



Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

MINUTES

Town Council Meeting
February 18, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Pagosa Town Council was called to order on February 18, 2025, at 5:00 PM in the Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Pierce, Council Member Bergon, Council Member deGraaf, Council Member DeGuise, Council Member Lindner, Council Member Martinez, and Council Member Williams

COUNCIL ABSENT:

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. DISCLOSURES AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. Dena Laterza said a thank you to the council and staff who create and enforce the Town's light pollution regulations. She said lights should be turned off when not in use and timers added to reduce energy.

Ms. Shawna Snarr said if the parade is not on Hot Springs Blvd the American Legion, Daughters of the American Revolution, and Vets for Vets would like to have games and luncheon at Yamaguchi Park during 4th of July. The non-profits are willing to volunteer during with the festivities.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of the February 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. December Financial Statement and Payments**
- 3. January Financial Statement and Payments**
- 4. Approval of a Letter of Support for a Grant Application for a New Ambulance and Power Stretcher by the Pagosa Springs Medical Center Emergency Medical Services**
- 5. Resolution 2025-05, Appointing Austin Marchand to the Pagosa Springs Tourism Board**
- 6. Resolution 2025-06, Regarding Letters of Support**

Council Member Lindner moved to approve the consent agenda, Council Member deGraaf seconded.

Carried.

VII. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

1. Sales Tax Brief

a. Sales Tax Report - December 2024

Sales tax for December received in February was up 10.64% or \$164,002 over December 2023.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. July 4th Celebration

With the upcoming CDOT Hwy 160 construction project that will take place this spring, staff presented three separate options to help control traffic and public safety. 1) the same parade route as last year from Spring Street down Hot Springs Blvd to Apache and then 5th Street to the high school costing over \$14,000 for staff and need of approximately 26 staff members plus volunteers. 2) A stationary parade with floats lined up on 6th Street for the community to walk along the lined up parade-staff and volunteers needed would be approximately 10-14 people. 3.) A community celebration at Yamaguchi Park no floats. There is a music celebration scheduled from 3pm to 8pm and up to the shooting of the fireworks if weather conditions permit. The police department staff would be needed for every option.

Council Member Martinez said the amount of staff was not reduced from having the parade on the highway or on Hot Springs Blvd. He is concerned with the elderly being able to walk along 6th Street. Council Member deGraaf said visitors understand they need to be downtown early to find parking. Council Member Bergon said she liked the close, intimate parade held in 2024, but sometimes a little too close and a tight location. She is in favor of a stationary parade. The bus loop is not available due to the fireworks area. Council Member Lindner said he would support a stationary parade or celebration in the park. He said he would like to see the parade back on Main Street once again in the future. Mayor Pierce said this parade is for the local people and doesn't want it to go away. She said staff should look into hiring an event company to put on the parade. Council Member Williams said the town staff should be the ones to make the decision.

Staff said the parade was short and the parade was not spaced out well. Staff said a stationary parade on 6th Street is an option. Council asked staff to look at options for a parade and bring back more information at the next meeting.

2. New Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License -Two Chicks and a Hippie dba Two Chicks and a Hippie located at 135 Country Center Dr # B

Two Chicks and a Hippie has applied a new Hotel & Restaurant liquor license for their business located at 135 Country Center Dr # B. The Town's license will coincide with the State's license expiration date.

Council Member Martinez moved to approve a new hotel & restaurant liquor license for Two Chicks and a Hippie dba Two Chicks and a Hippie located at 135 Country Center Dr # B,
Council Member deGraaf seconded.

Carried.

3. Consideration of a variance to the Short Term Rental Code at 584 Oren Road by McCelvey/Smith Family and representative Megan Caler

Ms. Megan Caler and Lindsay Smith, representing the McCelvey/Smith Family short-term rental asked for a variance with regard to the two-year ownership requirement for the STR at 584 Oren Road. Ms. Caler said the STR which allows for 20 guests has been running since 2018. One of the owners passed away and after probate the property will be in the daughter's name, Lindsay Smith. Council Member Williams said the rules were put into place in order to add long-term rentals to the community. Council Member Bergon and DeGuise said they are willing to consider the variance. Council Member Lindner said an existing property should be allowed for consideration of a variance based on certain circumstances. He said an STR should be conveyed as a property right. Council Member DeGuise said the Town is not seeing the STR turnover at this time and this variance should be considered. Mayor Pierce said the rules were put in place with all things considered at the time.

Council Member DeGuise moved to approve a one-time variance to the Town Code 6.7.3 and 6.7.12 with the condition of approving the permit once Ms. Smith becomes the owner of 584 Oren

Road,
Council Member Lindner seconded.

Motion failed with four nays (Council Members Williams, deGraaf, Martinez, and Mayor Pierce)

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

X. MAYOR, COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS/UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS – The strategic planning process will begin Wednesday and Thursday this week with Karen Daly. CDOT meetings for the community will begin next week. CDOT will place barriers mid-March on the North side from 1st to 8th Street on the Highway to begin the reconstruction project.
Council Member deGraaf said he met with the postmaster who is not in favor of allowing in-Town mail delivery service. Council Member Lindner said dark sky lighting is important and staff added that updates to the Town code and property maintenance code will enforce compliance with dark sky lighting. Council Member DeGuise said Amazon is not in favor of allowing cluster boxes for Amazon packages.

XI. UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS –

- February 25, 2025: Joint Town-County Board Meeting
- March 4, 2025: Regular Council Meeting
- March 18, 2025: Regular Council Meeting
- March 24, 2025: Joint Town-County Meeting
- April 1, 2025: Regular Council Meeting
- April 15, 2025: Regular Council Meeting

XII. ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Pierce adjourned the meeting at 6:31 pm.

Shari Pierce
Mayor