

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting Town of Grand Lake – Board of Trustees Monday June 28, 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 Town Hall 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; Town Clerk Thompson, Town Manager Crone
- ABSENT** None
- 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. If a member of the public wishes to comment regarding items on the Agenda, time will be allocated at the beginning of each non-quasi-judicial item. For items of a quasi-judicial nature, time will be allocated during the public hearing for the item. Time limited for Public comments is 3 minutes.
- Jim McComb – 768 County Road 4980 President of Grand Lake Chamber of Commerce**
I would like to stand up here and recognize some people for the Troublesome Stories exhibit. Laura Kratz and the Chamber staff, Emily Hagen, Judy, and Grace, as well as, Keith Kratz, have all put a lot of time in (nowhere near Laura Kratz). If you have not had an opportunity, we open tomorrow morning at 9 AM at the old Pitkin Library. If you have not had an opportunity, this is something very special and near and dear to the Grand Lake Communities heart. So, we invite everyone now from the public to please go over and take a look and take your time. It will affect you I promise. As you invite relatives and friends from out of town this holiday weekend, please feel free to bring them in. We are trying to tell the story of how we've all been affected by the fire.
- Suzi Maki – 1590 West Portal Road**
I have been living up here for many, many years and I've been in charge of Chamber events where we've had to cancel the fireworks and I've always been so against cancelling fireworks. But this year there are so many of us in this Town that are borderline PTSD from anything that has to do with fire in general. Especially the big noises and all of that. What we went through last October was so horrific and most of the people that I've talked to that are my friends don't want the fireworks. It's just this year only because of that and also because of parking. With Park Avenue closed down, bringing more people into this Town, I don't know where they are going to park and I

foresee that this is going to cause a lot of problems. Anyway, that's my personal opinion but I would never, ever say this had we not had what we went through in October.

Seth St. Germaine – Grand Lake Fire Chief

I'm the Fire Chief for the Grand Lake Fire Protection District. I'm going to put a little bit of information out here just so maybe I can put some folks at ease. I don't have the science behind PTSD but I do have the science behind why we are on stage two fire restrictions. We did not go back to stage one restrictions, even though we got some good weather, which hopefully will push back the stage three restrictions. Legal terminology, we are not in a fire ban. When a fire ban happens, the whole state in its entirety has to agree on that and every County goes under a fire ban. That's where we were in October when East Troublesome happened. We are currently in stage two and stage two has an economic design behind it based upon science that allows us to have the permitted, licensed fireworks.

If you look at the nation, Colorado in particular, come June, end of July we are hitting these corridors where we may be getting some tail end monsoons, we're getting some better ERC's, we're getting some better RH's, we're getting a little bit lower temperatures during this course, so that's why we are in a stage two. We had a meeting today with our Federal Fire officials, along with the county fire Chiefs to discuss what we want to do in phase two and all of us unanimously agree, with the science that we currently have sitting in front of us, we are comfortable remaining in stage two. We meet every single Monday, to look at the science, and have a discussion on what we are comfortable with and we are moving forward as a unified process so we are not going to patchwork the fire districts.

One of the things I want you to understand is that we look at something called ERC, which is Energy Release Component. How likely is my tool able to propagate energy values. It went down. We were sitting at about 120, the scale goes up to 260, and right now we are sitting at about 80. It's going to up turn a little bit, but if you look at our seven-day forecast, we have more winds, higher RH values, better hold overs for the nights because we have cloud cover. We have a lot of things that are working for our benefit. As the Fire Chief of the Fire District, I will tell this Board that I am standing in front of right now, if I honestly thought that there was a tremendous risk, I would be making a phone call to the Mayor or John telling him this is not appropriate. I have not done that because I feel like we are in a safe corridor and we have lots of values going for us in regard to how we shoot the fireworks off over the lake and who is doing it. Just so everybody understands, as far as Grand County fireworks, when they are permitted they are not allowed to leave the ground. The only time they are allowed to leave the ground is when done by a pyrotechnic professional and it's permitted. So, we have a lot of safety nets that are in here right now and stage two allows us to do so.

Laura Trezoglou – 74 Lyons Homestead Drive

You only meet on Mondays, what applies on Sunday. If we don't get any rain this week, what is the difference as far as that and on an extremely windy day, what is the risk?

Seth St. Germaine – Grand Lake Fire Chief

Both excellent questions. We do look at a seven-day forecast when we meet on Mondays. So, we just met today. We looked at the even-day forecast on sciences, which

includes adverse fire weather, what the RH values are going to be, what the storm trends are, meteorologists from Boulder, I mean we talk with all different types of people and we look at the science. Because we meet Monday to Monday and we have weekends which are big, we always make sure we look at that seven-day forecast. The Grand County Sheriff is also a part of this conversation so it's not just the Fire Chiefs that meet, it's the Sheriff because he is the Fire Warden and he is the one who gets to pull the trigger on what exactly happens with the state officials. So again, we are looking at that seven-day forecast.

Peter Trezoglou – 74 Lyons Homestead Drive

I agree with Susie and I understand everything that Mike and Chief said. I think that one point that you guys need to consider is that if you do have fireworks, yes it is going to be in the woods, but now you're going to have 40,000 more people here doing things that you probably don't want them doing. So, it's just an exponential amount if you do have the fireworks that you will have to deal with. I just wanted you to think about that.

Cooper Roberts – was at 346 County Road 4980

I lost my primary residence back in October, so I am something of an expert. I have suffered from PTSD tremendously. I took a ride this past weekend and I could not get past the 113. That stupid chimney that's burnt out there, two days in a row. I'm here on behalf of the Troublesome Fest so this was unexpected. All I ask is what Suzi said is true, PTSD is a real thing. I live down in Denver now. I bought a trailer right next to Trail Ridge Marina so I could be up here and help with the Troublesome Fest but, PTSD is a real thing and I can say there is no way in hell I will be here for fireworks. I think it will be too much for me. But, if you do, and I won't say that I'm against it, just maybe some sort of education about wildfire. That is what we are trying to do with Troublesome Fest and the mental part of it is a real thing. I never thought it would be, but it is. It's tough and this festival is helping me deal with that. Just please be aware that PTSD is a real thing when it comes to wildfire. Thank You

Jim McComb – 726 County Road 4980

Speaking as a citizen, I get the science. I understand it's cool and it's wet. My concern is not professional fireworks over the lake. My concern is the message that we send to the idiot who will drive up to Wyoming, packing the back of his car up with fireworks, I was that idiot 20 years ago. We are, kind of not instigating but, we are sending a message that fireworks are good so go ahead. Up in Columbine, no matter what this town does, Columbine does not have fireworks, not even an open fire. I just ask that you consider that. I also ask that you start looking forward so we don't have this conversation every stinking year. It's a very easy solution. All this money that's being gathered for fireworks, go out and buy a top end laser light show and you could do an hour laser light show. For a \$100,000, which I think is the initial cost, you could do it every year with no threat of fire and we would never have to have this conversation again. Thank You

Katie Beeson – 13692 US Highway 34

I own the Mountain Market in Grand Lake. Generally, I'm supportive of anything that brings people to our community. I am with some of the folks that have said we're not going to have any more people for 4th of July than we already get for the 4th of July. Maybe during the weekday, but not on the weekend. I agree with that sentiment. I wasn't going to say anything until my buddy mentioned the laser light show. I used to

belong to a community in northern Michigan that had a horrific accident with fireworks one year. Someone actually lost their life. They made the decision that they were not going to do fireworks shows anymore, they went to the laser light show and I just have to say it was a total flop. They did it for three years and the community apparently decided that one fatality was a number they could live with and went back to fireworks. Just to give you a sense of how strongly people felt about that celebration that they wanted for their event.

My thing with the fireworks is, and with so much sympathy and empathy for those in this community who have really suffered since the fire. I think we can all appreciate that. Don't take it lightly and don't think that there isn't such a thing as PTSD. I was very outspoken a year ago without having the fireworks in the face of COVID. I really felt strongly that it's a tradition here for Grand Lake, it's a cause for celebration. It's something that our community is known for and I think the community just has to decide is this a tradition for the community or not because if you skip it two years in a row it's not really a tradition anymore. It will be something that we do sometimes and sometimes we don't do it. I think it's fair to say that sometimes we don't do it because there is a true safety issue that is having to be considered, and of course that should occur.

I don't think that we're a community, and I haven't been here that long about 8 years, but everything I know about this community tells me this is a not community governed by fear. This is a community that is resilient, that is governed by hope. I'm with Jonah, I think this community needs a celebration and there is nothing that says celebration more than those beautiful fireworks going up over Grand Lake. We heard from the scientific people that sure it's not a 100% safe but it's pretty darn safe. My opinion is that we shouldn't be looking toward, what if it happens again, maybe we should wait. I think that the Trustees should have a threshold saying we're gonna do the fireworks unless something really extreme says that we shouldn't. I don't think that should happen every year. And I think that it's the science we should listen to . If Seth stood up here and said, "You know guys, this is a dumb move" I would do a 180 on this. But I do think there is a cause for celebration and I hope that we're not pushing away from this because of fear from what happened last year when the risk seemed to be really low.

Krystal Steward – 205 Bella Vista #109

I just had some quick food for thought. Do you think that having the fireworks done professionally, providing that outlet for seeing fireworks, versus if we did not have them more people would be thinking about doing their own in their backyard? We would have more non-professionals playing with fire during a fire ban. Just food for thought.

DELEGATIONS:

None

Consideration to approve Resolution 15-2021, a Resolution appointing Karen Goldman as the Public Hearing Officer

Trustee Southway made a motion to approve Resolution 15-2021, as presented. Trustee Bjorkman seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

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

Consideration to set the date for the Public Hearing

Trustee Bjorkman made a motion to set the Public Hearing date of July 7th, 2021, at 9AM in the Community House. Trustee Bruton seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Consideration to approve Accounts Payable for June 2021

Trustee Southway made a motion to approve Accounts Payable for June 2021. 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-Braleley	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration to approve Resolution 16-2021, a Resolution approving a Special Use Permit for temporary snow cone truck located at 347 West Portal Road

Mayor Pro-Tem Landy made a motion to approve Resolution 16-2021, 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-Braleley	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

Consideration to approve Resolution 17-2021, a Resolution Recommending Approval of a Lot Consolidation of lots A & B, Coker's Corner Minor Subdivision, located at 1670 Sunnyside Drive

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Trustee Bjorkman made a motion to approve Resolution 17-2021, as presented. 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

Consideration of Resolution 18-2021, a Resolution recognizing the service of Gerald Hassoldt

Trustee Southway made a motion to approve Resolution 18-2021, recognizing the service of Gerald Hassoldt of the Grand Lake Water Department with an appropriate monetary benefit. 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 a Special Event Liquor Permit for Troublesome Fest, presented by Fire On The Mountain, Inc on September 11, 2021

Trustee Calvin-Brale made a motion to approve the Special Event Liquor Permit for Troublesome Fest, 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 approve a Special Event Liquor Permit for the Bluegrass Festival, presented by the Grand Arts Council, to be held on July 31, 2021

Trustee Bjorkman made a motion to approve the Special Event Liquor Permit for the Bluegrass Festival, as presented. Trustee Arntson seconded the motion. Town Clerk Thompson called the vote:

Mayor Kudron	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Landy	Aye

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Trustee Southway	Aye
Trustee Bjorkman	Aye
Trustee Calvin-Braleley	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

Consideration to Approve Resolution 19-2021, a Resolution for a Fee Waiver for the Peaks and Pines Quilt Show

Trustee Arntson made a motion to approve Resolution 19-2021, a Resolution for a Fee Waiver for the Peaks and Pines Quilt Show on July 9th 10th and 11th 2021. Trustee Calvin-Braleley 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-Braleley	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

MANAGERS REPORT:

The Town is receiving \$127,182.98 in American Recovery Plan Act funds. Our first distribution of \$63,214.46 will be disbursed by the end of this month. Our second payment will not be available until 2022. We have completed the necessary paperwork to ensure that we get our first payment. DOLA is still working on details about how the actual accounting for submittals will work. The County is currently under Stage II fire restrictions. This means that no open fires or smoking outside is allowed. There are other restrictions that will be posted on our website.

Staff is working hard on closing the section of road near Center Drive. The road is closed, but we still need to finish landscaping. We are also working with the contractor, architect and homeowner on the Woodpecker Hill driveway that is causing problems. Troublesome Stories has opened up in the Pitkin House. This very impressive exhibit had its official opening last Wednesday where our Mayor gave a very emotional speech touching on the impacts that this fire has had on all of our lives. We highly recommend that everyone try to visit the exhibit sometime over the summer. We are also still looking for volunteers to help keep it open. Please contact Emily at the Chamber of Commerce if you can help out.

The Town docks officially opened two weekends ago. The Town is deeply obligated to Jeff Trupp and his son who worked tirelessly to get the project done. We are still having meetings with the Artspace group and hope to have something for the Board at the next meeting. We are expecting rain throughout the week (although it is not expected to change the current drought conditions). Everyone needs to be aware that we could have flooding issues as these rains fall on the burn scar. With the construction on Park Avenue, Town Hall will continue to be open during regular business hours, however, parking will be limited. If you have business in Town Hall, you will have to park on Garfield or Pitkin and make your way to Town Hall on the Boardwalks.

The Board of Trustees has asked Town Staff to investigate reopening Lake Avenue from Lakefront Park to Ellsworth. Staff has determined that, for this year, we need to

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continue to use the gravel area to the west of the lakefront for parking. We will readdress the issue this fall as we plan for next year. Staff is putting together a plan to implement paid recycling at the PAYT facility. This is taking a little time as we prepare for the Fourth of July weekend. The 2021 budget does not contain a contingency for Streetscape in the General Fund section. We are transferring \$81,000 from the parking in lieu dedication to the streetscape fund, however the Streetscape Fund (1% fund) has adequate reserves for any contingency. Staff has adjusted AP to reflect each purchase on our credit cards. Staff has not had time to reach out to the owner of the Lilliput Parcel to discuss future plans for the parcel after the denial of the conditional use permit for a petting zoo.

Staff has been overwhelmed this summer with open records requests, recall issues, National Park and Troublesome Fire questions, incredibly large numbers of visitors, personal issues, and dealing with the day-to-day operations of the Town. We ask people show a little patience when they request help. Our staff is hardworking and dedicated. If you call or send an email, we will address your concerns as soon as we can.

MAYORS REPORT:

It's exciting to see two new staff members making it through the entire meeting, so thank you guys for being here we really do appreciate it. There's a lot of stuff going on in Town and as Elected Officials we get to wear a number of different hats. We get to wear empathetic hats where we listen to our constituents and anybody else who wants to give us their opinion about our town. We have the opportunity to be able to share our thoughts and ideas in a way that not everybody in this Town does because of the level that we are given as Elected Officials. I do want to say that in this challenging time, as an Elected, I'm happy that all of you are keeping your own thoughts and that you are continuing when we meet to take what's most important, which is the success of the Town of Grand Lake, not only its resilience, but it's future and what we have as a responsibility and a stewardship to that future.

As we continue to be challenged, not only from the change and from what's within our own community, but know that we are also challenged by a different kind of visitor. A visitor that I don't know if we can call it the COVID effect or a cooped-up effect or maybe people are just needing to show everybody that they are on top of the world again. But it is challenging for everybody who is facing the public in our town. As all of us are always in front of the town, whether you're walking into somebody's shop with your family, or welcoming your own visitors and guests to your businesses or serving the community in other ways. Keep up the good work guys. We have a lot to be proud of. We have a lot to look forward to. I have heard from an awful lot of people that some of the change has revolved around the way that businesses are looked at these days.

I've had people call us a business town now instead of a sleepy little town. Some people I think tell me that in a good way and some people tell me that in a bad way. We are changing. There are businesses that are not only changing but we are putting the responsibility of all the things that we want to get done on the bulk of where our tax dollars come from, because it comes from tourism. We need to be cautious that we don't let the pendulum swing too far. My personal opinion, I feel like the pendulum swung too far the other way, that businesses were not being supported and our tax base was getting smaller and our maintenance, well we weren't able to do that. We had to give businesses, I felt, an opportunity to be successful.

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When Mickey came in as a new Trustee, and I say this often, he shared that the best way for businesses to persevere, to make a million dollars, is to commit to it. There needs to be a balance so that our community can feel that our culture remains, that those values that we hold dear be protected, but that we still get the job done that we have to do and we don't make excuses because we run out of money. Everybody else can make those excuses, our job is to pay the bills. If we don't maintain what we've built, in a reasonable and regular timeframe, we are not doing anybody any good because the people after us are stuck with a bigger hole than what we were given.

When I talk about that hole, I feel like every Board here has always worked to do their very best. I will never point out somebody and say that they tried to harm our town. But, we do look at things sometimes a little differently. For us, moving forward has to be that we take care of our Town today and tomorrow. I don't think anyone sitting at this Board table wants to leave the future Boards with our troubles. They are gonna have troubles, but we should never kick the can down the road. For those who have been on the Board longer than others, we've all tried to do that every time we've sat at this Board. This is where I wanted the public to hear this because it is our future.

One thing that we all have to do because everybody here has told me we are not career politicians here, so this Boards going to turn over and it's going to turn over in the next three to five years completely probably, if we know that's going to happen, hopefully we can work together in the next few years and help give them a roadmap to get them going. Thanks for listening to me. Thanks for being here.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Southway made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Calvin-Braley 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-Braley	Aye
Trustee Arntson	Aye
Trustee Bruton	Aye

This meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

(Attest)



Jennifer Thompson
Jennifer Thompson, Town Clerk

Steve Kudron
Steve Kudron, Mayor