

**TOWN OF KERSEY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
(VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19 REGULATIONS)
May 12, 2020 – MINUTES**

The Kersey Board of Trustees participated in a virtual regular meeting due to COVID-19 on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, via Webex hosted by Town Manager, Christian Morgan. Mayor Gary Lagrimanta at approximately 6:03 p.m. called the meeting to order. Trustees present: Allen Salser, Mike Theorine, Nathan Roth, Clay Luce, Stan Sameshima, and Michelle Vannest.

Audience present: Nicholas Bates with Vector Disease Control, Jon McElwain with Hall-Irwin and Brandon Valenciano 3rd Street Court.

Town Staff present were: Christian Morgan, Town Manager, Rick Zier, Town Attorney, David Gottschalk, Chief of Police, Barb Brunk, Town Planner, Haley Curtis, Deputy Town Clerk, James Neill, Recreation Director, Josh Roseberry, Operations Manager, Mark Herrick, Operations Manager, and Richard Hopp, ORC.

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the consent agenda to include approval of the minutes of the April 28, 2020 regular meeting, approval of bills paid, and approval of bills to be paid. Motion made by Trustee Theorine and seconded by Trustee Luce to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Public Invited to be Heard

No public comment.

New Business:

1. Approval of Adult Mosquito Management Services – Vector Disease Control Representative Nicholas Bates
Christian Morgan states it is time to renew our contract for mosquito control; the Town has used Vector Disease Control for the last several years. Christian states the agreement would remain the same as the 2019 agreement, including the cost. Nicholas states they determined a few years ago that this is really the only option for Kersey, larval treatment is not a good option, and it would remain Tuesday truck sprays. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth inquires if there is a route map, and if it would be the same route. Nicholas states it will be the same route, as Kersey isn't very big. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth says he would ask for the 9th Street alley to get better coverage, and for the drivers to obey the speed limit. Trustee Theorine inquires of Christian if it is true that this is the only company that will service Kersey. Christian states he is not sure, and would have to ask Julie. Christian states this is usually put out for RFP about every 5 years, it's probably too late for 2020 but it is certainly something that can be looked at in 2021. Barb Brunk asks for clarification, Nicholas is not saying Vector Disease is the only company, but this is the best application method? Nicholas states Barb is correct, due to the agriculture surrounding Kersey it was determined years ago this is the most practical application, and apologizes for the confusion. Mayor Lagrimanta inquires if there is an optimal speed for application. Nicholas states studies have found that 18 miles per hour is the optimum speed, but the speed is generally lower in residential areas. Motion made by Trustee Luce and seconded by Trustee Theorine to approve the Mosquito Control Management Services with Vector Disease Control. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

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2. Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem –

Mayor Lagrimanta states after the election, it is time to appoint a Mayor Pro-Tem. Mayor Lagrimanta went on to say anyone interested can speak up now, or we can leave it the way it has been. Nathan Roth expresses his interest in continuing his role as Mayor Pro-Tem. Trustee's Luce and Theorine express their support of Mr. Roth remaining the Mayor Pro-Tem. Motion made by Trustee Luce and seconded by Trustee Sameshima to appoint Nathan Roth as Mayor Pro-Tem. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote. Mayor Lagrimanta stated Trustee Kellerhuis had been looking through all invoices and approving bills to be paid, we need to choose someone to take his place. Christian was having technical trouble with his connection, and lost connection briefly at this time. Mayor Lagrimanta went on to say invoices are reviewed and initialed at both the regular meeting and the work session, this person would come in 20-30 minutes early and Julie or Haley will have invoices ready to be reviewed, and answer any questions. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth suggested that Trustee Vannest take this Role. Trustee Vannest expressed, because she is so new she would not feel comfortable taking that role yet, and she travels for her regular job a lot in the summer time. Christian's connection was restored; he went on to say check signers must also be chosen. Mayor Lagrimanta states Nathan Roth was appointed Mayor Pro-Tem for a second term tonight, and inquires of Mayor Pro-Tem Roth if he is still comfortable being a check signer. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth indicates that he would like to continue being an authorized check signer. Mayor Lagrimanta individually asks each Trustee if they are interested. Trustee Luce indicated that he is interested, all other Trustees declined. Motion made by Trustee Theorine and seconded by Trustee Vannest to appoint Trustee Clay Luce as invoice signer. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

3. Appointment Town Officers: Town Clerk/Treasurer, Town Attorney, Municipal Judge

Christian states with each election the Town Clerk/Treasurer, Town Attorney and Municipal Judge must be appointed. Town Clerk has been Julie Piper for the past 12 years, Town Attorney Rick Zier for the last 4 years, and Municipal Judge Kim Emil for the last several years; under state statute, they are required to be reappointed until the next election. Mayor Lagrimanta inquires if it the appointment can be done in a group or must it be done individually. Christian states it can be done, as a group; but a no vote could reflective of not wanting to reappoint one person. Mayor Lagrimanta called for all comments and discussion now. Trustee Sameshima stated he did not hear or see the Chief of Police on the list, and inquired should the motion include the Chief of Police. Christian confirmed, yes it should include the Chief of Police. Motion made by Trustee Luce and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Roth for a unanimous appointment of Town Officers. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

Old Business

1. Project Updates

- a. Town Center – Christian stated the project is on schedule, and still moving. Christian can provide tours for anyone interested. Jon McElwain, our Hall-Irwin project manager is in attendance. Mr. McElwain extends thanks for the work in Kersey. Mr. McElwain went on to say the project is going well; the risky part is over, restoration is complete. Wood framing in complete and metal framing is nearly complete; if you walk through the building today, you can see offices, reception, council chambers, and police side. Mechanical, electrical, plumbing and heating are going in as we speak. A few people have come down with COVID, so they are working around that. Traffic has been pushed out just a bit further, that Hall-Irwin will be working with Christian to address traffic. Paving will begin next week, and will have a traffic interference will be about a week. It is a race to get mechanical finished so they can begin sheet rock and final finishes. Trustee Theorine states that from passing by it looks like the workers are taking precautions, and thanks Mr. McElwain for that. Mr. McElwain states that Garrett the supervisor holds weekly meetings to remind the subcontractors of safety precautions. Mayor Lagrimanta and Mayor Pro-Tem Roth extend their thanks. Mayor Lagrimanta states several people from the school have asked him about the project, and inquires of Christian if we can give the School Board a tour. Christian states we probably can, but he will review our contract with Hall-Irwin at it is an active construction site. Christian went on to say interested parties can contact him directly.
- b. Centennial Trail – Christian states we received some good news from Union Pacific about the construction requirements for the 9th Street crossing; now it is just a matter of finalizing the agreement. Land acquisition is continuing, not further update than that. It all comes down to dollars and cents; it's progressing.

Staff Communication

1. Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Luce states the Chamber has not met due to COVID, they decided to postpone another month. They plan to have a meeting next month.
2. Tree Board – Trustee Salser was not able to get his audio to work. Mayor Lagrimanta states that he can sort of read Trustee Salser's lips on the video and it appears there is nothing to share. Christian stated that some new trees will be dug and planted this month. Normally we would hold a gathering to recognize people who have purchased trees. The trees will be planted now, because it is the appropriate time of year to do it. However, the presentation will be delayed until September. Christian displays a map of Memorial Park indicating the placement of the new trees. Christian states that a couple of rows of Rocky Mountain Juniper trees are the beginning efforts of creating a noise break along the highway. The other four trees have been purchased to memorialize someone, hence the name Memorial Park.
3. Town Manager – Christian Morgan displays a chart of financial information. Sales tax numbers are trending down, but he is not overly concerned about the dip that we are seeing. It is always nice to see an increase. He anticipates the May report which will reflect March and April, will also be down. In comparison to many mountain towns that rely on tourism, being down 18% really isn't all that bad. In some ways, Kersey is in a better position to be able to whether this because our revenue not tourism or event based. We made some extraordinary cuts to our budget, but he was expecting even this report to be much worse. Lodging tax is about dead even with where we were in 2019. Our assessed value is still up from 2019, so he anticipates that the budgeted property tax will come through. CIRSA audit, Christian states that we are audited twice each year; once for our internal training, and once for our physical structures and facilities. We just went through the internal portion of that which is all of our training records, policies, safeguards, accidents and how we handle those, we have improved our score greatly. Christian attributes a great deal of that to Haley, she has taken a lead in organizing and tracking all of those items.

The Annual CML (Colorado Municipal League) Conference, scheduled for June, has been cancelled. They will attempt a virtual conference later in the fall. The next time the conference can be held in Westminster will be in 2025.

Christian thanks James Neill for his technical assistance, and asks James to talk about the food drive. Trustee Theorine asks, before we get into that, without going into names how are the local businesses doing. Christian states that is an unknown, we talked to many of the restaurant owners early on. Christian goes on to say that he would imagine that they are hurting and struggling. He has heard that local businesses that sell dry goods are doing better than they have in the past, as a result of this. He has heard that the companies selling equipment are continuing to make sales and provide services, and while it is down a little, it is not as impactful as what they had anticipated. Christian believes that is why we are seeing an 18% decrease over 2019 numbers, but we are will 30% above the 2018 numbers, which is remarkable. Christian states he does not have a definite answer and is not allowed to get that kind of data, but staff does check in as often as we can to see how people are doing. Christian encourages supporting your local businesses wherever you can, order take out, it does help.

James Neill states that we are partnering with Kersey Community Church and Gathering Grounds, each location will have a drop off locations, starting Monday (May 18, 2020) for people to donate dry goods, canned goods and none perishable items. This will run Monday (May 18, 2020) through June 3, 2020. Items will then be collected at a central locations and sorted June 4th and 5th. James (Neill) and Kaylee (Guerin) will then have a spot to attend the food bank that Kersey Community Church holds each month to hand out the food items collected. James and Kaylee are excited, and have had people from the community ready to participate already. There have also been a couple of High School students doing some fundraising, and they are looking at purchasing some bulk food items to donate. James goes on to say that they are still not sure when they will be back to doing senior lunches at the community center. Last week, the 70 Ranch reached out and asked what they can do to help in the community. James informed them, that we would greatly appreciate a donation toward the meals for our seniors in the community. James talked with them about the cost of the meals, and was then informed that the 70 Ranch will be donating \$5,000 to the senior lunch program. James has worked out with the Area Agency on Aging, who provides the meals, to keep that money in our community. James and Kaylee calculated this donation to be about 10 months' worth of meals, based on the current number of meals they are serving. James states this donation is huge and far more than he anticipated. The 70 Ranch dropped off the check

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today. On May 21st, a couple of 70 Ranch representatives will be at the community center to take photos with Christian, Kaylee and James. James states that he believes the 70 Ranch will also be doing some phone interviews with community seniors in the next couple of weeks.

4. Town Attorney – Rick Zier thanks Barb (Brunk) for getting information to Christian and himself in the last few days, regarding the Sovereigns and Library District acquisitions. Mayor Lagrimanta welcomes Mr. Zier back for another 2-year term.

Board of Trustee Communications

Trustee Luce states that he contacted Century Link for internet, and they agreed to provide internet at his home. When the workers came to install, it took 3 days of running wire, to get it installed. One of the workers told Trustee Luce that Century Link has an open work order to repair all of the lines in town, which dates back 7 years. Trustee Luce states he believes that the Town should get Century Link to come fix all the lines, so that we can have adequate internet service. Mayor Lagrimanta agreed it is something to look into, as many people struggle to find reliable internet. Trustee Luce states that they brought it in on a phone line, and the service has been great. Mayor Lagrimanta agreed. Trustee Luce states that they told him they could not go east of 6th. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth states that they told him, his home was the furthest east they had gone, when they hooked up his internet several months ago. Mayor Lagrimanta agreed to take public comment on this subject. Branden Valenciano 785 2nd Street Court, he joined this meeting for internet issues. Mr. Valenciano states that his wife is working from home, and only one device can be connected. They have Rise Broadband it is the only provider south of the ditch; Century Link, Xfinity and Comcast all said no. Mr. Valenciano states that in what he does for work he has direct contact to all of those companies, and boring companies to maybe help get internet to the south side of the ditch. Mr. Valenciano states that he is paying far more for satellite internet than what people in Greeley are, for less service. Mayor Lagrimanta states this has been a long time struggle, because of the size of our Town. Mr. Valenciano states that if there are open work orders, it's a great opportunity to ask them to take care of us as a city, due to more people trying to work from home because of the virus. He went on to say, he is aware that it is not always that easy, but maybe the work could be done before school starts next fall. Mr. Valenciano states that he has two phone line pedestals in his back yard that would make it easy for them to bring in high-speed internet. Mayor Lagrimanta thanks Mr. Valenciano for his input. Christian asks Mr. Valenciano to call him tomorrow, or when he has time, to talk more about this. Mr. Valenciano agrees. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth inquires, is this an actual thing or just someone talking. Christian states he is not aware of anything, and everyone has their own experience. He goes on to say that when we were seeking internet service for the community center, we got 2 vastly different quotes from different groups within Century Link, he believes that we got a pretty good deal with them. Christian expresses that like most companies, they have areas they are prepared to provide service to, and other areas they are not prepared to provide service to; he does not have access to their grid system to know where better service is available. Christian states he intends to follow up on this. Trustee Vannest recommends that Christian ask about the CAF project, to supply internet to rural areas. Trustee Luce states the workers told him there are lines in the alleys, but they are in such poor condition because of squirrels and birds, that is why they have work orders. Christian states not to make it too simple, but it would not be too hard to replace those lines in the older parts of Town. It is in the newer parts of Town where it is not aerial and there is no conduit placed to run the lines that would be much harder. Mayor Pro-Tem Roth states that they brought his in on two 15-gig phone lines, and put through a router, and they have had great service.

Motion made by Trustee Theorine and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Roth 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.

Mayor Pro-Tem states he misses all of you and wishes he could see everyone. Mayor Lagrimanta agrees and he would like to be able to thank Bob (Kellerhuis) for his service.

Christian states that the May 26th work session will likely also be virtual. The June 9th regular meeting is intended to be held in person, and we will invite Mr. Kellerhuis to that meeting.

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Mayor Lagrimanta states, he has heard that Eaton cancelled Eaton Days in mid-July. Christian states we will wait until the end of May to make a decision. James Neill states he heard the same about Eaton and La Salle days, both scheduled for mid to late July.

Adjournment

Mayor Lagrimanta adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Curtis
Deputy Town Clerk