

TOWN OF BERTHOUD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2005
Page 1 of 5

The Board of Trustees for the Town of Berthoud met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2005 in the Board Room of Town Hall. Mayor Karspeck called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Milan Karspeck
Mayor Pro-Tem Don Ashcraft
Trustee Peder Thorstensen
Trustee Glen Buckingham
Trustee Michael Patrick
Trustee David Gregg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Louis Gervasi

STAFF PRESENT: Town Administrator Jim White
Public Works Director Tony Huerta
Deputy Town Clerk Charlene Reed

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Karspeck led the pledge of allegiance.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

There were no items presented from the audience.

REPORTS

Mayor Karspeck noted he was advised by a member of the audience that Trustee Buckingham is having a birthday and presented a card signed by friends and members of Town Staff. Administrator White credited Herb Meeker for putting together the surprise. Trustee Buckingham thanked everyone.

Mayor Karspeck reported that the MPO is again discussing the possibility of forming a Rural Transit Authority. When this was discussed originally, Loveland and Fort Collins were not supportive, but they are more positive at this time.

Administrator White reported that long time resident, Stan Lewis, passed away and services will be held this Saturday at 3:00 p.m. at his farm at County Line Road and 6C.

Administrator White reported that Berthoud Commons Commercial submitted their FDP on August 2, 2005. This will be coming before the Board at a future meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consisted of the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 26, 2005, the special meeting held on Tuesday, August 2, 2005, the bills allowed for July, 2005, the financial statement for June, 2005, a special event liquor license for Wildfire Community Arts Center, and the liquor license renewal for the Savoy.

Trustee Buckingham moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Second by Trustee Gregg. Trustee Patrick abstained regarding the two items for liquor licenses, but otherwise, the motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF CHIEF OF POLICE

Mayor Karspeck explained that one of Berthoud's citizens has asked to come before the Board to make a presentation to Chief Bill Wegener, who has been employed for the Town for the past 19 years, and who is retiring as Chief of Police at the end of this month.

Bill Markham summarized his relationship with Chief Wegener and expressed appreciation from the residents of Berthoud. He noted Chief Wegener and his officers have been very good to them and he presented Chief Wegener with a miniature combine.

Chief Wegener expressed his thanks to Mr. Markham and noted he has been supportive of the community for many years.

Administrator White noted that a retirement party is scheduled for Chief Wegener at the Berthoud Bed and Breakfast on August 26, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

MAINSTREET STREETScape FINAL DESIGN

Administrator White introduced Mike Tupa from CSU Extension Services and Caleb Schultz, an intern with the DOLA Landscape Architecture Program. He explained that they are here to present the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan for the Berthoud Main Street Program.

Mainstreet Manager Dierdre Daly thanked the Board for the support they have been given, which laid the foundation for this program. She noted that Berthoud is looked at in our area as a leader in the program and explained that the Master Plan that is being presented this evening is being considered as we are able to make changes and pursue funding to make improvements in the downtown area.

Mr. Schultz presented a power point presentation that explained the proposed Downtown Streetscape Master Plan.

Mr. Tupa explained that the purpose of this effort was to establish a master plan for what can happen in Downtown Berthoud. He explained that numerous public meetings were held with residents of Berthoud to gather input regarding what we would like to have in our Downtown area. This is a vision of the community based on input from the residents, which sets a path for the future for Downtown. He noted he would like to see this implemented as presented, but in reality it is a blueprint for the design of downtown, which can be revised, modified, or improved as we go forward..

Mr. Tupa noted that in addition to this initial presentation, they will be providing summaries of the input received from the public meetings and will present start-up costs for some of the changes that are a part of this plan. He noted there are a lot of things that can influence this plan as it goes forward. One significant factor is the roundabout that is being planned for the intersection of the current Highway 287 and Highway 56. The changes and improvements that will occur to Highway 56 and Highway 287 when the Parkway opens are the first things that will affect the appearance of the Town, and as these projects go forward, they will need to be included in the proposed master plan for downtown.

Mr. Tupa explained that this is the first step of this process, and the next step would be to bring in a landscape architect or engineer that would take this master plan and put together specifics for this vision. Once we begin making small changes that reflect this master plan, we will begin to see the vision.

Ms. Daly thanked the Board for their leadership and support in getting the Main Street program started and for allowing this design to be developed. She asked the Board for their support and approval to go forward with this plan, and she asked that Town Staff and the Public Works Department be involved in this project.

TOWN OF BERTHOUD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2005
Page 3 of 5

Trustee Buckingham thanked the Main Street participants and DOLA for their efforts. He noted he supports this program, but asked why we are looking at one specific plan when there were several included in the packet. Mr. Tupa noted the three concepts were presented to show how the design process went.

Trustee Buckingham asked if we are looking at doing this in phases which could optimize the visual impact, but minimize cost. He noted if you do not plan these changes to be made in the most cost effective manner, we could be looking at a significant cost. Mr. Tupa noted that the order for these changes is often dependent upon other projects. In reality, this will be built as part of a number of projects. As you make changes in storm drains and sidewalks, we can go forward with these projects.

Trustee Buckingham noted once the 287 parkway is complete, we will be making significant changes in the existing 287 and in Highway 56, and that would be the optimum opportunity to begin making these changes. Mr. Tupa noted changing sidewalks is one of the more difficult aspects of these changes.

Trustee Buckingham expressed appreciation for the use of iron in this project. Mr. Tupa noted iron is the recommended material, but the inlays can be made of different materials, including rubber or other metals.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashcraft commended all involved for the concepts and plans, and was pleased that we have had citizen input. He also recommended additional trees in the area. Mr. Schultz noted the businesses in Town felt too much plant material on Mountain might detract from the business frontages. He noted when they developed cost estimates for this area, the cost of trees and greenery was included.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashcraft noted when looking at making changes that are this significant, it is important that the Street Department and the Public Works Department be involved. He also expressed concern regarding the total cost of the project. Mr. Tupa noted the projections are for the project only, and do not include demolition and improvements in the infrastructure which would be required. Mayor Pro-Tem Ashcraft encouraged the Main Street program to start looking for grant funds to pay for some of these changes.

Trustee Patrick agreed, noting everyone has put significant effort into this project. This is the product of hundreds of hours of time. He noted it is important for the Town to plan on how we want the Town to look in 10-15 years. Even if we do not have the money at this time, at some point in time, we will have levels of growth that will allow us fund some of this design. He also noted that with CDOT providing funding for changes and improvements in the roads in Berthoud, this would be a good time to begin this process. He noted he would like to see what can be implemented while we are receiving assistance from CDOT. He noted he would also like to see the focus on what can be done at low or no cost which will make a visual impact. As an example, the enhancement of railroad park on 3rd Street might not be prohibitively expensive. Another possibility is to begin making changes to the parking lot where we currently hold our farmers market. Changes in these areas would make a significant visual impact on what downtown looks like, and it would be nice to make changes in areas that people see the most.

Trustee Patrick expressed concern regarding expending significant amounts of staff time discussing a project that may not be implemented for many years. He also noted that the Board is giving approval in a general sense for the concept.

Ms. Daly noted that would like to go forward, and in order to do so, they need the involvement of Town Staff. She noted they are asking for the ability to work with the Town Administrator and to get input from the Public Works Director to find out what needs to be done to go forward with this plan.

Carol Patterson 935 10th Street noted if they got a large grant and could go forward with the entire plan, they would still need Town input. She asked that they be included in the planning process as the Town makes plans for the changes in Highway 287.

TOWN OF BERTHOUD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2005
Page 4 of 5

Trustee Patrick noted there is no problem in including Main Street in the planning process. There are certainly a number of areas that have to do with CDOT redoing Mountain Avenue. The Public Works Department is already actively involved in this process. There are other areas of the plan with outlying streets that probably will not be attended to, unless we get a significant grant and then we will definitely be willing to assist in the process.

Trustee Thorstensen asked why the roundabout is not included in this plan. Mr. Tupa noted the roundabout is in the preliminary design stage, and they have not been able to get in touch with the engineer. He noted they still intend to contact them and coordinate those changes into this plan.

Trustee Thorstensen liked the addition of iron to the downtown area, and felt this would be a major visual impact.

Trustee Gregg encouraged the Main Street program to go forward with this plan. He noted it will be nice to see this vision as a reality and he suggested this will be a definite visual enhancement to the downtown area. He encouraged the Main Street program to be aggressive in looking for funds, and he felt that some of this could be done in concert with the CDOT overlay of Mountain at a reduced price. He also encouraged staff to share this vision with DTJ, since they are currently doing master planning for the Town of Berthoud as a whole.

Trustee Gregg commended Mr. Schultz for his efforts in creating this streetscape master plan, and noted that this proposal far exceeded anything we could have anticipated.

Mayor Karspeck agreed with the importance of integrating this plan with the Master Plan, and opened the floor for public comment.

Herb Meeker of 626 7th Street, Berthoud, encouraged Mr. Tupa and Mr. Schultz to be aggressive in contacting the engineers who are putting together the plan for the roundabout.

Liz Kearney expressed her excitement about this program and encouraged the Board to officially approve the streetscape. She felt that official approval from this body would make a difference when the Main Street program is applying for grants. Grant holders are looking for private/public partnerships and approval here would give them a leg up to receiving funding.

David Frank of 931 4th Street thanked Dierdre, Mike and Caleb. He noted he is a long time resident of Berthoud and he is glad to see efforts made to improve the appearance of downtown. Mr. Frank suggested the land next to the railroad might be an area where we can start and make visible improvements for the residential of Berthoud. Ms. Daly noted they have already contacted the railroad to discuss this possibility and will continue to go forward to see if this is possible. She noted official approval from the Board will help make headway in conversations with the railroad and with CDOT.

Public Works Director Huerta commended the Main Street program for their efforts in pursuing and preparing this plan. He noted his one concern is that we are labeling this as a final design. He asked that those putting this plan together keep in mind that there may be changes necessary due to renovations necessary with this infrastructure. He asked that they not lock themselves into a "final" design, but be flexible in working with the Town to complete a plan that will work with all aspects of the renovations.

Mr. Tupa noted he received an e-mail from Mr. Huerta regarding these points. He agreed that we must look at these issues, but noted that they have been resolved in other areas where a Main Street program is in place; examples are Erie and Fort Collins. He noted when we go forward, we will bring in a Main Street architect, and they will address these issues. This is not a final plan, it is a master plan. This represents the vision for what can happen on our Main Street.

TOWN OF BERTHOUD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2005
Page 5 of 5

Mayor Karspeck noted Attorney Fickel suggested the Board draft a resolution of support for this project that can be used to solicit grant funding. That resolution will be prepared and passed at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Administrator White commended all involved for their efforts in getting this project up and running. Any further activity must be coordinated by the Town since the improvements will require approval from the Board. He also encouraged that a source of funds to pay an engineer be established in advance.

Mayor Karspeck thanked everyone involved for their efforts.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Mayor Milan Karspeck

Deputy Clerk Charlene Reed