so that when he gets permission from both the Chamber of Commerce for their functions and Jay and Ramona Weber for the Fourth of July he can go through the proper channels to bring his special events permit request to the Board. Questions were asked and answered.

#### PARADE PERMIT (TASTE OF CREEDE)

Trustee Barnes moved and Trustee Dooley seconded to approve the parade permit requested by the Creede/Mineral County Chamber of Commerce to close a designated portion of Main Street for Taste of Creede festivities to be held between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. both May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried and the permit is granted.

#### OLD BUSINESS

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##### RURAL PLANNING INSTITUTE (ANDREW KLOTZ)

Andrew Klotz is unable to attend tonight and would like to be on the May 11<sup>th</sup> agenda instead.

##### FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

After some discussion about a previous decision to schedule the Fourth of July parade at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, it was mentioned, that due to an overwhelming number of people requesting the parade not be in the afternoon for various reasons, that the Board should re-think their decision and change it back to a morning parade. A couple different times were suggested, and Trustee Brink moved and Trustee Dooley seconded to schedule the parade at 10:00 a.m. on July 4<sup>th</sup>. There were three yeas and two nays (Trustees Barnes and Wylesky). Mayor Seime declared the motion carried.

##### CREEDE VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE (RON CARPENTER)

Ron Carpenter handed out the latest drawing of the artist's view both overhead and three sided. These drawings are not to scale. Carpenter is asking City Council if the City can provide funding for the sidewalks. If there was not going to be a memorial the City would have to assume the expense for the sidewalks anyway. City Manager Dooley will get quotes on what it will cost the City to have sidewalks in the park preferably by Taste of Creede but for sure by Fourth of July weekend. It was suggested that perhaps some of the Virginia Christensen funds can be held aside for the sidewalks and landscaping in Basham/Memorial Parks.

#### NEW BUSINESS

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##### VIRGINIA CHRISTENSEN FUNDING

The applications are available for the spring funding round of the Virginia Christensen Trust. The deadline to return these applications to the City is the close of business on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and the presentation meeting with the advisory committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at (6:30 p.m.) 7:00 p.m. Council has to approve what the amount of funds that will be available for this funding round is. After some review of the current budget and future budgetary needs as explained by City Manager Dooley, Trustee Owens moved and Trustee Dooley seconded that \$20,000 be used for the spring funding round. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried. It was also brought to Council's attention that Kim Eggert has sold her property and left the area and the City is unaware of where the six rifles that were purchased with Virginia Christensen funds are being stored. There is a signed agreement on file that if Eggert's biathlon club ever ended the rifles and targets were to be returned to the City. A letter is to be sent to her from City Manager Dooley inquiring about this matter. Trustee Owens offered that she could get Dooley a current address for Eggert.

CITY CLEAN-UP DAYS

The Mineral County landfill is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Last year the City had only one day for clean-up and are hoping to have more than one day this year. The citizens of Creede will gather up items that cannot normally be picked up by Muley's and tag them for pick-up on these days. The City Crew will go to the homes of the people that have scheduled a pick-up and haul it to the dump free of charge for them. It was suggested that maybe a Friday/Saturday arrangement be made for this year. Trustee Brink suggested that the second half of May sometime would allow time to advertise this project and give the Creede residents the opportunity to gather items to be picked up. City Manager Dooley will talk with the Mineral County officials to determine what days will work and schedule them.

VISITOR'S CENTER UPDATE (MOIRA HOWARD AND KAY WYLEY)

Moira Howard and Kay Wyley updated the Board on the progress and the status of the Visitor Information Center. JB Alexander was the "go to" person on City Council for this project and is no longer a Board member; therefore the Chamber of Commerce would like to have two persons from the current Board to work with the Chamber, CDOT and DOLA on the Visitor Information Center. Mayor Seime and Trustee Owens both volunteered for this responsibility. Alexander will hand over the paperwork and update them both on this project.

LAST MINUTE INFORMATION

City attorney Gibbons asked the Board if he could spend two hours with them one evening in a workshop as a new Board orientation of sorts. He will review procedure and protocol with them about the public meetings as well as their position on the Council in general. It was agreed that they would meet in a work session for about two hours at 5:00 p.m. on April 21, 2004, at Town Hall. This will give the City Clerk time to post it.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Trustee Owens moved, and Trustee Barnes seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Seime declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved by City Council:

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Pamela Wilson, City Clerk/Treasurer

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Eldon Seime, Mayor