

OCTOBER 11, 2016

CITY OF GUNNISON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Hagan called the Regular Session meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., with Councilors Sovick, Drexel, Morrison and Schwartz present along with City Attorney Fogo, City Manager Forrest, City Clerk Davidson, Finance Director Cowan, WSCU Liaison Howard and the press. A Council quorum was present.

Consideration of Minutes of October 4, 2016, Special Session Meeting.

Councilor Morrison moved and Councilor Drexel seconded the motion to approve the October 4, 2016, Special Session meeting minutes as submitted.

Roll call vote, yes: Sovick, Drexel, Hagan, Morrison, Schwartz. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Pre-Scheduled Citizens: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Discussion on and Summary of 09/27/2016 Council Strategic Results Meeting and Possible Council Action on Adoption of Plan. City Manager Forrest reviewed the four strategic priorities that were determined through extensive discussion at the Council meetings on September 26th and 27th. Those four strategies include: good economic stewardship of the City's infrastructure; creating a vibrant economy and community culture; enhancing two-way community engagement; and creating effective and efficient city government that focuses on customer results. Council discussed each priority. The infrastructure priority includes assessment of the City's existing assets, setting consumer rates to support maintenance and replacement of utility assets if needed, and to enhance pedestrian safety on Tomichi Avenue intersections. The vibrant economy and community culture priority includes working in partnership with the business community and community stakeholders to enhance the vitality and prosperity of the Main Street and Tomichi Avenue commercial corridors. This priority also includes installing wayfinding signage around the community and on City trails. The third strategic priority is to increase community engagement by enhancing two-way communication between the city and the citizens. This communication can be accomplished through multiple methods. The fourth strategic priority discussed by Council is committing the City to create an organizational culture based on customer results through an effective and efficient city government. This strategy includes implementation of employee professional development and determining accountability for performance to accomplish the results. Council had consensus on these priorities and City Manager Forrest will develop a concise plan for possible adoption by resolution at an upcoming council meeting.

Proposed 2016 City Budget Presented to Council (per City Charter Section 8.2) Finance Director Cowan addressed Council and stated this presentation satisfies the City Charter and Statutes requirements for budget development. Next week's Budget Work Session meeting will be a "high overview" of the budget and will focus on big issues and changes and not on specific line items. Council can ask specific questions on anything in the budget and staff will clarify. Council consensus was to start the October 18th Budget Work Session at 5:00 P.M. Director Cowan asked Council how they wanted to conduct interviews for 2017 grants and contracts for service applicants. Council consensus was to invite any new applicants and any group that has a major change in their request to the Work Session meeting on November 15.

Discussion on Proposed 2017 Utility Rates and Set Public Hearing on Utility Rate Increases for 7:00 P.M., December 13, 2016. Finance Director Cowan reviewed the proposed changes to the utility rates. The Electric Fund is currently breaking even with operational costs but the recommended reserve funds are not being built up to cover unexpected emergencies. MEAN, the City's bulk electric provider, is currently performing an electric utility assessment and will have a recommendation on needed funding levels. At this time, the City is requesting a 5% increase in the electric rates. The Water Fund is requesting a \$3.00 increase in the base charge for water and this will generate approximately \$80,000 to cover rising maintenance costs. The Sewer Fund is requesting a 5% increase across the board to facilitate additional sliplining of the older leaking clay pipe lines. Council discussion ensued. Council can do a mid-year rate adjustment if needed after the recommendations are received from the MEAN assessment.

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Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion to set the Public Hearing on the proposed 2017 utility rate amendments for 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, and to direct staff to send out the Public Hearing notices regarding the rate amendments.

Roll call vote, yes: Drexel, Hagan, Morrison, Schwartz, Sovick. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Resolutions and Ordinances: None.

Reports:

City Attorney: Kathleen Fogo: deferred her report to the City Manager.

City Manager Russ Forrest: informed Council the closing took place today and the City is now the proud owner of property for a parking lot on Iowa Street. City Manager Forrest then reviewed the following: he has had follow-up discussions on the Colorado Association of Ski Towns organization and the City has been invited to attend a meeting in Pagosa Springs on October 27-28th; the opening of the new dog park will take place this Thursday, October 13th starting at the WSCU Library parking lot at 5:15 P.M.; a Council and citizen tour of the old City Public Works shop, that is slated for demolition, was scheduled for Wednesday, October 19th at 5:30 P.M.; and CML Executive Director Sam Mamet called and is requesting the City pass a resolution supporting Ballot Amendment 71, to amend the state's ballot initiative process, and also asked if the City would be interested in participating in a "Town-to-Gown" municipal group sponsored by CML. Council consensus was yes to both of the CML requests.

City Clerk Gail Davidson: no report.

WSCU Liaison Jodie Howard: reported she and other student government representatives are leaving tomorrow for a student government conference in St. Louis. They are very excited for the opportunity. There are a lot of games this weekend. She has met with Chamber Director Eric Freson and the Chamber is facilitating a meeting between WSCU students and local businesses for networking purposes.

Non-Scheduled Citizens: None.

City Council Meeting Reports, Discussion, Items for Future Work Sessions:

Councilor Sovick: reported he had no report, since he couldn't attend the Trails Commission meeting last evening.

Mayor Pro Tem Drexel: reported he attended the Gunnison Valley Housing Foundation meeting today where they discussed the following: a potential housing property up north has some deed restrictions on it; the Anthracite Place complex in Crested Butte should be fully occupied by the end of the month; the School District may have some property available for potential housing units; and the valley-wide housing assessment results should be available soon.

Mayor Hagan: reported he attended the Mayors/Managers meeting last week and they heard a presentation on the ICE House project. He and Councilor Drexel have a meeting with Judge McDonald next week.

Councilor Morrison: reported she participated in the Walk-to-School Day and there was a good turnout by the students. She spoke with Nancy Goodrich, owner of "Tango" downtown, and Nancy thanked the City for the additional trash pickups this summer and for the rearrangement of the downtown sidewalk furniture. The sidewalks are more maneuverable now. Nancy would also like to see recycling available downtown and for upgrades be made to the IOOF Park. Councilor Morrison also reported she spoke with the owner of the Ol' Miner Steakhouse and they will be adding a deck over the sidewalk with construction taking place this winter.

Councilor Schwartz: reported he attended a Planning Commission meeting last Wednesday and that group toured and discussed the Lazy K property. He also attended a Parks & Recreation

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Advisory Committee meeting where they discussed Parks & Recreation capital requests and toured the Jorgensen ice rink to view needed budget items. Lastly, he attended the Gunnison Visitor Center meeting where the Board discussed the Center's budget, the need to establish a reserve fund for building improvements, budget priorities and how businesses will have access at the center. To be inclusive, all businesses in Gunnison County will have access for their business information in the Center.

Meeting Adjournment: Mayor Hagan called for any additional comments and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 8:27 P.M.



Mayor



City Clerk