

Town of Olney Springs



401 Warner Ave.
Olney Springs, CO
(719)267-5567

Regular Meeting Minutes
401 Warner Ave.
February 20, 2024
At 6:00 pm

Call To Order: 6:00 pm

Roll Call Board:

Mayor Morin: present
Trustee Howells: present
Trustee DeVore: present
Trustee Shriver: present

Trustee Cahill: present
Trustee Aguirre: absent
Trustee Seeley: present

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes January 9 2024,

Motion: Trustee Seeley

Second: Howells

All in Favor

Approval of Bills:

With addition of adding to pay for the furnace filter, Trustee Shriver: Motion to pay February Bills. Trustee Seeley: Second motion All in Favor – Yes Motion Passed

OLD BUSINESS:

- CIRSA - Still working on audit responses.
- Fence ordinance – still need to find the ordinance addressing fence descriptions.
- Dog/animal ordinance – Still need to send the letters out to request 2024 registration of dogs and unauthorized animals in town.
- Discussed and motion to raise the utility bill up by \$15.50 to cover the 2024 budget – effective on January reading utility bill. – There are resident concerns
- Preparing ordinance violation letters for 2024.

New Business:

- Jim McCuiston – 96 Pipeline – Twin Lakes discussion
- Addition to agenda

- Motion for Karen Gates, Ordway Administrator to discuss condemnations – process, she let the Olney Springs Clerk know that she can meet with her to see what their process is.
- Maintenance – Requesting a separate bank account for maintenance spending:
 - **Trustee Seeley motion to open maintenance bank account and Clerk Jennifer Pfeiff and Trustee Bruce DeVore to be signers on the account. Trustee Howells second, All were in favor.**
- Consider getting/using a signature stamp in emergent circumstances for checks or transfers. Decided to just add another signer on the general account:
 - **Motion by Trustee Seeley to add Trustee Bruce DeVore to be added as a third signer for the general account in case one of the other trustees are not available. Second by Trustee Shriver – All was in favor.**
- Review of water/sewer tap charges and cemetery open/close grave fees. – Need to generate the resolution for increases at next meeting.
- Should the town get some dog cages for when we capture dogs at large – Decided this was too much of a liability and the decision was a unanimous no.
- Storage containers on residents' property – is this allowable – determined unanimously it is allowed as long as the containers are nice and not dilapidated.
- Water rate increases – Residents' concerns on substantial overage charges – Currently \$10 per 1,000 gal from 5,000 to 9,000 - \$60 per 1,000 Gal over 9,000 gal. **Changed to \$5.00 per 1,000 gal from 5,000 to 9,000 gal - \$6.00 per 1,000 gal for anything over 9,001 gallons. Corrections to the accounts will be made immediately.**
- Comments from Residents Rachael Stout and Nancy Spera – the overage rates were too high and unacceptable. Were satisfied with the corrections.

Public Comment:

- Paulene Shisler – has a \$500 grant for the gazebo, would like to do a fund raiser to raise more money to continue to fix up the gazebo.
- Tim Naegele – questions about the meter pit for Farah Lee's property, Gino will be digging it up and setting it deeper. Gino responded, it will take some planning and will need to shut off part of the town water. It has extra wrapping on it for now to keep from freezing. Tim also asked about water meters and calibration to see if some meters need re-calibrated. Gino responded that he has been working on meters and seeing if we can get new meters.
- Niel Briggs – Was asking what is being done on the PFAS issue for the water. Felt the way of notifying the citizens should have been better. He also asked about tank cleanings and water pressure issues. Gino responded that we are continuing to address the PFAS issue.
- Resident stated that people drive very fast down North Lincoln and flies across the tracks. Is there a possibility of getting a speed bump. Trustees will look into this.

- Resident asked about fixing of potholes. Board responded that we are trying to get our reports and audits caught up in order to get our street funds released.
- Rachael Stout- concerns of the water overage. Board adjusted the overage and realized there was a misunderstanding on how the water program interoperates rates. Accounts will be credited the difference of the corrected overage amounts.
- Diane Cahill announced the spaghetti supper on February 24th at Senior Center.

Maintenance Report

- Gino has been following the Conduit meetings and information
- There have been issues at the lagoons, shop rags were flushed and Gino had to flush out a blockage
- The wheel bearings and breaks need replaced in the maintenance truck
- Still need a side door for the tractor. Have not found one. Need to check with Muth's.
- Still need to fix the generator at the lagoons. Are currently running off batteries.
- Requested to purchase first aid kits for the shop and vehicles
 - Board agreed to pick up 4 kits
- Gino will be working on the CIRSA audit corrections. Will start with the playground issues first. Will look into any grants that may exist to help replace some of the dilapidated equipment and ground maintenance.
 - Will look into the soft surface puzzle piece outdoor playground mats
- Need tires for the trucks. Gino needs to get quotes. Will cost about \$1300

Clerk Report:

- Attended some training with the Town of Fowler Clerk
- Have several meetings scheduled over the next few weeks that include: with the attorney, CivicPlus, DOLA and SCEDD, and Budget training just to name a few.
- I am working on town ordinance compliance letters and will be sending those out soon.
- I am working on the MUNI CODE example that the attorney sent to us to see if we can get it to adoption
- Still looking for fence ordinances. Will probably need to draft a resolution regarding the specifics of fences in town.
- I still need to get the CIRSA audit responses sent. They are completed and will be sent this week.
- I had received 2 mayor packets and 5 trustee packets back for the election. We will not have any write-ins.
- I have been working with the accountants to catch up our 2022 and 2023 Conservation trust fund reports. Those funds are being withheld and will be released when we complete the reports. I am also working on catching up HUFT funds reports.
- We are still tight on the budget for 2024. I will be starting to send out information on dog registrations. There will be a dog registration day at Conestoga Park in Ordway where I will set up a table and the towns people can come and register their dogs at


their towns table on March 30th from 9am to 1pm. They can also register them with me at town hall.

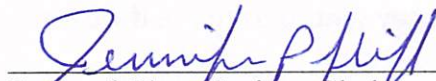
- I looked into signature stamps for checks. – Board has decided not to do signature stamps but to add Trustee Bruce DeVore to the general account to be available for third check signer.
- I have sent my application in for a scholarship to attend the CML annual conference. I should know in March if I was approved.
- The Quit Claim Deed was sent for 602 Clark. I have been playing the phone tag game with the owner.
- I conducted a LIHWAP (leap funds) investigation and determined that 3 accounts did not get the leap credit but we did deposit the funds into the bank account. I updated the 3 accounts.
- We had a few wonky meter reads for January's readings but I am working to get those corrected. Gino has been replacing some meters that are just not reading correctly. I had 9 accounts that were sent shut off notices.

Adjourn:

- **Trustee Shriver motioned to adjourn, Trustee DeVore Second, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.**

MINUTES ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 12th day of March, 2024.


BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TOWN OF OLNEY
SPRINGS, STATE OF COLORADO
By: Dan Morin, Mayor
ATTEST:


Town of Olney Springs Clerk