

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY  
TOWN OF OPHIR, CO 81426  
TUESDAY MAY 21ST, 2024 7:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Andy Ward calls the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Voting Members: Mark Rosenthal, Ben Foster, Andy Ward, Eric Beerman, Daniel Forgrave, Phil Hayden, Leigh ???, Chris Drew, Kelton Wright, Cara Binkley, Kim Wheels, John Humphries, Tyler Schultz, Natalie Fijalkowski

Non-Voting Members: John Wontrobski, Anne Brown, Ken Page, Jane Page, Harley Brooke-Hitching

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mark motions to approve, Ben seconds  
Motion passes unanimously via voice vote.

**3. ADOPTION AND SIGNATURE OF MEETING MINUTES for  
February 20th and March 19th General Assembly**

Mark motions to approve, Kelton seconds.  
Motion passes unanimously via voice vote.

**4. PRESENTATION**

Anne Brown, San Miguel County Commissioner presents campaign for reelection.

Q&A follows.

Ken Page asks about workforce housing potential locations.

Anne notes she'd like to see locations along existing travel corridors such. As the Ilium area, also notes that Mtn Village doesn't have density limits for such housing. She also likes 145 south zone, gravel pit, Matterhorn area, MD's property at Ophir turn, N. side of the valley floor.

John Humphries asks about behavioral health.

Anne notes that she is trying to bring back co-responders program. They are not police but can respond w/ mental health skills and other options besides arrest. She'd like to do more preventative work, potentially a hotline and/or a location where people can go.

## 5. BUSINESS ITEMS

VOTE- Engagement Letter/Contract for new Auditor, Blair and Associates

Mark motions, John H. Seconds.

Motion passes unanimously via voice vote.

## 6. STAFF REPORTS

A) Town Manager

i) Staff Changes:

1) Steve Johnson resigned as town attorney. Town staff has discussed and approved of David McConaughy as new town attorney.

Eric Beerman is concerned about David's work in Mtn Village and would like to make a motion to do a wider search for new town attorney. Motion dies for lack of a second.

2) Jacey DePriest has resigned as OEC chair. John Humphries is the new OEC chair.

ii) Ophir Days June 15-16th.

iii) Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup> is the Peter Harrelson memorial at Telluride Town park

iv) Street work (dust suppressant) will be happening on Thursday

Kim mentions she'd like to do some greenhouse work during Ophir days with anyone who'd like to help. Light work not big repairs.

v) Ophir has hired a company to build a map of the fiber lines for the internet as a map was not provided when the system was installed.

vi) County road paving should start the first weekend in June for the 145 to Post Office section.

vii) CAIC forecasting for spring gulch?

Troy from Ridgeway will begin forecasting for Ophir Road. 20 years ago, it was recommended that we not forecast for Spring Gulch, and we will continue to follow that guidance.

viii) Avalanche study review or redo?

Joe Schults is helping John W. w/ assessment and interviewing potential contractors for the review/remap options.

ix) Speeding?

Dips will go in. John W. has to communicate with insurance about the radar sign that was destroyed last year but hopes to replace it.

x) Water report?

John W. will send PDF to anyone who requests but please don't share it. Mark asks what the next step is.

John W. is communicating w/ SGM about this. The red box is the first step and they will also be helping with potential grant funding applications.

Tyler notes the red box has been there for 40 years, essentially acting as a filter. Water redirect has been put in place to prepare for replacement. SGM estimates around \$5k to figure out a solution. Ken notes it is a weak link in our system.

#### xi) Town Money Bank Account

Town cash reserves have been moved to an interest-bearing account with Alpine Bank and will earn town about \$30-40k per year.

#### B) OEC

Wildfire mitigation was discussed at the last meeting.

New Dominion cleanup/maintenance was looked at on 5/20. Potential project could be next spring and take a couple of months

#### C) MAYOR

Andy thanks John Humphries for stepping up, and thanks Jacey for all her hard work as OEC chair.

John W. notes he'd like to find a public way to honor Steve Johnson. Andy mentions the project to honor influential Ophirites of the past.

#### 7. NEW BUSINESS

Kim notes a new idea for Ophir speeding. Planters have been pretty but have been destroyed. Could Yukon weld up some metal planters?

John W. also notes he has approached Yukon about a gate for the cemetery.

John W. notes planters would need to be adopted for watering, so he doesn't have to add to his workload.

John W. asks if Ophir could institute some kind of honor code for enforcement

Kim notes that Eco-Action will be educating building inspectors about code changes. Kim could write a letter for town.

8. ADJOURN

Andy Ward motions to adjourn @ 8:22pm

*Minutes prepared by Ben Foster, Town Clerk*

*Audio and video recordings of all General Assembly Meetings are available to the public. Please contact the Town Clerk if you would like a copy of this month's audio of the meeting minutes.*