



Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd
Pagosa Spring, CO 81147

MINUTES
Town Council Meeting
April 9, 2026 @ 5:00 PM

A special meeting of the Pagosa Springs Town Council was called to order on April 9, 2026 at 5:00 PM in the Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Pierce, Council Member Williams, Council Member Bergon, Council Member Martinez, Council Member deGraaf, Council Member Lindner

COUNCIL ABSENT:

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ELECTION: SWEARING IN OF MAYOR AND NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS, APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEM, AND ADVERTISEMENT TO FILL COUNCIL VACANCY

Mayor Pierce moved to appoint Council Member Bergon to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem, Council Member deGraaf seconded. Motion Passed

V. DISCLOSURES AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Greg Giehl said he would like the Town to maintain the ditch between 7th and 8th Street alley between Durango and Navajo Street.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approval of the March 17, 2026 Meeting Minutes**
2. **Proclamation in Support of Arbor Day**
3. **Proclamation in Support of International Dark Sky Week**
4. **Appointing Alternate Member to Dark Sky Steering Committee**
5. **Proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness Month**
6. **Presentation of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**

Council Member deGraaf moved to approve the consent agenda, Council Member Bergon seconded. Motion Passed

Council Members read aloud and presented the proclamations to their representatives.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **School Project Proposal**

This item is tabled until April 21st meeting

2. **Apache St. Trail Discussion**

The soft-surface (mulch) trail from Apache Street along the river has experienced washouts on three separate occasions. The Town holds an easement for the trail. Discontinuation of maintenance for this soft-surface trail is recommended until such time that a more durable, hard-surface trail can be constructed. Staff said they can put cobble from the river cleanup in the area to leave the trail presentable.

Mayor Pierce said she would like to stop maintaining the trail, take down the trail signage, and release the easement. Council Member Lindner said he enjoys walking the trail.

Council Member Lindner moved to discontinue maintenance of the soft-surface trail at Apache Street and to retain the existing easement for potential future trail development and instruct staff to revise signage as needed, Council Member deGraaf seconded. Motion Passed

3. **Dispatch Services Agreement**

In November 2025, the County Commissioners terminated the IGA for consolidation of emergency dispatch. A new IGA between the Town and the County Sheriff will provide

dispatch services to the Town Police Department. The new dispatch is managed by the Sheriff, and the Town will act as a user and be charged based on the number of calls.

Council Member deGraaf moved to approve the user agreement with Archuleta County, Council Member Martinez seconded. Motion Passed

4. Consider Allocating \$50,000 from the Workforce Housing Account to support water and sewer tap fees for the five homes presently under construction by the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation

PAWSD is charging \$150,000 in connection fees for the five houses being built by the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation in Trails. These houses are considered workforce housing. The Town collects annual fees from short-term rentals to be used for workforce housing projects. The Town suggested allocating \$50,000 to PSCDC from these funds to assist with the cost of PAWSD connection.

PSCDC Director Emily Lashbrooke said the funds will assist with access to a grant that will help to build future homes on the donated lots. She said the CDC is moving to less expensive modular units to keep the costs down. Unfortunately, this will affect the local construction companies since less labor will be needed for this method of construction. She said the County is giving \$40,000 and CHAFA is providing a \$40,000 grant, the CDC budgeted \$15,000, she will work with the contractor to get the other \$5,000 by removing an item worth \$1,000 from each of the five homes to cover that last \$5,000. Council Member Williams said he is supportive of providing the last \$5,000 needed as well as the \$50,000.

Council Member deGraaf moved to approve allocating \$55,000 from the Workforce Housing Account to support water and sewer tap fees for the five homes presently under construction by the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation, Council Member Martinez seconded. Motion Passed

5. Upgrades to the Sewer System Conveyance System, including Pumps and Electrical System Upgrades

The pumps at the two stations that convey sewage from Town to PAWSD continue to experience issues. Replacement of the eight pumps are needed to get the system operating again. The purchase of eight Flygt pumps is \$1,508,000, and installation is approximately \$985,800. The pumps are estimated to be installed in 6-8 months. The expense could be paid from the new SIFF (Sewer Infrastructure and Facilities Fund) 1% sales tax collection, as the funds are coming in slowly. In the meantime, the general fund reserves could assist with covering the cost until the funds can be returned from the sales tax collections.

Council Member deGraaf said there is a lot of money being poured into this conveyance system and perhaps there is a cost analysis that will determine if it is better to keep the pipeline rather than build a new treatment plant. Council Member Martinez said the Town needs to discover the risk of continuing the pipeline system. The costs of these new pumps will be paid from the new 1% sales tax SIF fund.

Council Member Bergon moved to allow for a General Fund transfer of up to \$2,957,800 to the SIFF (Sewer Infrastructure & Facilities Fund) account for the purchase of new pumps, electrical work and contractor installation, Council Member Martinez seconded. Motion Passed

6. Roaring Fork Engineering Service agreement for design and permitting for Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Roaring Fork Engineering has been working with the PSSGID by applying for the discharge permit for the future Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). A services agreement with Roaring Fork Engineering to complete the design and engineering for the future WWTF is \$1,188,881. The expenses will be paid from the new 1% sales tax SIFF fund. Once the discharge permit is received, then a site application is reviewed, then the Town can apply for a the final design which will take a few years.

Council Member Williams said he would like to table this item until after the retreat. He said a new perspective could be seen to determine if keeping the current pipeline in place is feasible. Council Member Martinez said he is open to delaying this item until the retreat. Staff will work on possible grants for the design of the WWTP.

Council Member deGraaf moved to table this item until after the council retreat, Council Member Lindner seconded. Motion Passed

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Dena Laterza said the County Commissioners allowed for an electronic billboard (EMC) for the county fairgrounds. She said she is not in favor of electronic billboards and will be presenting the guidelines regarding EMCs. She said the Town's code does not have guidelines on dark sky guidelines.

X. MAYOR, COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS/UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Bergon said Sage, a young community artist, was at the Arts Committee today. She said it would have been helpful to have Sage meet with the Arts Committee to help guide her efforts prior to coming to the Town Council. Council Member Martinez said May 25th will not be a joint meeting with the County. Council Member Lindner said the new labyrinth on Reservoir Hill is wonderful. Mayor Pierce said the Peace Run is coming to Town May 26th and asked Council to attend to read the resolution. Council Member Martinez and Williams will attend. Town Manager Harris said the Interim Public Works Director will be in place three to four months before asking for applications to fill the position. He said LPEA provided a public safety shutdown procedure to the area's first responders. This was to discuss the process should there be electrical shutdowns if high winds are present, which could cause a fire. He said generators are being discussed at the municipal facilities. The Town's Main Street coordinator, Kathleen McFadden, received an award for the Town's Main Street program. The Town's website allows citizens to sign up for reminders, emergency alerts, meeting notifications, etc.

XI. UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 21, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Regular Council Meeting
April 27, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Joint Town-County Work Session
May 5, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Regular Council Meeting
May 19, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Regular Council Meeting
May 25, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Joint Town-County Work Session
June 2, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Regular Council Meeting
June 16, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Regular Council Meeting
June 22, 2026 at 5:00 pm: Joint Town-County Work Session

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Executive Session per C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(a): Discussion concerning the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest related to Project 102**
- 2. Executive Session per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a): Discussion concerning the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest related to Project 17**

Council Member deGraaf moved to enter executive session per C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(a): for discussion concerning the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest related to Project 102 and Project 17, Council Member Martinez seconded. Motion Passed

Council entered executive session at 7:27 pm. Mayor Pierce called the meeting back in regular session at 8:27 pm.

XIII. RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION

- 1. Council may act in regular session on item(s) discussed in Executive Session**
None
- 2. Reimbursement Resolution regarding Project 102**
This item is tabled.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pierce adjourned the meeting at 8:28 pm.

Shari Pierce
Mayor

