

**TOWN OF SILT
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MARCH 17, 2020 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Silt Board of Trustees held a special meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in the municipal council chambers. Mayor Richel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll call	Present	Mayor Keith Richel Mayor Pro-tem Kyle Knott Trustee Justin Brintnall Trustee Andreia Poston Trustee Dina Prieto Trustee Jerry Seifert Trustee Sam Walls
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Also present were Town Administrator Jeff Layman, Town Clerk Sheila McIntyre, Chief of Police Mike Kite and Town Attorney Michael Sawyer.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Conflicts of Interest – There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes – There were no agenda changes.

Resolution No. 19, Series 2020, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF SILT, COLORADO, IN SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNOR DECLARING A STATEWIDE EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES, DECLARING A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXERCISE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' POLICE POWER BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Attorney Sawyer went through the resolution explaining that it allows the Board to declare a local disaster emergency as a result of COVID-19 and gives the Town Administrator the flexibility to make quick decisions and spend up to \$100,000 of town funds. Such expenditures would need to be ratified by the Board within 30 days. The resolution also authorizes the Town Administrator to do all acts and make regulations, which may be necessary or expedient for the promotion of health or the suppression of disease relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. This could include closure orders, social distancing orders and maintaining public health. The passage of this resolution also affords the Town of Silt the ability to apply for assistance under all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans. Administrator Layman explained that staff would track expenses associated with this emergency as there could be some relief for the Town.

Attorney Sawyer stated that what is happening is more serious than what the public impression is and that the infection rate is extremely high. He stated that everyone needs to take this very seriously, adding that it is important to slow down the spread of this virus so that health care can keep up with emergency demand. Attorney Sawyer went on to say that we need to implement these measures and to do what we can to make the public aware that their actions related to

social distancing, choosing to stay at home and not driving to places such as Aspen or Vail to work could save lives and also allow the medical system the ability to concentrate on those who are sick. He also explained how the emergency declaration would be combined with a Memorandum of Understanding with the other municipalities in Garfield County that allows for the sharing of essential personnel in the event that anyone becomes short staffed as a result of this health emergency.

Administrator Layman explained that many employees are working from home now and those who have had possible exposure to the virus are staying home and not being docked sick time for it. Employees are also being encouraged to go home if they are not feeling well.

Attorney Sawyer mentioned the Electronic Participation Policy that is also before the Board tonight, which would allow the Board to continue functioning by the use of electronic medium. There was also discussion about when this event ends, there would be another resolution brought before the Board declaring that the emergency no longer exists.

Trustee Seifert made a motion to approve Resolution No. 19, Series 2020, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF SILT, COLORADO, IN SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNOR DECLARING A STATEWIDE EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES, DECLARING A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXERCISE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' POLICE POWER BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR. Mayor Pro-tem Knott seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 20, Series 2020, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF SILT, COLORADO, ADOPTING AN ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION POLICY FOR USE IN THE EVENT OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Attorney Sawyer that the Towns Charter states that meetings are to be public with opportunities for public comment. This resolution includes an electronic participation policy that allows for both the Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission to continue to conduct public hearings via electronic means during a state of medical emergency. He added that staff plans to hold Monday nights' meeting electronically. Administrator Layman stated that staff has set up Zoom as the electronic meeting platform and that staff has been testing it so that it would be ready in time for Monday night. It was added that the meetings would still be broadcast as normal by our audio person on the local access channel as well as livestreamed on the towns' website. There were discussions about having a trial run with the Board members prior to Monday night, if this would create any additional financial burdens on participants' data plans, if the public would still be able to be participate in the meetings and the possibility of continuing public hearings if necessary.

Mayor Pro-tem Knott made a motion to approve Resolution No. 20, Series 2020, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF SILT, COLORADO, ADOPTING AN ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION POLICY FOR USE IN THE EVENT OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION. Trustee Walls seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Corona Virus Response Plan

Administrator Layman went over the Response Plan that lays out the policies and procedures that are being followed by staff, adding that it is flexible and can be changed when needed. There was discussion about citizens paying their water bills and staff stated that the Town would not be turning anyone's water off at this time. Administrator Layman relayed that the Town's employees have been fantastic during this time and they have all come together to handle this emergency. There was discussion about the difficulty in getting supplies (i.e. cleaning, disinfecting items, hand sanitizer, etc.) and how the stores are all very low on their stock.

Attorney Sawyer spoke once again about the MOU with the other municipalities that authorizes the sharing of personnel and supplies should it be needed, adding that it is not mandatory. **There was a consensus of the Board to approve the Memorandum of Understanding.**

Update from the Board / Board Comments

The Trustees thanked staff for all of their efforts and coming together during this difficult time. Trustee Walls stated that communication is critical right now and that we just need to take this one day at a time. Trustee Brintnall asked that everyone follow the recommendations and keep in mind the needs of others. Trustee Prieto stated to keep in mind that some people are getting angry during these times and to also think of how to help others and the elderly. Trustee Poston just reminded everyone to be neighborly.

Mayor Pro-tem Knott stated that it is a unique time right now and that it is a real fact that parts of the world as well as governments are shutting down during this crisis. He added that it is important that everybody understands that there is a plan in place for all of our critical infrastructure and that municipalities are coming together to help each other out during this time. He stated that no matter what your personal opinion is regarding the spread of the virus, to keep your distance and think of others. Mayor Richel stated that the Town is working to move forward and doing all they can and will continue to do so. He also thanked staff for all of their hard work during this trying time. Mayor Richel asked if the parks should be closed and staff stated that they did not feel it was necessary at this time. It was added that people have been encouraged to get outside and get fresh air right now but to practice social distancing at the same time.

Executive Session

Trustee Seifert made a motion to go into an executive session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on a specific legal question under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b). Mayor Pro-tem Knott seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. The board adjourned to executive session at 6:25 p.m.

At the end of executive session, Mayor Richel made the following statement: "The time is now 7:07 p.m., and the executive session has concluded. No formal action was taken in executive session. The participants in the executive session were: Keith Richel, Dina Prieto, Andreia Poston, Jerry Seifert, Kyle Knott, Sam Walls, Justin Brintnall, Jeff Layman, Sheila McIntyre, Mike Kite and Mike Sawyer. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action

occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record". No objections were stated.

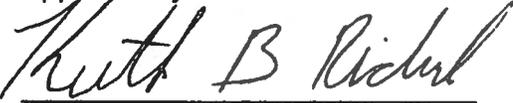
Adjournment

Trustee Seifert made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Brintnall seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Richel adjourned the meeting 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sheila M. McIntyre, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees


Keith B. Richel
Mayor

