

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

### Regular Meeting Town of Grand Lake – Board of Trustees Monday January 11, 2021 6:00 PM

- CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Steve Kudron at 6:00 P.M. in the Grand Lake Board Room
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Kudron led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance
- ROLL CALL PRESENT:** Mayor Kudron, Mayor Pro-Tem Landy, Trustees Southway, Bruton, Bjorkman, Calvin-Braley and Arntson and Town Clerk Thompson
- ABSENT:** Manager John Crone
- ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Kudron announced: Please turn off all cell phones during the meeting
- CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Mayor Kudron stated if there are any conflicts of interest with any item on this evening agenda, Trustees may announce their conflict at this time – **None**
- UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Kudron announced this time is reserved for members of the Public to make a presentation to the Board on items or issues that are **not** scheduled on the agenda. The Board will not discuss or debate these items, nor will the Board make any decisions on items presented during this time. Rather, the Board will refer the items to Staff for follow up. Time limited for Public comments is 3 minutes.

#### **Jim McComb – 768 Kinnikinnick/County Road 4980**

I am President of the Chamber of Commerce and my initial comments are going to be on the Chamber of Commerce. Then I will comment as a private citizen. From the Chamber of Commerce, in the year and a half that I have been the President, I truly want to thank the Town Board for the cooperation and partnership that we have formed in the past eighteen months. With all of the things that we have been able to accomplish, we could not have accomplished them without the Town Board and your support. We are so very thankful for that. I also want to personally recognize your Town Manager John Crone. I know his contract is being reviewed, he has been a real pleasure in these very, very trying times. We've all faced these challenges and John has been forthright, supportive and we could not work with a better partner in John.

I'm taking my Chamber hat off now; before we get too far down the road from the East Troublesome Fire, I think we've all got it in our rearview mirror and a lot of folks are in recovery mode. I think at some point in time there has to be a debrief or review of what happened, how it happened and why it happened. I think we need to learn lessons from what happened, and I think that's the key thing right there. My wife and I figure we had between four and seven minutes from the pre-evacuation notice to the evacuation notice. Honestly, I don't know who makes that call. I've been told different things. I would like to know how that occurred when I'm standing on my back porch at 3:30 in the afternoon and I can see an orange sky to the Northwest and an orange sky to the Southwest and I get an evac notice four hours later. How did that happen? I also want to talk about and recognize the heroic efforts of our Fire Chief at the time, our Fire Fighters

and of our Public Works crew who were involved but would rather not be mentioned. They all did an amazing job; the bottom line is they saved the Town. But now is the time, before it gets too far behind us, to look back and say what could we have done differently, what did we do right and what did we do wrong. What could we do differently in the future and how are we going to plan for crisis like this going forward to make sure it does not happen again.

**John Vaught – 1213 Lake Court**

I want to Thank You for letting me address you all tonight. I do know Mr. Bjorkman from when I was President of the Denver Bar Association. I was also President of the Colorado Bar Association and have worked with many of the Trustees at the County on project infrastructure. I wanted to provide you with a little background. The issue I want to address is about flood mitigation on the Tonahuto River. I was unfortunately out of town and could not attend the meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>. This is a project that seems to me has been going on for about six years. I had come into my driveway one time and there were over 300 white sandbags stacked up in front of my property. I want to thank Keith Everhart for his help. He rescued me that time and has done a great job trying to help keep me informed. I have complete confidence he is going to make this work out right, but I think we need to pay attention to it. I have heard for about six years, primarily from Lemmon Lodge, that we were about to have a hundred-year flood that was going to wipe out our properties. USAA has told me each year that I am not in a flood zone and I believe them. But there are three things that I want to make sure that we pay attention to if we could when that project starts and I would like you to give authority to Keith to make some decisions, perhaps on site.

One is, I am concerned that if we monkey with that portion of the river too much we could otherwise create a flood when a flood would potentially not occur, primarily for people on the East side. I'm on the West side. I think we have to be careful about that. Second, we have an opportunity I think to improve that as a fishery and while we are in there digging I hope we can do that. And third, which I have discussed with Keith on several occasions as you can imagine, the substantial part of the value on my home which I purchased in 2012 is the view of the river. I just ask, as I know that Lemmon Lodge has been installing rocks along that west bank for years as I understand it on their own. When they get in front of my property on the river, I am concerned they may say the more rocks the better and if it blocks my view, so be it. There is a Town right of way between my property and the lodge. I just ask you to give some authority to Keith and just be mindful of retaining our view of the river. I would greatly appreciate it.

**Keith Everhart – Public Works Director - 137 County Road 498**

To answer John's question, Lemmon Lodge does have a permit with the Corp of Engineers to be able to do work in the river along the banks of their property. As far as being able to work along the banks of the river in front of their property and our right of way, they do not, and we will be watching that progress.

**Kathy Weydert – 811 Tallaqua Drive**

I have a brief "ask" for the Public Meeting next Tuesday. I know the Board understands we have a lot of public interest in the purchase of the Stanley Property. I just want to be sure that everyone has access to this meeting. I know the agenda is posted publicly at Town Hall, the Post Office and the Town website, but it would be very beneficial if the

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agenda could be sent out to the email list that distributes the Town Newsletter as well to reach as many people as possible.

### **Will O'Donnell – 203 Bella Vista Court**

I would like to ask the Town to consider having the Public Works employees start work later in the morning and leave later in the afternoon, from mid-February to mid-March, for the sole purpose of mitigating ice buildup, which dams up the surface water flow. I have two properties that are heavily impacted by the surface water flow and the Town equipment can't get the ice out of the alley because it is hard as a rock all day and only begins to soften or melt in the afternoon when the employees go home. In the afternoon, when it is softened up, is when the equipment can be used to remove the buildup. Maybe the Public Works department could modify their shift schedules during this timeframe to help with this issue. I have talked with Keith about this in the recent past and he has been very responsive, and I do appreciate the work he has done. This could also potentially make the work for him and his crew easier to get done.

### **DELEGATIONS:**

None

### **MEETING MINUTES:**

#### **Consideration to approve meeting minutes dated November 23, 2020**

Trustee Bruton made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated November 23, 2020, with the Grand Foundation listed, as well as, the amount of \$50,000. Trustee Bjorkman seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

Mayor Kudron	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Landy	Aye
Trustee Southway	Aye
Trustee Bjorkman	Aye
Trustee Calvin-Brale	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

#### **Consideration to approve meeting minutes dated December 14, 2020**

Trustee Bruton made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated December 14, 2020. Trustee Bjorkman seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

Mayor Kudron	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Landy	Aye
Trustee Southway	Aye
Trustee Bjorkman	Aye
Trustee Calvin-Brale	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW:**

#### **Consideration to approve Accounts Payable for January 2021**

Trustee Southway made a motion to approve Accounts Payable for January 2021. Trustee Calvin-Brale seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

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Mayor Kudron	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Landy	Aye
Trustee Southway	Aye
Trustee Bjorkman	Aye
Trustee Calvin-Brale	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Consideration to approve the Old Castle contract for the Streetscape Amendment of \$28,400 to the contract**

Trustee Arntson made a motion to approve the Old Castle contract, as presented. Trustee Bruton seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

Mayor Kudron	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Landy	Aye
Trustee Southway	Aye
Trustee Bjorkman	Aye
Trustee Calvin-Brale	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

#### **Consideration to renew the 2021 Town Manager Contract**

Trustee Bjorkman made a motion approve the Manager Contract for 2021 subject to the specified changes: Removal of the one-year auto renewal, raise is to be commensurate with the raises of other Town staff, there is a six-month severance pay if terminated before the contract expiration and a moving allowance of \$3,600 once the Town Manager has a primary residence in Grand Lake. Trustee Arntson seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

Mayor Kudron	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Landy	Aye
Trustee Southway	Aye
Trustee Bjorkman	Aye
Trustee Calvin-Brale	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

**Trustee Southway** – Can we direct staff to move forward with the recommendation of the position of an Assistant Town Manager? I recommend we consider the Town Clerk and Director of Human Resources be appointed, with Mayor Kudrons approval.

**Mayor Kudron** – We now have this as a work item as we have agreed to move forward in the direction of an Assistant Town Manager. It does not have to be a specific action item, but it is up for further discussion on a future meeting agenda.

### **MAYORS REPORT:**

The people have spoken again and it's time for us to listen a little bit more. We have diligently as a Board worked to not only take care of the Town that we all dearly love now, but also prepare it for the future. I think it's really important that all of us as residents realize that our leadership in Town is going to continue to change. It certainly is not going to be an easy job, but I think its important as people want to have their

voices heard that we listen to them. I want to encourage everybody that wants to share with us their frustrations, or whether they think something should be changed or done differently, to come to us with a solution on how things can be done better. As we have had our discussions regarding land use and what the future looks like, we have identified not only as a Board, but the Town has shared with us some of the many needs that we have. We need housing that is less than \$400,000, anything less than that. There are 800 square foot condos now selling for over \$300,000 in the Town of Grand Lake.

So affordable means something different to everyone. For us, affordable means that a couple who each needs to have \$35,000 a year jobs could live in Grand Lake. As a Town we need to figure out how to make that work. It cost \$400 a square foot to build a home. You do the math and the numbers don't work out unless there is some way to be able to create opportunity. We have to be careful when we are moving forward. We have to make sure that not only do we consider the consequences that we find, but also that we understand that there may be consequences that we don't consider. It is critical as we make these decisions that we are willing to change ourselves if we need to.

We are making a lot of great strides in this Town and as a Board. 2020 has been a challenge for everybody. Today I had the opportunity to spend two hours with all of the other Mayors, Managers and Commissioners in Grand County. In listening to the other Townships, we have a lot of stuff going on. Most of the other Mayors and Managers are glad that the impacts that we are dealing with because of the East Troublesome Fire are mitigated because they mean something to our community. Every person sees it every day when you drive to Grand Lake. You can't help but see the fact that the world changed us on October 21<sup>st</sup>. So, we have to remember that we are all neighbors and we are all friends. We are all trying to do the same thing, which is make Grand Lake a grander Grand Lake. It's the most special place in the world. So, how do you make the best better? We just want to make sure that we don't lose what we have. It is a learning experience and all of us as Trustees are learning and we continue to want to do better and grow. I am so proud of all the people at this table because they voice what they feel to all of you who are citizens in our community. I lead this group; I give them the opportunity to speak. I have a lot of ideas and I don't shove any of them down their throats. I want you all to know that when a decision is made by this Board it is made by a majority of this Board. We will continue to do that. We are going to continue to learn and we are going to do the very best job that we can.

COVID has not gone away. The County Public Health has talked about what those next steps in vaccination are going to look like. The biggest challenge to our County right now in terms of COVID is the changes come so rapidly. Even the best of intentions don't get communicated in time. Restaurants are being forced to bounce back and forth between someone can be in, then they cannot be in, and that is just before lunch. We have to remember to be cognitive of that. We are the full timers. We are the ones that the last thing that our servers, our store owners and our realtors, and everyone that gets to meet the public needs, is the locals stressing them even further. So, I ask that you do give support our business owners. I know that everyone is working extra hours because there is not enough money to pay all the help. I truly hope that the county business relief fund provides that sort of support to our businesses to all be able to open up in May. I hope that we have throngs and throngs of people.

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I would like the Board to think about water from a recreation perspective. We don't talk about it very often. Some things happened this last year when a whole bunch of Denver boats came up to Grand Lake in numbers that we have never, ever seen before. Instead of two wakeboards for the yacht club to get flustered about, there were thirty-two. That makes it hard to sail a boat when you've got wake boats pushing water fifteen feet on each side of the boat. We don't own the water. We don't get to control what it is. But there may be some creative ways, if the Board would look and want to act, the citizens would like to see something done. We do have control of what goes in the water on our end. Think about some of the recreation capabilities to make sure that our recreation is also what our Town would like to see. I'm throwing that out there because people have mentioned it to me. I don't have a position and I have not thought much about it.

I know that members of our sailing community would sure like more peaceful waters during the summertime. This is a part of who we are and what Grand Lake is. It is that quiet, peaceful place. If it's Chatfield Reservoir out there, we lose a lot of that feeling. Wake boats make a lot of wakes that disrupt the peaceful waters that sailors enjoy so much, and this is something that they scream about. Something that we should consider as we look forward to new visitors, is sharing this space with our old visitors. We are going to have more Denver visitors and hopefully we are going to have all those out of town, out of state visitors too. Then we will talk about the congestion even more. Again, I thank all of you for your care and your compassion and for your passion to see us through and do what's right. We are trying to make you all proud.


**ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Southway made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Bjorkman seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

<b>Mayor Kudron</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Pro-Tem Landy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Trustee Southway</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Trustee Bjorkman</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Trustee Calvin-Braley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Trustee Arntson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Trustee Bruton</b>	<b>Aye</b>

This meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 7:41 PM.



  
Jennifer Thompson, Town Clerk

  
Steve Kudron, Mayor