

**TOWN OF KERSEY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
MAY 11, 2021 – MINUTES**

The Kersey Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 446 1st Street and via a hybrid meeting due to COVID. Mayor Gary Lagrimanta at approximately 6:00 p.m. called the meeting to order. Trustees present in person were Mike Theorine, Nathan Roth, Clay Luce, Michelle Vannest and Allen Salser. Trustee Stan Sameshima was attending virtually.

Town Staff present: Christian Morgan, Town Manager, Haley Curtis, Deputy Town Clerk, Julie Piper, Town Clerk, David Gottschalk, Chief of Police, Megan Bennett, Police Officer, Kaylee Guerin, Recreation Specialist, and Rick Zier, Town Attorney.

Pledge of Allegiance

Oaths of Office for new Police Officers

1. Chief Gottschalk introduced newly hired officer Megan Bennett. Chief Gottschalk states that Megan has joined our team during a time of panic due to the short staffing issues.
2. Town Clerk, Julie Piper issues the Oath of Office and welcomes Megan to the Town of Kersey.

Additions to the Agenda – Christian Morgan states that there are two (2) proclamations to be read and he is requesting an executive session at the end of the meeting.

Proclamation – Mayor Gary Lagrimanta reads aloud two (2) proclamations. The first, declaring May 9-16, 2021, as National Police week in the Town of Kersey. The second, declaring May 16-22, 2021, as National Public Works Week in the Town of Kersey.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the consent agenda to include approval of the minutes of the April 13, 2021 regular meeting, approval of bills paid, and approval of bills to be paid. Motion made by Trustee Luce and seconded by Trustee Theorine to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Public Invited to be Heard – No public were present. Mayor Lagrimanta states Bill Canon expressed his concern about the re-routing of traffic during the water break (on 1st Street). Mayor Lagrimanta goes on to say that he has discussed those concerns with Christian and alternate plans will be made in the future.

New Business

1. Mayor Lagrimanta states that he has some new business to address. Mayor Lagrimanta states he would like to publicly thank Christian for his five (5) years of service. The Mayor goes on to say, five (5) years is the longest amount of time a Town Manager has been with the Town of Kersey, and Christian has gracefully enabled our Town to do great things. Mayor Lagrimanta and the Board of Trustees present Christian with a plaque and a watch as a token of their appreciation.
2. Kersey Community Center Senior Activities Discussion – Kaylee Guerin, Recreation Specialist is present. Kaylee states, she and James (Neill) have met with the AAA (the seniors group). Kaylee goes on to say, she is pleasantly surprised that the restrictions for meals and programming are being lessened. Kaylee states, at this time facilities are not able to have meals and programming in person; there will be mask, distancing and hygiene guidelines to follow. Kaylee states, we have the option to continue 'to-go' meals, delivery and in person dining. Kaylee expresses, they will try to keep the 'to-go' option and maybe some delivery, but she is unsure how much delivery they will be able to do if they have in person dining. Kaylee says the number of people they are delivering to has more than doubled, and she hopes some of those people will continue to be active at the Community Center for in person dining. Kaylee provided a handout with more specific guidelines. Kaylee says things are picking up, Kountry Kolours has 21 people coming to their class next week, and she is working to schedule some fitness classes. Trustee Roth inquires, if people will be able to come and socialize with the seniors? Kaylee says yes, you would be required to wear a mask and you would need to let her know if you plan to eat so she can order the meal. Trustee Luce makes a motion in support of opening the Community

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Center and hosting in person events, Trustee Roth seconds the motion. The motion carries with a 7-0 vote.

Old Business

1. Project Updates

- a. Centennial Trail – Christian states the bridge was installed and a lot of earth moving is going on now. The crossing over the railroad should be complete by mid-May. Phase 2 will start in November when more work along the ditch can be completed. He states he is very impressed with J2 Contracting.
- b. Union Pacific Acquisition – Christian states no new information on the acquisition, awaiting completion of the 9th Street crossing.

Staff Communication

- a. Chamber of Commerce– Trustee Luce states they had a meeting where they discussed Kersey Day(s), they are planning to move ahead full force like the event will happen. They are still waiting for the Girl Scout's to come do a presentation. They held a business after hours, and had a pretty good turnout.
- b. Tree Board – Before Trustee Salser gives his update, he says someone asked about a sidewalk along Hill Street. Christian states, we worked on a Safe Routes to School grant for that, and we were not successful, we will revisit that project. Trustee Salser states there has not been a (Tree Board) meeting. The Tree Board has removed some dead tree's along the wedges, and cleaned up some trash. Trustee Salser goes on to state, new trees will be delivered on May 28th, so there will be a big work day for that. Josh (Roseberry) will dig the holes for the trees. Trustee Salser states he is unsure how many trees there will be. Trustee Salser states, they have been working on a solution for getting water to the wedges.
- c. Town Manger – Christian states staff has met with the Outriders bus service about making a stop in Kersey. This is a bus service that runs from Sterling to Greeley. They met at the Community Center, and they have decided that the Community Center might not be the best place to put the bus stop, as our older adult group are probably not the primary clientele for this service. CDOT has announced that they will give the Town around \$80,000 (eighty thousand dollars) to build the bus stop. Christian states, we have several options for where to put the bus stop; we could put it at the North end of the Town Hall property, and make it match this building. Christian goes on to say, he has not approached the proper people for the following options, but we can if it is deemed to be the best solution. Those options include; the Post Office parking lot, the empty parking lot area by KB Tools, and in front of the Housing Authority. Christian says they need space to make the stop and turn around to get out. This bus service will make a morning stop and an afternoon stop, 3 days per week. Christian inquires of the Board, where do you see the best location being. Trustee Roth inquires if this will be a full-size bus? Christian says no, at this time it will be a 15-passenger vehicle but could be a full-size bus if it becomes very popular. Board of Trustee's express their interest in having the bus stop at or near Centennial park, as it is a mid-point in Town and has a road going around the park for easy access. There was also discussion about having the stop at Town Hall, as there are facilities and security already installed. Christian says he will go scout out a couple of places around Centennial Park, and come back with more certain information. Rick Zier states, he has seen bus routes come and go so whatever you do, you will want it to be in an area it can be used in another way if that should happen.

Christian states he and Julie (Piper) had a second meeting with DOLA on the budget stuff. They will be working on revamping the front informational portion of the budget. Christian states he will also be working on some additional financial policies that we should adopt. Christian states the Town was awarded the Distinguished Budget award in the 80's, but has not been awarded since then. He would like to apply again.

Christian states he has had a discussion with the Museum group about the insurance. The Town has been insuring the artifacts and maybe some liability. They have decided they might

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like to get their own insurance, which is fine because they are their own legal entity. Christian states, they could be an advisory board much like the Tree Board is. Christian states, we will be having the same discussion with the seniors (older adults) group. James (Neill) is going to talk to them about dissolving their LLC and become an advisory board like the tree board. We would be their fiduciary, and manage their money. Rick states there are many ways for those entities to be able to work with the Town on protection.

Christian states he will be meeting with department head the week of May 24th for some 1, 3, 5-year strategic planning.

Christian says, we did a water town inspection.

Christian states we were awarded a USDA grant for furnishings. It will cover a percentage of the new things we have purchased since June of 2020. Christian states we have been pretty thrifty with the purchases we have made. We were hoping that it would help cover the cost of the generator and solar panels, but unfortunately those items do not qualify.

Talking about the water leak on First Street, Christian says it is just a mess of pipes down there (underground). This leak was on our portion of the lines, but it is speculated this portion of the line is connected directly to the CWCWD line. There have been many strange repairs done over the years, with very little documentation to support it. Christian says, when we meet with Mark in June, he will bring a section of pipe so you can see what it looks like, it's very eye opening. Christian goes on to say the leak is fixed and all the service is restored now.

Christian says, Maria Maldonado will be entering the Police Academy in July, and she will be done early December. Christian states, we have learned the COPS grant is open and we will be looking at that. Christian states he will be recommending that we hire at least one, but hopefully two (2) new officers next year so we are not behind and, in a panic, if someone leaves.

Christian states, the animal clinic closed early because the vet had a n emergency to tend to.

Christian states there we several groups of second graders that visited Town Hall on their historic tour of Kersey today. Trustee Salser states there will be a couple more groups tomorrow.

Christian states he sent CDOT a message about the signage on Highway 34.

d. Town Attorney – No report.

Mayor Lagrimanta thanks Bob Kellerhuis for attending virtually this evening. Mayor Lagrimanta says, we still have some stuff for Bob, and we will be sure to catch up with him soon.

Executive Session

Motion made by Trustee Theorine, seconded by Trustee Roth, to enter into executive session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e); and to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of real, personal or other property interest under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(a). Motion carries with a 7-0 vote.

At 7:05 p.m., the Board of Trustee's entered into executive session.

Motion made by Trustee Theorine, seconded by Trustee Vannest to exit executive session. Motion carries with a 7-0 vote.

At 7:22 p.m., the Board of Trustee's returned to regular meeting.

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Board of Trustee Communications

Motion made by Trustee Vannest and seconded by Trustee Theorine to authorize the Town Attorney to prepare any required resolutions, agreements, ordinances, policies, letters, and memoranda to reflect action taken by the Town Board at this meeting and at any previous meetings, and authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to sign all such resolutions, agreements, ordinances, policies, letters, and memoranda. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Adjournment

Mayor Lagrimanta adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Curtis
Deputy Town Clerk