



Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

MINUTES

Town Council Meeting
July 15, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Pagosa Town Council was called to order on July 15, 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 – Mr. Kirk Bliss said he is not in favor of the Lions Pride Ice Cream vendor application. He said the health department should hold the Lions Pride to the same inspection standard as his business on Main Street. He said this vendor will open it up for other vendors to sell t-shirts and will hurt the local businesses.

Mr. Eddie Archuleta said the pump by the Town Park gazebo is running but not pumping any water. He said the Trump protesters were throwing water bottles and cussing at the folks driving by.

Mr. Bill Hudson said he will help with the campaign for a 1% sales tax increase for sewers.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the July 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes

2. June Financial Statement and Payments

3. Quarterly Investment Report

4. Resolution 2025-13, Appointing Stuart Scull to the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board

Council Member Williams moved to approve the consent agenda, Council Member Martinez seconded.

Carried.

VII. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

1. Sales Tax Brief

a. Sales Tax Report - May 2025

Town sales tax receipts for the month of May are up 3.13% compared to May 2024, an increase of \$30,656. Year-to-date sales tax is up 7.51% over the same time last year.

VIII. PRESENTATION

1. 2024 Audit Presentation

Ms. Crimson Singleton with HintonBurdick CPAs presented the 2024 audit.

2. "Saving our Sewers" working group update

Town Manager Harris gave an update on the SOS working group's efforts to inform the residents of the critical issues with the Town's sewer system. Town Attorney Bob Cole provided an update on the next steps for the Town Council.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Lions Pride Ice Cream Trike Permit to Use Town-owned spaces

Mr. Neil Tillapaugh requested to use his solar-powered E-Trike to vend ice cream, drinks, and snacks at the Town parks, including Yamaguchi Park and Mary Fisher Park, during weekends and busy weekdays, between 10 am and 7 pm, from April through October. Mr. Tillapaugh said he has received his certification from the Health Department. Council Member Williams said this type of business provides vitality to the Town. Council Member Martinez said this business adds to visitors coming and staying in Pagosa.

Council Member Williams moved to approve the Lions Pride ice cream trike to operate on Town property until the end of their business license term, Council Member DeGuise seconded.

Carried with one nay (Mayor Pierce)

2. Pagosa Zip Trips Permit to Use Town-owned spaces

Mr. Jason Cox with Pagosa Zip Trips requested approval to operate pedal cabs with electric assist in the downtown area.. The routes focus on using local streets and alleyways with limited crossings of US 160. The vehicles will be equipped with standard safety features such as seat belts and lighting, and all drivers will be trained under a formal operations and safety plan. Council Member Lindner said he sees these types of pedicabs everywhere and they would be a good fit for our community. Mr. Cox said that this first year, there will be no cost for the rides.

Council Member deGraaf moved to approve the Pagosa Zip Trips to operate on Town property until the end of their business license term, Council Member Williams seconded.

Carried.

3. Skyrocket Park Grant Opportunity

Staff proposes a joint partnership with Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) and the CO Youth Corps Association (CYCA) to improve access to Reservoir Hill at the Reservoir Hill Park on Hwy 84, to build a new Skyrocket Trailhead, along with picnic areas, landscaping, fencing, parking, and kiosk signage. Grant applications to GOCO would be approximately \$57,200 to cover the work done by CYCA. The materials are not included and would cost approximately \$152,000.

Phase two of the project may include a campground area on the property for approximately \$2.1 million. This second phase may be a joint effort with the Forest Service.

Council Member Williams said he would like to see a public open house to discover what the public wants at this location. He said a campground could be used for workforce housing. Council Member Bergon said there should be toilets on the property, and that there needs to be police patrols to be aware of transients. Mayor Pierce said she would like a resolution to name the park. She would like Tourism to help pay for this park upgrade. Council Member Lindner said the value put into this park will bring a greater return to the community.

Council Member Williams moved to approve staff to apply for GOCO and CYCA grant opportunity, Council Member deGraaf seconded.

Carried with two nays (Mayor Pierce and Council Member Martinez)

4. A Public Hearing and Consideration of Ordinance 1013, An Emergency Ordinance of the Town of Pagosa Springs to Not Renew Existing Refuse Collection Franchise Agreements

Four non-exclusive solid waste franchises will be renegotiated with G&I Sanitation Services, Waste Management of Colorado, Elite Recycling and Disposal, and At Your Disposal. Ordinance 1013 does not allow for automatic renewal for any of these agreements. No public comment received.

Council Member deGraaf moved to approve Ordinance 1013, an emergency ordinance of the Town of Pagosa Springs to not renew existing refuse collection franchise agreements, Council Member Lindner seconded.

Carried.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT – Mr. Bill Hudson said he appreciates the Town Council wanting to work on improving the facilities. He said he doesn't appreciate staff bringing a last-minute grant application without any public input or comment.

XI. MAYOR, COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS/UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS – Governor Bennett's office representative, Wyatt Bair, will be at Town Hall on Thursday.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a), Concerning the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest near or around Hot Springs Blvd.**
- 2. Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e), Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing a strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiations regarding the pre-development agreement between the Town and Servitas, LLC.**

Council Member Lindner moved to enter executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a), concerning the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest near or around Hot Springs Blvd, and pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e), determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing a strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiations regarding the pre-development agreement between the Town and Servitas, LLC, Council Member deGraaf seconded.

Carried.

Town Council entered executive session at 7:23 pm. Mayor Pierce called the meeting back in regular session at 9:13 pm.

XIII. UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS –

- July 17, 2025: Regular Council Work Session
- July 28, 2025: Joint Town-County Board Meeting
- August 5, 2025: Regular Council Meeting
- August 19, 2025: Regular Council Meeting
- August 25, 2025: Joint Town-County Board Meeting
- September 4, 2025: Regular Council Meeting

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Pierce adjourned the meeting at 9:15 pm.

**Shari Pierce
Mayor**