



BLUE RIVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OCTOBER 2023

**October 17, 2023 at 5:00 AM
0110 Whispering Pines Circle, Blue River, CO**

MINUTES

The public is welcome to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom.

The Zoom link is available on the Town website:

<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/board-of-trustees>

Please note that seating at Town Hall is limited.

5:00 PM WORK SESSION:

Mayor Babich called the work session to order at 5:06 p.m.

2024 Goals & Priorities Work Session

Mayor Babich noted the discussion of the work session is to set goals and priorities for 2024 as it pertains to the proposed 2024 Budget. The goals will be reviewed through the staff report monthly to keep on track with the priorities for the year.

Trustee Pilling remarked having the priorities reviewed each month at the start of the meeting as updates to know where we are within specific projects. He remarked there should be a proactive approach to roads. He also the Tarn should be a priority for re-opening.

Mayor Babich noted items could be referred to Citizen Advisory to communicate with the citizens.

Trustee Finley agreed roads should be a priority, but safety and wellbeing should be a priority including connectivity through broadband. She noted that there is a capital improvement plan, and it has been referred to as projects are developed. She noted perhaps post it and refer to it.

Trustee Hopkins agreed with comments on safety and prioritizing the needs of the community including roads, trails, open space.

Trustee Fossett remarked on his communication with citizens, and many do not attend the meetings. He noted the Tarn is a priority. Roads are a challenge, and the new contractor is more proactive. He noted a need for an ongoing maintenance list and schedule. He noted a desire for more fire preparedness

including mitigation and cisterns. He noted plan are never going to be perfect but work on them should move forward and can be modified as needed.

Trustee Dixon noted roads should be a priority. He asked about the maintenance priorities. Trails should be a continued priority. He suggested considering review of roles and responsibilities of staff and possible reorganization.

Mayor Babich remarked there is a communication disconnect that not all Trustees know. He noted that there is an assumption that nothing is being done but perhaps there can be more proactive updates via reports or reaching out to staff. He noted the roads are doing much better this year with prioritizing and identifying the needs. He agreed with the comments on roads, safety improvements, trails and Tarn.

Priorities:

1. Roads-create a maintenance plan that is communicated back to Trustees.
2. Safety enhancements-review of plans
3. Tarn improvements-Citizen Advisory
4. Trails
5. Code enforcement-how does this look and what is the priority of the Trustees. What is the goal and best practice?

Manager reviewed some of what was included in the 2024 Budget Report and what can be improved with communications back to the Trustees and citizens.

6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING:

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Mayor Babich called the regular meeting of the Town of Blue River Board of Trustees to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Toby Babich
Trustee Joel Dixon
Trustee Kelly Finley
Trustee Mark Fossett
Trustee Noah Hopkins
Trustee Ted Pilling

Excused

Trustee Ted Slaughter

Also present: Town Manager Michelle Eddy; Town Attorney Bob Widner

II. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by Trustee Hopkins, Seconded by Trustee Fossett to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Mayor Babich, Trustee Dixon, Trustee Finley, Trustee Fossett, Trustee Hopkins, Trustee Pilling. Motion passed unanimously.

A. Minutes for September 19, 2023

B. Approval of Bills-\$54,271.19

III. COMMUNICATIONS TO TRUSTEES

Citizen Comments (Non-Agenda Items Only- 3-minute limit please). Any written communications are included in the packet.

Dan Cleary-Rustic Terrace noted appreciation of all that is being accomplished. He noted a desire for more activity and attention with roads and building.

Martie Semmer-Blue Grouse asked to have questions posed in Paul Semmer's Comments submitted answered by the Trustees.

Mayor Babich remarked some questions need to be reviewed with staff before they may be answered. The Roads Contractor, Kacey Grosskreuz was present to answer questions.

Trustee Finley-thanked the contractor for the work and noted they are the best in 12 years. She asked about identifying work and individual requests. Kacey remarked a uniform standard is applied to conducting work. He noted that it's not feasible to address every individual concern and that was a reason for communication to be redirected through the Town Manager to expedite communication so crews can conduct their work.

Trustee Dixon asked about accommodating and addressing driveways when road base is added. Kacey reviewed why road base is added which includes improving drainage and there is an effort to blend in with driveways.

Martie Semmer communicated there the reference of giving preference consideration to residents who reside full-time should be removed if there will be a standard road maintenance plan. She recommended a town road survey be conducted to determine the road right-of-way.

Trustee Dixon asked about the process of adding road base and evaluation of where it is needed.

Kacey noted focus was on the highest need. Most roads would be on a five-to-ten-year road rotation depending on traffic and use. He noted roads are being identified for priority and listed by year for work. He noted drainage, ditches, culverts are lacking in the Town.

Remarks from Trustees Fossett and Hopkins in appreciation for the work conducted.

Trustee Pilling remarked overall the roads are in the best he's seen with the exception where road base was added at Blue Grouse. It was noted that Kacey will be going back to smooth it back out once it dries out.

Mayor Babich agreed with all the compliments on the summer road maintenance.

C. Written Public Comments Received

Mayor Babich noted communications received and included in the Trustees Packet.

IV. ORDINANCE CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

D. Ordinance 2023-04 Camping Prohibition

Manager Eddy provided background and comments for the proposed ordinance noting the Planning & Zoning Commission did not recommend the ordinance as written.

Town Attorney Widner reviewed what is common in municipalities and reasoning for regulations.

Trustee Hopkins reviewed concerns with the ordinance from the Planning & Zoning Commission primarily the "who" is camping owners vs. "renters" or landowner.

Trustee Finley asked about special circumstances for exceptions. Attorney Widner stated it is possible to create a permit with limitations.

Discussion of what the permitting would look like and what would be required including use of land by owner versus use with an active building permit.

Discussion on pros and cons of allowing camping with an active building permit. Consensus to not allow camping on a vacant lot with or without a permit. However, a two-night stay for family/friends or kids for "camping" night on a developed property in a tent or recreational vehicle for non-commercial purposes.

V. RESOLUTIONS

E. Resolution 2023-04 Trails Policy

Discussion of the Trails Signage Policy noting the Blue River Open Space & Advisory Committee was invited to attend a work session to discuss with the Trustees however, members were unable to attend. The discussion of the resolution was tabled.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

F. 2024 Budget Introduction

Mayor Babich noted the proposed budget was developed by the Town Manager and Finance Committee and recommended approval. It was noted a public hearing and formal adoption will take place in November.

Manager Eddy reviewed the budget and highlighted key areas and priorities. She noted that the final budget may be adjusted based on the November 7th election and whether or not Proposition HH passes.

G. Recommendations for Changes in Certificates of Occupancy Requirements

Manager Eddy reviewed proposed changes to the Town Building Code Chapter 18 as it pertains to certificates of occupancy. These proposed changes were presented to and approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Discussion to have an ordinance developed and brought back for consideration with seeding be recommended or encouraged but not required. Discussion that the main issue is post construction clean up versus landscaping or seeding. Discussion to clarify language and what is looked at for construction site cleanup by the Building Official.

VII. REPORTS

H. Mayor

Mayor Babich provided recommendation to the Trustees on how to address concerns. He requested Trustees contact staff as concerns are found and address prior to meetings for efficiency and to allow for business during the agenda to be addressed. If it's not resolved to ask that it be added to the agenda.

I. Trustees

- i. Citizen Advisory Committee -
- ii. Open Space and Trails Committee -
- iii. Planning and Zoning -
- iv. Transit Authority -
- v. Wildfire Council -
- vi. Roads-
Trustees

- i. Citizen Advisory Committee -Trustee Finley reported the committee did not meeting. She noted Trunk or Treat will take place October 31st.
- ii. Open Space and Trails Committee - Trustee Dixon had no report.
- iii. Planning and Zoning - Trustee Hopkins reported one project was reviewed and approved. He reviewed discussion on the building code, certificates of occupancy and the role of PZ in the process.
- iv. Transit Authority -Trustee Pilling reported the Transit Authority is conducting a micro transit survey. He asked that it be included in the next newsletter.
- v. Wildfire Council -Trustee Slaughter was excused and had no report.
- vi. Roads-Trustee Fossett reported there is a need to clarify his roll as a liaison.

J. Attorney

No report.

K. Staff Reports

Town Manager Eddy provided an update on the CDOT IMTPR split and what it would look like to include Summit, Lake and half of Eagle County. The Trustees approved signing on to a letter of support.

It was noted that the Trustees, Commissions and Committees will be moving to townofblueriver.org email accounts.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Finley asked to move the November meeting. Mayor Babich asked to have a Doodle poll to determine a date.

Dan Cleary provided an update on the Upper Blue Planning Commission.

Discussion on whether or not to have the discussion of short-term rentals and any potential cap now or after renewals are complete after the new year.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Finley moved and Hopkins seconded to hold an executive session pursuant to CRS §24-6-204 (4) (b) for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding statutory or other legal requirements pertaining to municipal boards and commissions. at 8:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Finley moved and Fossett seconded to adjourn the executive session pursuant to CRS §24-6-204 (4) (b) for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding statutory or other legal requirements pertaining to municipal boards and commissions. at 10:02 p.m. with no action taken. Motion passed unanimously.

X. ADJOURN

Finley moved and Fossett seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING - November 21, 2023

Reports from the Town Manager, Mayor and Trustees; Scheduled Meetings and other matters are topics listed on the Regular Trustees Agenda. If time permits at the work session, the Mayor and Trustees may discuss these items. The Board of Trustees may make a Final Decision on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of whether it is listed as an action item.

Respectfully Submitted:

Michelle Eddy, MMC

Town Clerk