

The City Council Regular Session meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Mayor Houck with Councilors Drexel, Harriman, Seymour and Nesbitt present along with City Attorney Fogo, City Manager Coleman, City Clerk Davidson, Community Development Director Westbay, Finance Director Hanson, WSCU Liaison Nickerson, a couple of citizens, and the press. A Council quorum was present.

Consideration of Minutes:

Regular Session Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2012.

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Harriman seconded the motion to approve the Regular Session Meeting minutes of November 27, 2012.

Roll call vote, yes: Drexel, Harriman, Seymour, Nesbitt. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Roll call vote, abstain: Houck. He was not in attendance at the meeting.

Pre-Scheduled Citizens:

Mick Knudsen – Poster Presentation of WSCU Internship Project on VanTuyl Ranch Water Quality. Mr. Knudsen and Community Development Director Westbay came forward and addressed Council. Mr. Knudsen worked with WSCU Professor Kevin Alexander and Director Westbay on the project. He then discussed the following items regarding his project: he did his project on the nutrient loading quantities of surface water in the Wilson Creek area of the VanTuyl Ranch property; the nutrients he tested were phosphorus and nitrogen and he also tested for e-Coli bacteria; there were three test sites – one at the north end where Wilson Creek enters the property, one near the ranch house and the third near where Wilson Creek flows back into the Gunnison River; the nutrient levels were tested at the City Wastewater Treatment Plant lab with assistance from Dale Picard, and the levels were compare to State Water Quality Standards; there was no significant phosphorus loading detected at any of the 3 sites; the nitrogen levels were primarily from manure and none exceeded State levels; and the e-Coli levels were the highest at the ranch headquarters, so they were not coming off the river. The e-Coli contamination at the ranch headquarters was probably surface contamination stemming from less water dilution due to the drier drought conditions this past summer. Mr. Knudsen stated that in conclusion, the rotational grazing now in place at the ranch has resulted in higher water quality and Wilson Creek is a fully healthy stream meeting State Water Quality Standards.

Council thanked Mr. Knudsen for his excellent presentation and work on the Water Quality Project.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Appointment of New City Councilor with Term of 01/01/2013 to 05/20/2013.

Mayor Houck recused himself due to a possible conflict of interest. Mayor Pro Tem Harriman took over conduct of the meeting. Four applicants, Sharon Cave, Adam Nickerson, Carolyn Riggs and Stephanie White, were interviewed for the Councilor vacancy at last week's Council Work Session meeting. Council thanked all of the applicants for their interest in serving the community.

Councilor Seymour moved and Councilor Harriman seconded the motion to appoint Carolyn Riggs to the City Council vacancy.

Roll call vote, yes: Harriman, Seymour

Roll call vote, no: Drexel, Nesbitt. Motion failed due to a tie.

Mayor Pro Tem Harriman asked for each Councilor to give their nominations for the vacancy. Councilors Drexel and Nesbitt nominated Sharon Cave. Councilor Seymour and Mayor Pro Tem Harriman nominated Carolyn Riggs. Discussion ensued.

Councilor Nesbitt had concerns about Ms. Riggs because he sees value in her continuing and providing stability on the Planning Commission. She has indicated she will run in May and he would like to see her continue on the Commission until that time. He has known Ms. Cave for a long time and he feels she would do a good job.

Councilor Seymour stated all of the applicants were close. He nominated Ms. Riggs because of her leadership in the community and on the Planning Commission. He feels she has the tools to do the job and likes that she is a downtown business owner and that input on Council is valuable.

Councilor Drexel stated that all the applicants are qualified and it is a difficult decision. The WSCU students have energy and zeal and would make a positive impact. Ms. Riggs has made great contributions and he would like to see her continued leadership on the Planning Commission. The lobbying on her behalf from a variety of sources concerns him. He supports Ms. Cave's appointment because of her relationship with downtown businesses and with her age group in the community. She seems to be aware of the issues and is level-headed.

Mayor Pro Tem Harriman stated she is the same boat regarding Ms. Riggs leadership on the Planning Commission. She supports her but will make a different decision from her nomination.

Councilor Nesbitt called for the question. Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Drexel seconded the motion to appoint Sharon Cave to the City Council vacancy with a term of January 1, 2013, through May 20, 2013.

Roll call vote, yes: Harriman, Seymour, Nesbitt, Drexel. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Council thanked all of the interested citizens for applying for the vacancy and hope they each consider running for Council in the May City Election. Mayor Houck returned to the meeting.

Action on Insurance Reserve Fund Balance Transfer. Finance Director Hanson reminded Council they discussed this issue back at the end of October. The City Auditors requested the Insurance Reserve fund be closed out. The Fund was established when the City partially self-funded health insurance for its employees. The amount to be transferred is \$288,816.13.

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Nesbitt seconded the motion to approve the transfer of \$288,816.13 from the Insurance Reserve Fund to the General Fund in order to close out the Insurance Reserve Fund.

Roll call vote, yes: Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt, Drexel, Harriman. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Action on City Manager's Annual Contract. City Manager Coleman informed Council he made the changes to the contract as discussed at last week's Work Session meeting. This included changing the dates to make the term one year instead of two.

Councilor Seymour moved and Councilor Drexel seconded the motion to approve the City Manager's 2013 Contract.

Roll call vote, yes: Nesbitt, Drexel, Harriman, Houck, Seymour. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Ordinance and Resolutions:

Resolution No. 11, Series 2012; Re: Cancellation of December 25, 2012, Meeting. Councilor Harriman introduced Resolution No. 11, Series 2012, and it was read by title only by the City Attorney.

Councilor Harriman moved and Councilor Drexel seconded the motion that Resolution No. 11, Series 2012, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, CANCELING THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING THAT WAS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 25, 2012**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted this 11th day of December, 2012.

Roll call vote, yes: Drexel, Harriman, Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Ordinance No. 3, Series 2012; Re: Setting Mill Levy, 2nd Reading. Councilor Nesbitt introduced Ordinance No. 3, Series 2012, and it was read in its entirety by the City Attorney.

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Seymour seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 3, Series 2012, **AN ORDINANCE SETTING A TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 11th day of December, 2012, and that copies be made available to the public.

Roll call vote, yes: Harriman, Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt, Drexel. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Ordinance No. 4, Series 2012; Re: Adopting 2013 City Budget, 2nd Reading. Councilor Seymour introduced Ordinance No. 4, Series 2012, and it was read in its entirety by the City Manager.

Councilor Seymour moved and Councilor Nesbitt seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 4, Series 2012, **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROPRIATING AN ANNUAL BUDGET**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 11th day of December, 2012, and that copies be made to the public.

Roll call vote, yes: Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt, Drexel, Harriman. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Ordinance No. 5, Series 2012; Re: Additional Appropriations to 2012 City Budget; 2nd Reading. Councilor Nesbitt introduced Ordinance No. 5, Series 2012, and it was read by title, along with Sections 1 through 7, by the City Attorney.

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Seymour seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 5, Series 2012, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, ADOPTING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 11th day of December, 2012, and that copies be made available to the public.

Roll call vote, yes: Seymour, Nesbitt, Drexel, Harriman, Houck. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

City Attorney Kathleen Fogo: No report this evening.

City Manager: Ken Coleman reported on the following: he attended the CML Legislative Policy meeting in Denver last Friday and there was discussion on Amendment 64 enforcement and other issues related to the Amendment; there was a presentation from CDOT on the need for increasing the gasoline tax in the next couple of years to pay for road and bridge infrastructure maintenance and repairs; the Planning Commission will be making a recommendation tomorrow evening regarding the Habitat for Humanity request for an alley development deviation on their current project property; employee personnel action forms will be going out next week and personnel evaluations have been completed; the evaluations noted stellar performance by the employees in providing high levels of service for our citizens; there will be 2 and possibly 4 WSCU internships in the spring semester and these have been proven to be good returns on our investment from the students; the Community Center had a Middle School teen "lock-in" night that was highly successful; the Elks Hoop Shoot took place and there will be a WSCU student night on Wednesday; the installation of the wireless internet system is taking place this week; snow was plowed from last Sunday's storm; and there was a meeting with CDOT regarding the highway access plan, both for the VanTuyl Village commercial development and the Gunnison Valley Partners property out east. CDOT has 45 days to respond to the VanTuyl Village access request.

Acting City Manager/City Clerk: City Clerk Gail Davidson – Semi-Annual Departmental Report. City Clerk Davidson briefly reviewed the semi-annual Clerk's Departmental report she included in their packets. She briefly discussed the following: the Clerk's Department continues to improve the City's social media sites and website; a great deal of community outreach was accomplished via volunteering for a variety of events throughout the summer; the Gunnison Valley Observatory had a very successful season despite the early-summer overcast skies; a WSCU student was interviewed and selected to do a spring semester graphics design logo project for City trails identification; 22 special events permits were processed and this reflects an increase over the same time period last year; 8 students, including 2 home-schooled students, are participating in this year's Youth City Council program and they will be in attendance at next week's Council meeting; a couple of potential liquor-serving business inquiries have been received and information was given on how to open a business in Gunnison; the annual City records purge and shred took place in July; Municipal Court cases increased from 302 in 2011, to 460 cases in the same time period this year with those cases being primarily parking and conduct cases; and preparations for the upcoming 2013 Regular Municipal Election have commenced. City Clerk Davidson thanked the City Council for their continued support and thanked her staff, Deputy City Clerk Tara Kindall and Court Clerk Melissa McLeod, for all of their hard work in making a successful customer service-oriented Department. City Manager

Coleman stated the entire Clerk's Department does a great job in assisting the customers and thanked them for their work.

WSCU Liaison: Adam Nickerson reported both the women's and men's basketball teams will have games this weekend; there will be a student film night this Wednesday evening and Ski Bonanza will take place on Wednesday in the WSCU Ballroom; the Music Chamber Ensemble will perform on Thursday at Quigley; and the Over-21 social event will take place in the Ballroom from 7 to 10pm on Friday evening.

Non-Scheduled Citizens: None.

City Council Discussion, Meeting Reports, Items for Work Session:

Councilor Nesbitt: reported he attended the Water Board meeting and they discussed the lack of water and they dropped the District mill levy down from 1.77 mills to 1.524 mills. This is a reduction in tax for property owners in the Water District. The Water Board has \$4.366 million in reserves for future water issues; Tomichi Creek water level is up a little bit and the Lake San Cristobal Project is on time and in budget. They also discussed the proposed Meridian Lake Project. Councilor Nesbitt asked the City Manager about the Eagle Net Project. The City Manager stated it is a federally-funded project and it has been put on hold while the contract and work-to-date are being reviewed. It is just on hold at this time. Councilor Nesbitt also briefly discussed the possibility of a snowmobile event at Blue Mesa Reservoir/Curecanti Recreation Area.

Councilor Seymour: stated he attended the Housing Authority Board meeting last Wednesday. The new Executive Director Karl Fulmer was there and they discussed the properties currently managed by the Authority. They also discussed goals and maybe developing guidelines for municipalities that have no housing policy, in order to have some consistency valley-wide. Council Seymour also attended the Library Board meeting and their new Director will be in the office this week. There was no Tourism Association meeting this morning and the next meeting will be in January. Councilor Seymour then reminded Council they need to take action on Mayor Houck's absence from the last Regular Session meeting.

Councilor Seymour moved and Councilor Drexel seconded the motion to excuse Mayor Houck from the Regular Session meeting on November 27, 2012.

Roll call vote, yes: Nesbitt, Drexel, Harriman, Houck, Seymour. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Mayor Houck: informed Council he attended the Mayors'/Managers' meeting last week along with City Manager Coleman and Mayor Pro Tem Harriman. He will be attending the RTA meeting in Crested Butte this Friday and there will be a need in January to appoint another City Councilor to that Board along with Councilor Nesbitt. The RTA discussed the change in location of the Gunnison Bus Stop due to the closing of the High County Gas Station. There is no threat to the bus service just a change in bus station location. American Airlines will have a locals deal but there will be no local fares from United. American Airlines will have service from Dallas and Continental from Houston. Mayor Houck reported he had a meeting with Crested Butte Mayor Huckstep concerning the development of shoulder season events to benefit the entire valley. He also attended the County Commission meeting today and they discussed issues with mosquito spraying. There was an insect kill along the River this past summer that caused issues with fly fishermen. Kevin Alexander may do a study of the impacts of the spraying and the City may be approached to help pay for that study. Mayor Houck thanked Finance Director Hanson and her staff for planning the wonderful City Christmas Party that was held last week.

Mayor Pro Tem Harriman: reported she also attended the Housing Authority meeting. She is encouraged by the addition of Executive Director Karl Fulmer. As mentioned, she attended the Mayors'/Managers' meeting and they heard a report from the State Demographer on Gunnison. She had previously heard the report. It outlines that Gunnison has an aging population. The Mayors'/Managers' group is also looking at the composition of that group's meeting participants.

Councilor Drexel: thanked the Finance Department for the great Christmas Party.

Adjournment: Mayor Houck called for any further discussion, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 9:06 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk