

TOWN OF HOCHATOWN
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 2, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Chapel of the Pines
9276 N. U.S. Hwy 259
Hochatown, OK 74728

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order.

Who ordered: Mayor Dian Jordan

Time: 5:04pm

2. Roll Call of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Name	Present	Absent
Janet Cress	Y	
Howard Haggard	Y	
Dian Jordan	Y	
Todd McDaniel	Y	
Chad Sargent	Y	

A Quorum was present.

3. Recognition of Guests.

Mayor Jordan recognized the guests and thanked them for their attendance.

4. Consent Docket: *The following items are considered routine by the Board of Trustees and will be enacted with one motion. Discussion desired on any item, that item will be removed from the Consent Docket and considered separately.*

- a. Approval of April 11, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

Mayor Jordan asked if there were any corrections to be made to the April 11, 2023 meeting minutes, and none were brought forth. She then asked if there was a motion to approve.

Motion: To approve the April 11, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Chad Sargent

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to approve the April 11 Special Meeting Minutes.

b. Claims List

There were no items on the Claims List, therefore no action was taken.

5. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action regarding items removed from the Consent Docket.

No items were removed from the Consent Docket, therefore no action was taken.

***At this time, Mayor Jordan announced that the Trustees would advance their attention to Agenda Item 9 as a courtesy to Mr. Snider.*

Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to approve the final plat situated in Part of the NW1/4, NE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 2 and part of the NE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 3, all in Township 5 South Range 24 East, McCurtain County, Oklahoma submitted by Brad Snider.

Mayor Jordan asked if all Trustees were able to review the Plat and asked for any discussion. There was no discussion, and Mayor Jordan asked if there was a Motion for this item.

Motion: To approve the final plat situated in Part of the NW1/4, NE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 2 and part of the NE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 3, all in Township 5 South Range 24 East, McCurtain County, Oklahoma.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Janet Cress

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to approve the final plat situated in Part of the NW1/4, NE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 2 and part of the NE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 3, all in Township 5 South Range 24 East, McCurtain County, Oklahoma.

The plat was then signed, dated, and sealed affixed by Town Clerk, Helen Harden.

Mayor Jordan then returned the meeting to Agenda Item 6.

6. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to enter into an Executive Session to discuss confidential communications between the Town and Town's Attorneys concerning a pending investigation, claim or action which the Town with the advice of the Town's Attorneys, has determined that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the Town to process the claim or conduct the pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest in compliance with its duty of confidentiality under the provisions of 25 O.S. §307B(4). (Possible addition of Town of Hochatown to Vonderosa Properties, et al. v. McCurtain BOCC, et al. - CV-2023-26).

Mayor Jordan asked if there was a motion to go in to an Executive Session to be attended by all Trustees and Liz George, Town of Hochatown's counsel.

Motion: To go in to Executive Session.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Howard Haggard

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to go in to Executive Session, to be attended by all Trustees, the Mayor and the Town's counsel Liz George.

Executive Session commenced in a private room.

Time: 5:16pm

7. Reconvene open session and take any appropriate action on matters discussed in Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. §307B (4).

The Trustees, Counsel and Mayor Jordan returned from Executive Session, Mayor Jordan reconvened the meeting at 5:44pm.

Mayor Jordan then announced that no action was taken during the Executive Session, but she asked if there was a motion to approve legal representation if and when the Town of Hochatown is called in to a law suit.

Motion: To approve legal representation if and when the Town of Hochatown is called in to a law suit.

By: Howard Haggard

Second: Todd McDaniel

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to approve legal representation if and when the Town of Hochatown is called in to a law suit.

8. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to approve the final plat for Lost Creek Northwest situated in the E1/2 of Section 3 T5S R24E McCurtain County, Oklahoma submitted by Kevin Perry with Kp3 Investments.

Discussion:

Mayor Jordan noted that the developer Kevin Perry was not present, but the plats were at the meeting. There were some typographical errors that were noted to be corrected.

Motion: To approve the plat for Lost Creek Northwest.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Chad Sargent

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to approve the plat for Lost Creek Northwest. The signing of the plats was deferred until the end of the meeting,

9. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to approve the final plat situated in Part of the NW1/4, NE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 2 and part of the NE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 3, all in Township 5 South Range 24 East, McCurtain County, Oklahoma submitted by Brad Snider.

NOTE - This agenda item was moved to earlier in the meeting.

10. Discussion only of Municipal Budget Act and Estimate of Needs Budget Law.

Discussion:

Finance Committee members Howard Haggard and Charles Ward, along with community member Doug Werthane, have met and been in conversations regarding hiring a municipal CPA firm for the Town of Hochatown. They gave their recommendation to the Trustees to enter into agreement with Crawford and Associates for the remainder of the fiscal year 2023, which would end June 30, 2023.

Hochatown’s counsel Liz George clarified that Hochatown is currently automatically under the ‘Estimate of Needs Act’.

11. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to retain Crawford & Associates from May 2, 2023 to June 30, 2023 to provide financial services.

After a brief discussion, Mayor Jordan asked if there was a motion on this item.

Motion: To retain Crawford & Associates for the period of May 2, 2023 – Jun 30, 2023 to provide financial services.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Chad Sargent

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to retain Crawford & Associates from May 2 2023 to June 30, 2023 to provide financial services.

At this time, Hochatown’s counsel, Liz George, excused herself from the meeting.

The signing of the Crawford & Associates Service Agreement was deferred until the end of the meeting.

12. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to amend the regularly scheduled monthly town meetings from 5:00pm at the Chapel of the Pines, 9276 N. U.S. Hwy 259, to 1:00pm at the Town Hall, 9983 N. U.S. Hwy 259, Ste. A, pursuant to 25 Oklahoma Statutes Section 311.

Discussion:

Janet Cress suggested to move the regular meetings to Wednesdays, as other municipality's boards meet on Tuesdays. After a brief discussion, Hochatown's Counsel Liz George was summoned back for advice on amending the agenda item.

During the wait for Ms. George to return to the meeting, Mayor Jordan paused action on Item 12 and advanced the meeting to Item 13 – CERT training discussion.

Hochatown's Counsel, Liz George, returned to the meeting to advise the board that they would be unable to vote to change the day of week of the regularly scheduled meeting as the Agenda Item 12 called for possible action to change the meeting time and location only.

Motion: To table Agenda Item 12 to move the monthly Town meetings.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Chad Sargent

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	N
Dian Jordan	N
Todd McDaniel	N
Chad Sargent	N

The motion did not carry to table the Agenda Item 12.

Motion: Take no action on Agenda Item 12.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Howard Haggard

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to take no action on Agenda Item 12.

The Trustees then resumed discussion on Agenda Item 13.

13. Discussion only on CERT Training and Eclipse community action update.

Discussion:

Trustee Janet Cress began the discussion by distributing information on the scheduled CERT training.

It was at this time that Hochatown's Counsel, Liz George, returned to the meeting. Agenda Item 13 was paused, and the Trustee's returned to Agenda Item 12.

The Trustees returned to discussion of this agenda item.

Janet Cress explained the need for CERT Training, which is set for a total of 20 hours of instruction on May 22-24 at the Crystal Forest Event Venue in Hochatown.

Janet Cress then began discussion on the 2024 Eclipse meeting that she recently attended. She explained the enormity of this event in terms of attendance and the preparation that will be necessary to meet the needs of the tourists, residents, and business owners.

14. Discussion only on Hochatown Logo Contest update.

Discussion:

Chad Sargent reported on the 14 logo submissions, and circulated pictures of each entry submission. He explained that he would like to defer decision until the entries can be reviewed by graphic designers to determine viability for print. Once this is done, submissions will be presented to the community.

15. Discussion only on Waste Water Management update.

Discussion:

Todd McDaniel updated the board on the meetings he has had with the Choctaw Nation and an engineer regarding waste water management for the 259 business corridor. The next steps will be to gather and send information to the Choctaw Nation's waste water management team.

16. Adjourn.

Before calling for a motion to adjourn, the approved plats for Lost Creek Northwest were signed, dated and sealed by the Town Clerk, Helen Harden; and the engagement agreement with Crawford and Associates was signed by Mayor Jordan.

By: Todd McDaniel

Second: Janet Cress

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Name	Vote
Janet Cress	Y
Howard Haggard	Y
Dian Jordan	Y
Todd McDaniel	Y
Chad Sargent	Y

Motion carried to Adjourn.

Time: 6:40pm

