

Town of Paonia
214 Grand Avenue
Tuesday, March 10, 2026 6:30 PM
Town Board Meeting Minutes

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor Smith calls the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

A. Roll Call

Present:

Mayor Smith

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter

Trustee Heck

Trustee Czech

Trustee Hunter

Trustee Tarnow (via Zoom)

Trustee Mejorado

B. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Smith explained that staff needed more time to conduct research and gather information on the first item under Actions & Presentations - Consideration of USGS Agreement.

Trustee Hunter makes a motion to approve the agenda with the first action item of Consideration of USGS Agreement tabled to the March 24th Board meeting. Seconded by Trustee Czech.

The motion carries unanimously.

C. Announcement

Town Administrator Wynn announced that the Town would soon be posting a job opening for a new position at the Town Hall front counter.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Consent Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter makes a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Trustee Hunter.

The motion carries unanimously.

F. Staff Reports

1) Town Administrator/Treasurer

Town Administrator Wynn's report included reporting that the Town remains in a strong financial position (~\$6.4M), with funds expected to decrease as capital projects begin, and has secured an additional \$416,000 federal grant for water system improvements. Additionally, the trash can rollout is underway, with public outreach completed and a transition to a standardized, Town-owned system where cans are assigned to each property and used upon delivery. Payroll and Accounting Specialist Ashley Rodarte presented a grant-funded project to improve town aesthetics by restoring welcome signs, adding wayfinding signage and public art, and launching a community banner design contest to engage local artists and refresh aging visuals.

2) Police Chief

Police Chief Laiminger reported that the Police Department reported ongoing training and professional development, including victim assistance coordination and internal training requirements, and is preparing to initiate an RFQ process for the purchase of a new patrol vehicle.

3) Public Works Director

Public Works Director Poulos reported ongoing efforts to improve right-of-way maintenance, including tree removal, rock placement adjustments for efficiency, and general infrastructure upkeep, along with operational updates such as trash service implementation and safety training for trash truck operations.

G. Public Hearing

Public Hearing to consider an application to transfer a Beer & Wine License, from Aspen Yoga, INC dba Louie's Pizza My Heart to Good Love LLC dba Stealy's, for the restaurant premises located at 202 Grand Ave, Paonia CO 81428, by the managing member of Good Love LLC, Abreaze Parra, 14134 Burgess Lane, Paonia CO 81428.

Mayor Smith opens the public hearing at 7:21 PM.

Town Clerk Vetter presents the staff presentation and provides background.

Abreaze Parra, applicant and owner of Good Love LLC, makes the applicant presentation.

Police Chief Laiminger states that the Police Department reported no objections to the liquor license transfer, indicating no public safety concerns.

The Fire Chief recommendations included clearance around electrical panels, installation of a compliant Type I hood and fire suppression system, adherence to all fire safety requirements, and restriction of balcony use unless separately approved.

Public Works Director Poulos also reported no concerns, confirming the site meets utility requirements, with the only caveat being that any future changes, such as patio or right-of-way modifications, would require additional review.

Public Comment:

- E. Sunderman, In-Town Resident, speaks in favor of transfer.

Mayor Smith closes the public hearing at 7:35 PM.

Trustee Hunter makes a motion to approve the application for transfer of ownership for a beer and wine liquor license from Aspen Yoga, Inc., dba Louie's Pizza My Heart to Good Love, LLC dba Stealys, with the following caveats; that there be an amended boundary map that will not include the balcony and the Fire Chief's recommendations are implemented and maintained, as discussed. Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter.

Voting Aye:

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter

Trustee Meorado

Trustee Czech

Trustee Hunter

Trustee Heck

Trustee Tarnow

Voting Nay:

None

The motion carries.

H. Actions & Presentations

- 1) Consideration of USGS Agreement 26REJFACO111 - *Public Works Director Poulos*

Item moved during agenda approval.

- 2) Consideration of Lease-Purchase of New Street Sweeper and Disposal through Trade-In of Existing Street Sweeper - *Public Works Supervisor Byrge*

Public Works Director Poulos and Public Works Supervisor Byrge discussed with the Board replacing the existing street sweeper due to its age and limited capability, noting it is designed for light-duty use and struggles with the heavier debris found on Town streets. Staff emphasized that the current system is inefficient and labor-intensive, often requiring multiple pieces of equipment and several crew members, while also generating significant dust and public complaints. In contrast, the proposed sweeper would significantly improve efficiency by reducing labor needs, minimizing dust, and allowing more effective cleaning of streets, storm drains, and debris in fewer passes with a single operator.

Public Comment:

- E. Short, In-Town Resident, speaks in favor of purchase.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter makes a motion to suspend the purchasing policy in this particular instance. Seconded by Trustee Heck.

The motion carries unanimously.

Board discusses timing, discounts, and board approval for any purchase contract.

Trustee Hunter makes a motion to instruct staff to move forward with entering into an initial contract to come before the Board of Trustees for final approval for a lease purchase agreement with the disposition of our existing vehicle for trading for a five-year finance lease. Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter.

The motion carries unanimously.

3) Consideration of Appointing Administrator Wynn as the Town Representative for the Pan American Property Owners' Association Annual Meeting on March 12, 2026 - *Town Administrator/ Treasurer Wynn*

The Board briefly confirmed Administrator Wynn's availability and clarifying that the appointment could include him or his designee. There were no substantive concerns raised, no public comment was received.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter makes a motion to appoint Administrator Wynn, or his designee, as the representative for the Town at the Pan American Property Owner Association on March 12, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Heck.

The motion carries unanimously.

Trustee Hunter makes a motion for a 5-minute recess. Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter.

The motion carries unanimously.

The Board goes into recess at 8:20 PM.

The Board reconvenes at 8:25 PM.

I. Mayor & Trustee Reports

1) Ad Hoc Short Term Rentals Committee

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter, reporting for the Ad Hoc Short Term Rental Committee, provided an update indicating they are actively meeting and organizing their efforts, with a focus on gathering information, refining priorities, and preparing to bring more structured recommendations forward to the Board, though no final proposals were presented at this time.

No action taken or motion made.

J. Executive Session

Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter makes a motion to go into Executive Session, pursuant to C.R.S. Sec. 24-6-402(4)(f), to discuss a personnel matter regarding Police Chief Matt Laiminger's 2026 performance

review and merit increase, and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees. Seconded by Trustee Hunter.

The motion carries unanimously.

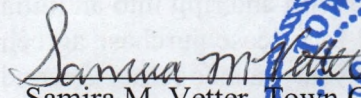
The Board of Trustees enters the Executive Session at 8:37 PM.

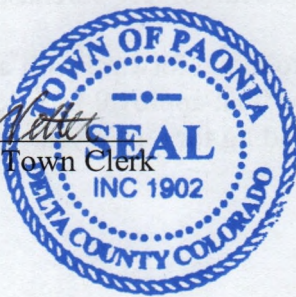
Executive Session concludes at 9:15 PM. Attendees included Mayor Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem Stelter, Trustee Czech, Trustee Heck, Trustee Hunter, Trustee Meorado, Trustee Tarnow, Town Administrator Wynn, Police Chief Laiminger, and Town Attorney Buchner.

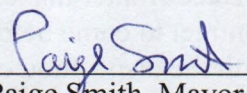
No additional action was taken.

K. Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourns the meeting at 9:16 PM.


Samira M. Vetter, Town Clerk




Paige Smith, Mayor