

**TOWN OF RYE**  
**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**December 8, 2021**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Marty Rahl called the Regular Monthly Board Meeting to order at 6:01 pm at the Town Hall at 2067 Main Street in Rye, Colorado. Those in attendance were as follows: Marty Rahl, Mayor; Sheila Henderson, Mayor Protem; Patrick Ryan, Trustee; Larry Sisk, Trustee; Markus Buck, Trustee; Richard Hopp, Operator in Responsible Charge (via Zoom); Gib Rokich, Water Operator; Madison Rokich, Water Operator; and Sherri Beach, Clerk. Also present were: Joe Kemp, Resident; Kathy Dufty, Resident; Nigel Smedley, Resident; Greg Colter, Colorado Rural Water; Jason Willis, Property Owner; and Lisa Willis, Property Owner. Those absent were: Sandra Steele, Trustee; and Levi Bernal, Trustee. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Audience Participation**

Joe Kemp addressed the board with concerns about the Town of Rye water expenses. He received the letter with his bill about water and sewer rate increases and wants to know where all the water revenue is being spent. He requested copies of documentation about the Town's revenue and expenses. Sherri was instructed to copy documentation that he can pick up tomorrow. She is to call Marty to confirm the documentation to be copied in the morning.

Kathy Dufty asked the board when she can expect the permanent cap to be installed on Columbine and voiced her concern about citizen safety with it being a temporary cap that blows off when the wind blows. She said she requested this to be done in June. Gib Rokich said that he has ordered the permanent cap and that Hanson Construction will need to be called to do excavation before the permanent cover can be installed. Madison Rokich texted Hanson Construction from the meeting, and they will take care of this excavation as soon as possible. If they do not do this work within a week or so, Madison is to contact Patrick Ryan, and he will call Mike Steele to ask about doing the work. It was noted that if Mike does the work, he will need to have proof of insurance prior to beginning the job.

Nigel Smedley addressed the board and said he is still waiting for his property to be inspected per his request at the November meeting. He feels an inspection is necessary so he knows where he stands regarding the number of efficiency unit fees that he will be required to pay each month. He said he has three cabins, an RV pad, and a garage. He has septic for each, so he will only be charged for water, but he wants to connect to the Town sewer system soon. Marty Rahl explained that he will be responsible to pay his water through his home cabin, \$40 for the second cabin, \$40 for the third cabin, and \$40 for the RV pad. He stated that he has additional property behind the cabins where he would like to install an additional RV spot. Marty said that he would need to install a water and sewer tap at a cost of \$5,000 each prior to installation of the taps. He said his property is a single-family status with Pueblo County, and he does not want to face zoning changes, and Marty explained that his water/sewer structure fee has nothing to do with Pueblo County's records. Gib Rokich, Patrick Ryan and Markus Buck will go to the property tomorrow morning at 9:00 am to inspect the property with Mr. Smedley.

Lisa and Jason Willis addressed the board to contest the water/sewer rate increase and efficiency unit charges of \$55 for each of the six apartments in their building. Lisa asked that the board reconsider the \$55 per unit fees, as all their tenants are financially strapped. Jason said water has become the second most expensive utility in Rye, next to propane, and his tenants are all on very restricted incomes and cannot afford an additional \$55 fee per month. He asked if \$55 must be paid on units even if they are not occupied, and he was told yes by the board.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

- Sheila Henderson made a motion that the Minutes of the November 10, 2021, regular Board of Trustees Meeting be approved. Larry Sisk seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- The Water Treatment Plant Executive Report was presented to the Board with the information that was available. Richard Hopp, ORC, informed the Board that we are ready to proceed with the next steps at the Water Treatment Plant for the lead/copper issue. He told the Board that he looked up the prices and has reviewed them with Marty Rahl. A chemical tray is \$387 plus shipping from USA BlueBook, and he estimates the other equipment and parts to be approximately \$2500. A tapping sleeve will cost approximately \$80-\$100. For all equipment and parts necessary, Richard believes the cost to be less than \$3,000 total which will include installation by himself and the two Town water operators. He said they will use the calibration tube that is now in use to save approximately \$1,000. Sheila Henderson made a motion that Gib Rokich order all the equipment and parts per Richard's recommendation. Markus Buck seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Greg Colter reviewed an SOW (Statement of Work) that will need to be completed by the water operators when people are hired to do work. Sherri Beach created a template, which was given to each of the water operators for use. As these forms are completed, they are to be given to the clerk to add to the Master Calendar, and to plan to pay the invoices as they come in. Greg also shared TOC Data Results and Rye WTP TMP Trending reports with the water operators and explained how to track tests and data on a regular basis to prepare for replacement of equipment at the appropriate times. He explained that had tracking been done, we would have been prepared to replace water meters as they came to the end of their life expectancy and started to have problems. Greg further stated that the meters are wearing out, and current water production is fluctuating because of equipment failure. He explained that the issue with HAA5s will require carbon filters to fix. Richard will check with Nick at Element Engineering for the next steps in this project. Note that a copy of the Element Engineering Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment Basis of Design Report is available in the clerk's office for review. Gib stated that Chuck Goins from Colorado Rural Water fixed a clay valve at the Water Treatment Plant. Gib also said a clay valve needs to be installed on the Dragon property, and he will work with Hanson Construction to schedule the installation. Gib stated that the vibration reducer rubber boot at the Water Treatment Plant is cracked and needs to be replaced. Sheila Henderson made a motion that Gib order the vibration reducer rubber boot. Markus Buck seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Gib told the board that he believes the suspected area of large water loss per John Messec on the Dragon property in the 1990s was resolved and is no longer an issue. Gib received an estimate from Altitude Leak Detection in the amount of \$2,350 to inspect for water leaks in the lines. Richard Hopp said this