

**FOWLER TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
200 MAIN STREET  
DATE: December 14, 2009  
5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Mayor Wards called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at an earlier time because of scheduling conflicts. Present were Trustees Christensen, Hitchcock, Hobby, McKown, and Stites. Trustees Baldwin was absent. Also present were Rein, Klinkerman and Pagnotta.

Public Comment: None

Changes to the Agenda: None

Approval of previous minutes (November 23, and November 30, 2009): Trustee McKown made the motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting; motion was seconded by Trustee Hitchcock and passed unanimously.

Reports: Administrator Snider reported that the boring for the sewer line has been completed. The contractor will begin the boring for the water line in January.

Treasurer Klinkerman submitted a written report but did not go into much detail because of time restraints and asked for questions from the council members. Trustee Stites inquired about a few of the checks on the register and was given an explanation.

Unfinished Business:

Budget: Treasurer Klinkerman submitted a memo explaining the changes that have been made to the 2010 budget. The changes include the recalculation of the mill levy which resulted in a change of \$400 in property tax revenue. \$5,000 in fine surcharge money has been budgeted for tuition/training in criminal justice. The purchase of the dump trailer was removed; which affected the general fund \$500, the water fund \$3,500, and the sewer fund \$2,000. \$3,000 was added to the water fund for a loan payment on a tractor. The amount of the DOLA grant in the water fund was revised. \$1,000 was added to the Conservation Trust budget to purchase security cameras.

Klinkerman stated her concerns with the budget that was submitted from the library board. The library board budgeted to have the library open 35 hours per week with the librarian earning \$12.50 per hour. Additionally the library will begin the year with \$1,000 in reserves and end the year without any reserves. Klinkerman stated her concerns with a few line items from the budget and Trustees voiced their concerns with increasing the librarian wages from \$8.25 to \$12.50 per hour stating that the other town employees are currently under a wage freeze. Trustee Stites suggested adjusting the mentioned lines items and they were adjusted as follows: \$300 was added for mileage, utilities increased to \$3600, and wages were adjusted so that reserves were not to be used.

Resolution 770-09 Adopting 2010 budget: Trustee Hitchcock made a motion to adopt Resolution 770-09 with the changes to the library budget. Motion was seconded by Trustee McKown and passed unanimously.

Resolution 771-09 Appropriating Sums of Money: Trustee Hitchcock made motion to appropriate sums of money for the 2010 budget with the changes to the library budget. Motion was seconded by Trustee Hobby and passed unanimously.

Ordinance 649-09 Certifying Mill Levy: Trustee Christensen made motion to accept ordinance 649-09 certifying the Mill Levy. Motion was seconded by Trustee Hobby and passed unanimously.

Police Advisory Committee: Administrator Snider stated that he would like to see a committee of 5 to 7 members that would serve as a public relations committee between the community and the police department and help facilitate the Safe Routes to School program. He suggested advertising for committee members with applicants submitting a letter of interest. Attorney Hyatt stated that a resolution would need to be established prior to forming the committee. Sergeant Doug Perry suggested the committee be called Police Public Relations Committee. Snider will meet with Attorney Hyatt to draft a resolution.

#### New Business:

Purchase of Tractor: Trustee Hitchcock made a motion to purchase a John Deere 5075 tractor with the beacon lights and mirrors for a total of \$50,441 with the intent to put \$35,441 down and finance \$15,000 over a five year period with zero percent interest through John Deere. Motion was seconded by Trustee McKown and passed unanimously.

Resolution 769-09 2010 Calendar: Trustee McKown made a motion to accept Resolution 769-09. Motion was seconded by Trustee Hobby and passed unanimously.

Ad for Colorado/Utah Travel and Recreation Directory: Pagnotta asked if the town would like to be included in the directory again this year. The ad and cost of advertising was split with the Chamber last year. The cost of the ad is \$125 and includes a small write up. Snider asked about the circulation numbers. Snider did not have time to review this. Trustee asked that he handle this situation.

Lease of Office building: Snider did not have an opportunity to review the lease and asked that it be tabled until next meeting. Trustee Christensen made a motion to table the discussion; motion was seconded by Trustee Hitchcock and passed unanimously.

SEWCD: Trustee Hitchcock was hoping that Jim Broderick would be available to brief the council on updates regarding the conduit, but he was unable to attend the meeting.

Rebecca Goodwin, the chairman of the Otero County Preservation board, along with Jean Hinkle was present to speak to the council members regarding Historic Preservation. Goodwin stated that in 2004 the County established a Historic Preservation board to assist communities with preservation issues. At that time, an intergovernmental agreement was also established and signed by the Town of Fowler. The Board has updated a resolution and would like Fowler to update the IGA as well. Snider wanted an opportunity to review the information and prepare a report for the Council.

Executive Session: An executive session was on the agenda; however, two of the trustees had prior engagements and had to leave. The executive session was rescheduled for the next council meeting.

Adjournment:

Trustee Hitchcock made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Trustee McKown. Motion passed unanimously.

Ray Wards, Mayor

Shawn Pagnotta, Town Clerk