

## Boulder Town Meeting Minutes, 10-4-2018

Town Council present: Steve Cox, Gladys LeFevre, Conrad Jepsen, Farlan Behunin. Peter Benson was excused. Deputy Clerk Peg Smith recorded the meeting.

Members of the public present: Tessa Barkin, Ashley Coombs, Caroline Hoyt, Mike Sarles, Randy Catmull, Judith and Bill Geils, Donna Owen.

Mayor Cox began the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a motion to approve the Sept 6 minutes. Conrad moved to approve, Gladys seconded, and Steve, Gladys, and Conrad approved; Farlan had to abstain.

First speaker Mike Sarles, representing Rural Online initiative, a statewide project overseen by Utah State University's Extension Service. Mike passed out brochures to the council and audience, explaining the purpose of HB 327 that created the initiative last session: keeping people, particularly young people, in rural communities with decent-paying jobs. He said it's hard to import whole businesses, but easier to bring a remote job to person in a rural community. He'd like to set up a town hall meeting and invite community members who would like to learn more about the program--- either starting a business online, earning a few extra dollars in a parttime or off-season job, or working at a full-time remote position.

The town hall meeting will explain how the program works, and people can sign up there. Next comes the online certificate class (Master Remote Rural Workers certificate) that will include sessions on dealing with time management, isolation, needed skills to be a remote worker, using video conferencing software, and other skills. These are free sessions, a total of nine modules. Upon completion of the online modules, the trainee does a virtual or face-to-face meeting with the program coordinator, such as himself. They discuss career plans, job strategies, get directed to other resources including additional software training, and get assistance finding a job.

Sarles said the community itself needs to be able to provide a place someone could access the internet if their connection went down, that it's critical to always be connected. The project also needs a local contact person, which will continue to be Mayor Cox for the time being.

Total time to complete the full certificate course is about a month, depending on the person. Some people are motivated to do it much faster. What kinds of jobs? He said there are over 3500 categories of jobs available. Basically, if you have a skill and you have a computer, there's nothing to stop you from helping others elsewhere.

A second component, HB 390 signed in March, adds an incentive to companies to hire a Utah remote rural worker. This also applies to local companies hiring, with some stipulations. Nan Anderson, from Torrey, manages that program (GOED). There is no limit on the number of people who can participate, and no income requirement to participate.

Steve said Elizabeth Julian had offered use of the school to host one of the Town Halls, tentatively looking at October 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> to set it up. Sarles wanted to thank Ana Sanders for making the initial connection with him at the county fair.

Next, Gladys reported on cemetery fees and policies. She said a lot of people are now asking for reservations, and the cemetery committee thought there should be a fee to do basic maintenance. A policy already exists on who can be buried in the Boulder cemetery. There is currently a fee for the opening and closing of the grave. The mortuary includes that fee in what they collect, and they reimburse the town. (Approx \$150 to open and \$150 to close, but that will probably change.)

She said the graves are not in straight lines. Farlan said when they dug them years ago, they were dug wherever you could get through the frost. Gladys said they were trying to get someone who could make a map showing what is occupied and where sites are available. She said they have the names of who's buried there, but can't locate them on a grid. She also said they want to require birth and death dates to help with genealogical research. Mayor Gailey had previously done cemetery research, but couldn't supply all the info.

The discussion Gladys wanted to have was on how to charge for reservations. She was thinking \$200 to be buried: \$50 for the reservation and \$150 to be buried? Steve asked about families: Gladys said now they're trying to keep families together. They also want to fill in as many areas as there are spaces available before opening up a new area. She said 8x10 is a standard plot. If you want to stack people within that, that's fine. Same with cremation: if you reserve an 8x10, you could put in more with cremations to fill in little spots where there's room. Randy Catmull suggested just charging a flat \$200 to minimize paperwork. Farlan said it took him five hours once to clear off the snow to be able to dig the grave. That's the only one he charged for because it took a tank of fuel. He didn't think \$300 is too much, and to make it adjustable as expenses increase.

Gladys wants people to give input, then write it up as an ordinance next month. Steve asked her to prepare a proposal for next month and include a grid so people can see how many plots are available before starting reservations. Steve suggested setting up a public hearing once a proposal is available for people to review. Randy asked about selling off a reserved plot. Steve suggested the public hearing will probably provide a full airing of these types of questions. Plus, other towns have dealt with this previously, and we can learn from them.

Farlan asked about the current approved request for graveling the main access into the cemetery. Gladys described the area affected. (Main road that's in there already, then the road that goes west from that and the south again and back out. No new gate is needed yet; the second gate can be moved if needed)

Next item, Zoning Ordinance amendment to add an alternative member to the Planning Commission. PC. Steve said there have been three vacancies already this year. What other towns do is the alternate, which is another person who attends the meetings, but does not have a vote unless one of the other members is missing. If someone leaves, the alternate fills in immediately. This offers a better chance for the commission to have a quorum present so they can conduct business. He said the town attorney has

drafted an ordinance. The Planning Commission has to have a public hearing on it. It'll make a recommendation to the town council, and then the town council will have its own public hearing. He said he asked the Planning Commission to act as quickly as possible. He asked the council for discussion and approval to proceed. Gladys moved to approve putting out the Zoning Ordinance change application to the Planning Commission. Farlan seconded the motion, and all approved. In the meantime, Steve said the notice for the regular vacancy (Tabor's position) can be posted immediately.

Next item, Donna Owen and Lower Boulder road: Donna said she was following up on a request for repair paving to happen. She said there are spots where the road is down to 13 feet wide in places; near Barschs's where trees come out into road it's only 11 feet. She said it's very narrow, given that lots of people walk, ride bikes and skateboards, and there are often two lanes of traffic with people driving faster. Conrad added that water washout adds to the problem.

Farlan said it won't get done this year. The asphalt has to come out of Cedar. He said he put in the request to the county two years ago. He'd asked them about a month ago, and they'd said they'd bring out hot mix if they had any, but it didn't happen. Donna also asked about the holes that were left when Precision was laying pipe a few years ago. Steve said the agreement was to put the road back to where it was. He asked Randy if the water company was willing to put back to how it was? He said they'd have to rely on the people who live there to say. Steve asked him just about where the waterline went and if there were still dips and holes? Randy said he thought everyone was satisfied when we finished three years ago. Donna said this wasn't a settling problem, that it's been like that since the work was done and she was waiting because she was told it would be finished. Steve asked if the water company was willing to go back and look at the problem areas, and Randy said "yes." Steve said we could haul in some gravel for spots. Randy and Steve will arrange a time to go out together and decide how to fix it.

Bill Geil added that another spot on 450 West has a similar problem. Steve said they'll look at that too. If they can't get the county to act, it'll be expensive, but they'll see what the town can do.

Steve asked about doing something about the irrigation water runoff that adds to the road problems. Conrad said a lot of that water is typically overflow from the ponds, which wasn't a problem this year. But Farlan will check with Jackson's to see if it's possible to get some material over here, but it won't be hot mix. Gladys asked if the state would help, but Farlan said not very much.

Department reports: Planning will be hosting a community planning workshop on Wed. Oct 10, 8:30 to 2:30. Steve also mentioned a Land Use Conference occurring in Salt Lake in case anyone wanted to go. Steve said the final Boulder Farmstead contract was ready for signature, following requested changes from last month having been made.

Steve reported on the Fire Council meeting. He said they had a great meeting last Monday. Out of all Garfield County, Boulder is at the highest risk for wildfires due to its housing being largely scattered among pinyon/juniper. They will also start looking at grants. Judith Geil reported on the plan for a community day to help residents assess their own properties after being trained on how to do it. Judith has work tracking sheets available so residents can keep track of their hours and any expenditures on equipment. This amount counts toward an in-kind match on grants, and adds up to a significant amount.

Forest, Fire and State Lands (state agency) uses the documentation on a community's fire mitigation efforts to determine what they charge or don't charge in the event of having to fight a fire. Next Fire Council is Tuesday, Nov 13.

Roads and landfill: Farlan reported on tree trimming required by the school and down Lower Boulder road. The Dave Brems road will be trimmed mid Oct. He said the town attorney's advice was to not abandon any more roads. Steve said 11 or 12 street signs are ready to put up. Bob Phillips, Steve, and Farlan will get together to put them in.

Enforcement, town park, grounds: Conrad said he needed to check with Mike Ryan and his building permit. Steve told him water in the Town Park needs to be shut off at the end of October.

Cemetery, buildings, travel council: Gladys had no more reports

Mayor: We'll be advertising the town clerk trainee position. Judi wants to start easing out of her duties. Peg added that it's time to start training new people for both town clerk and planning commission clerk.

Public comments: Judith Geil, as fire council member, said a community member suggested needing to clear properties of waste. Would the council consider opening the dump on a weekday for free, maybe during the winter months, to encourage people to appropriately dump their trash?

Bill Geil: Based on my own experience with burning trash on our own property, it's a great thing the town has to be able to haul trash away, so it isn't a hazard to rest of the community.

Conrad moved to adjourn, Gladys seconded. All approved. Steve adjourned at 8:33 p.m.