

**TOWN OF SILT  
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
JULY 27, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.**

The Silt Board of Trustees held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, July 27, 2020. Mayor Richel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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<b>Roll call</b>	Present	Mayor Keith Richel
		Trustee Justin Brintnall
		Trustee Sam Flores
		Trustee Andreia Poston
		Trustee Sam Walls
		Trustee Jerry Seifert
	Absent	Mayor Pro-tem Kyle Knott

Present remotely were Town Administrator Jeff Layman, Town Clerk Sheila McIntyre, Community Development Director Janet Aluise, Town Treasurer Amie Tucker, Public Works/Utilities Director Trey Fonner, Chief of Police Mike Kite, Town Attorney Michael Sawyer and members of the public.

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**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

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**Public Comments** – There were no public comments.

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**Consent Agenda**

- 1) Minutes of the July 13, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting

**Trustee Seifert made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Trustee Walls seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.**

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**Conflicts of Interest** – There were no conflicts of interest.

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**Agenda Changes** – Administrator Layman stated that he would like to talk about a budget retreat date, to also reiterate the upcoming work session with the Board of County Commissioners scheduled for August 10 and to let the Board know that there will be an unplanned budget expenditure to repair the air conditioner in town hall.

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**Water Treatment Improvement Update – Deric Walter**

Director Fonner and Town Engineer Deric Walter went over the progress that the Town has made on addressing various concerns at the water plant in regards to TTHM levels, updating of the controls for the two skids and the sand filtration unit. Mr. Walter stated that the town has also been working with Zancanella and Associates who have extensive experience working with

water plants. He added that some of the control systems at the plant are extremely outdated and in turn are giving inaccurate results. He stated that improvements to the electronics are estimated to cost between \$40,000 - \$80,000 to replace several aged parts.

It was stated that staff has already been doing tests and samples to see how the recent improvements have affected the TTHM levels and that staff is still awaiting the results from the State. Mr. Walter stated that they are focusing on more of a routine maintenance of the plant as opposed to being faced with an emergency situation.

Director Fonner stated that that it could take up to five months to get this project out to bid and then to get the work done. It was added that the elevated TTHM's are not detected in the taste or the color of the water but that they can be a health concern if they reach elevated levels for an extended period of time.

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### **Irrigation System Overview**

Director Aluise provided a presentation on the history of the irrigation system that was installed in 1995 and Director Fonner explained how the system works, the ditches that the town utilizes to retrieve the water, the tanks used to store the irrigation water and the various pump stations around town used to move the water from the ditches to the tanks. Staff also talked about their concerns with cross contamination possibilities and unmetered irrigation water.

Attorney Sawyer suggested that the town could attempt to monitor the amount of water people are using, or could conduct an audit of the surface area that residents are irrigating to see that they aren't watering more than their allowed 3500 square feet or that the town could consider the installation of a metering system.

Administrator Layman went over the action plan that staff has put together with items that can be addressed immediately such as education, grants, audits and the town's relationship with the ditch companies. He also went over what staff would like to explore in the future such as delivering potable water to irrigation tanks, working with the State to use potable water for irrigation, installation of meters and amending the irrigation code.

Director Fonner explained that the town has enough storage capacity right now but lacks in the ability to pull all of the water that we have rights to due to the size of our current lines. Staff is in the process of pursuing a grant to replace the irrigation line on 7<sup>th</sup> Street which would give the town the ability to capture the water that we have available to us.

Mayor Richel asked everyone to watch the amount of water that they use and the length of time that they water their yards.

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### **Approval to extend the Miner's Claim agreement with the Town to allow the temporary use of 8<sup>th</sup> Street as an open container public place and license agreement**

Administrator Layman stated that when COVID started, staff researched ways to help our local businesses. Miner's Claim took the town up on their offer to utilize two tents so that they could serve customers while still recognizing social distancing. Christian Harra, owner of Miner's Claim is in the process of acquiring a "four-season" tent that would assist him through the winter months.

Administrator Layman stated that this amendment would extend the original agreement until May 1, 2021 and that he would like to add to the agreement that Mr. Harra would reimburse the town for any electricity that is used from the town sources.

Christian Harra stated that he is very proud of what is happening in Silt and thanked the Board for being the leaders in the community on what they have done to help businesses during the pandemic as well as what this means to his employees. Mr. Harra explained the 30 x 60 tent that he would like to get that will have a sub floor, insulation, lighting and heat. He stated that he would be moving the tent closer to his building so as not to be an issue with the access to the business to the east of him (Tim's Tools). He ensured that the tent would not be a permanent structure and would be aesthetically pleasing.

Attorney Sawyer asked that the board include two additions to the agreement; that Miner's Claim would be responsible for the removal of snow between the tent and the restaurant and that the town be reimbursed for any electricity that may be used from the town's electrical source.

**Trustee Seifert made a motion to extend the Miner's Claim agreement with the Town to allow the temporary use of 8<sup>th</sup> Street as an open container public place and license agreement with the addition that Miner's Claim would be responsible for snow removal between the tent and the restaurant and that the town would be reimbursed for any electricity used from any of the town's electrical sources. Trustee Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried with Trustee Poston voting nay.**

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#### **Mountain Waste & Recycling Annual Rate Increase request – Mike Hinkley**

Present tonight were Mike Hinkley and Doug Goldsmith who both explained their increase in costs. They stated that Mountain Waste continues to try and absorb as much of those costs as they can but that they are requesting a .8 cent increase (1.2%) in trash rates and a .21 cent tipping fee increase for a total increase of .29 cents per home per week effective August 1, 2020. There was discussion regarding the difference between the Consumer Price Index-Transportation (CPI-T) versus the CPI-Urban and the request by Mountain Waste that the town amend their contract to follow the CPI-U which is felt to be a more accurate gauge of the local cost of doing business.

There was lengthy discussion regarding the recycling program and if the town might consider dropping the service due to the increased fees to recycle. It was determined to discuss the recycling program again once the contract gets closer to being renewed next year. It was also suggested to do a survey to get the community's opinion on the recycle program. It was also pointed out that Mountain Waste has been collecting more trash since COVID hit but that they haven't increased what they are charging based on that increase in volume. Mr. Hinkley added that the increase that they are requesting would help cover some of their cost of living costs that they are faced with, but not the increase in costs that they pay at the landfill due to the increase in volume or any costs associated with contamination fees.

**Trustee Brintnall made a motion to approve the Mountain Waste & Recycling annual rate increase of .29 cents per week per home. Trustee Seifert seconded the motion, and the motion carried with Trustees Walls and Flores voting nay.**

## Administrator report

Administrator Layman stated that he would like to schedule this year's retreat on September 14 at 5:30 before the regular board meeting. He also asked that a facilitator be used this year so that he can participate more in the meeting. **There was a consensus for September 14 and to invite Kimberly Bullen with DOLA as a facilitator.**

He briefed the Board on the current status of the air conditioning that has gone down in town hall. Director Fonner stated that one of the condensers has gone out and a whole new unit has been ordered and staff hopes to have it installed within the next week or so. The cost to replace the unit is approximately \$8340 along with the cost to have it placed on top of the building with a crane. It is expected not to exceed a total cost of \$9000. This expense was not budget but it would be covered by the General Fund and addressed in the supplemental budget.

Administrator Layman then reminded the board of the upcoming work session with the County Commissioners that would take place on August 10 before the regular board meeting via Zoom. He asked the Board to submit any questions or topics that they would like to see on the agenda.

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## June 2020 financials and balance sheets

Treasurer Tucker went over the June 2020 financials and balance sheets.

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## Updates from Board / Board comments

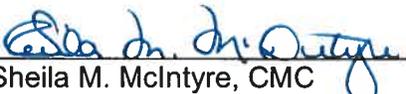
The Board thanked everyone for their hard work. Trustee Brintnall reminded everyone of the town sponsored event to clean up the dog park on Saturday. Trustee Flores stated that he would like to see an annual community event. Mayor Richel thanked all of the small business in town and their willingness to work with the town to make things happen. He also commented about how our sales tax is holding steady during COVID. He thanked both staff and the Board for not being afraid to try something new and be a leader in the community.

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## Adjournment

**Trustee Brintnall made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Walls seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Richel adjourned the meeting 9:06 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheila M. McIntyre, CMC  
Town Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees

  
Keith B. Richel  
Mayor

