

**TOWN OF SILT  
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
OCTOBER 12, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.**

The Silt Board of Trustees held their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021. Mayor Richel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Present remotely were Town Administrator Jeff Layman, Town Clerk Sheila McIntyre, Town Treasurer Amie Tucker, Public Works Director Trey Fonner, Chief of Police Mike Kite 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 September 27, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting

**Mayor Pro-tem Knott made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Trustee Seifert 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** – There were no agenda changes.

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**Highwater Farms – Youth Program Update**

Administrator Layman introduced Highwater Farms Executive Director, Sara Tymczyszyn, and added that the farm is one of the crown jewels for Silt and that we are very fortunate to have them here. Ms. Tymczyszyn provided an update of their operation after their second season at the farm. She went over the program that employs youth for the summer as a job training platform for teens. She stated that by the end of the season the farm will have produced 30,000 pounds of produce that was grown on just one acre of land then sold at farmers markets, through their CSA (prepaid) program and has also been provided to local food pantries.

Ms. Tymscyszyn relayed the difficulty that they were faced with this year when the well on the property collapsed and how the town stepped in to assist. She stated that they feel extremely supported by the Town and that the Town helped them out in various areas throughout the year. She spoke about their future plans and how they would like to increase the size of their operation again next year.

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### **Board of Trustees Meetings: COVID Precautions**

Mayor Richel began the discussion and welcomed input on getting things back to normal at Board meetings by having those Board members who were comfortable sitting together at the dais again instead of socially distanced throughout Chambers. Mayor Pro-tem Knott stated that he feels it is time to get back to normal and sit together. He also stated that he would like to have staff back in the room as well. It was also stated that those whether it is Trustees or Staff who are not comfortable could still opt to social distance whether in Chambers or in Staff offices.

There was discussion about how the Board members can hear each other better when they are not all spread out and that the information being delivered during a meeting is better when everyone is together in person. It was commented about how it sometimes is convenient for staff to be remote so they can provide info from their offices.

Trustee Hanrahan stated that the Board still needs to be respectful of other people's feelings while also being accommodating to others whether they attend the meetings in person or via Zoom. He added that what is important is that the conversations happen, not where they happen. Trustee Flores stated that the new norm is to be accepting of others and their decisions and opinions and that it is the Boards duty to make things comfortable for others.

Mayor Richel reiterated that at the next meeting, those who want to sit at the dais are welcome to. He also encouraged staff and the public to join them in Chambers adding that this can be taken slowly as the Board does not want to push anyone into doing something that they are not comfortable with.

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### **Silt Island Park – Parking Improvement Update**

Director Fonner went over his presentation stating that the boat ramp has become a popular spot for anglers, rafters and other river users and that the parking has become an issue and is undersized. He stated that staff reached out to guides and rafters for their input on what kind of improvements they would like to see and that Paula Stepp with the Middle Colorado Watershed Council was at one of those meetings. Ms. Stepp, with the Town's permission applied for and received a grant to pay for the engineering cost of designing a new layout for this site.

Director Fonner went over the proposed changes that would take place in the area of the ramp, and that the existing parking lot would be expanded to the south. When finished the new parking area would include an additional twenty parking spaces for trucks and trailers as well as thirty spaces along the east side for single vehicles. During discussions with local guides, they stated that they would not be opposed to paying a fee to use the boat ramp as long as the money collected went back to the upkeep of the boat ramp area.

There was additional discussion about a future dedicated walking and biking trail that could run along the County Road for safer pedestrian access to this park from the north. Administrator

Layman stated that it could be possible that the potential Rislende project could help with this effort. The Board also discussed new informational signage at the Island Park in the future and to maybe create a sponsorship program for businesses. The Board felt that the new boat ramp and parking area would be a good project for the town.

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### Administrator & Staff Reports

Administrator Layman stated that the Town has been informed that the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District received more funding for 2022 and that they would be resuming one traditional grant next spring. He also pointed out the fall clean-up from October 18-23 that would include not only the clean up of yard waste but that tires would also be accepted this year due to the Town acquiring a State grant that allowed for the Town to accept them.

The Board commented about the seasonal tree lighting ceremony and that they are glad to see that it would be happening again this year. Mr. Layman also briefed the Board on the Family Fun Fest/Trick or Treating event that would be taking place on October 28.

The Board asked for an update on OHV violations and Chief Kite stated that the police department has had approximately 28 OHV violations. He added that while some were warnings, others involved the OHV being towed and summoned into court.

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### Updates from Board / Board comments

The Board thanked staff for their hard work, stated that they are excited about not only the upcoming events, but the success of Highwater Farms and the upcoming improvements to the boat ramp. Mayor Richel asked about the status of the cell tower and their lease of Town property and Administrator Layman stated that it had been put on the back burner by Tilson but that it is now in the hands of the Town Attorney.


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### Adjournment

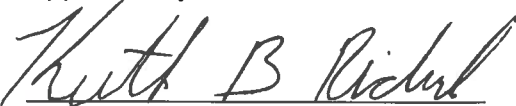
**Mayor Pro-Tem Knott made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Brintnall seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Richel adjourned the meeting 8:04 p.m.**

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Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheila M. McIntyre, CMC  
Town Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees

  
Keith B. Richel  
Mayor

