

September 23, 2014

**CITY OF GUNNISON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

7:00 P.M.

The City Council Regular Session meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Mayor Drexel with Councilors Riggs, Ferguson, Steinbeck, and Hagan present along with City Manager Coleman, Acting City Manager and Public Works Director Bradford, Finance Director Collins, Deputy City Clerk Kindall, WSCU Liaison Ballesteros, several interested citizens and the press. City Attorney Fogo and City Clerk Davidson were absent. A Council quorum was present.

Mayor Drexel welcomed the WSCU Government class students to the City Council meeting.

Consideration of Minutes:

Regular Session Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2014.

Councilor Steinbeck asked for the Minutes be amended to state that the needs of the disabled individuals should also be considered to the Senior Transportation Funding Request under Pre-Scheduled Citizens. Councilor Ferguson moved and Councilor Riggs seconded the motion to approve the Regular Session Meeting minutes of September 9, 2014, as amended.

Roll call vote, yes: Riggs, Ferguson, Drexel, Steinbeck, and Hagan. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Pre-Scheduled Citizens: Gunnison Crested Butte Tourism Association Quarterly Update from Executive Director Pamela Loughman. Ms. Loughman went into detail about the information in the slideshow that was included in Council's packets highlighting: the Journalist Visits and FAM programs; the promotion efforts of our area in Dallas and Chicago and now in Florida; the promotion efforts in the Gunnison airport and other venues with banners and other items such as coffee sleeves; their efforts in engaging social media outlets in a conversation as opposed to "buying" followers; tracking website traffic and adding components to the website to encourage users to come back to the site for more information such; they added a very active blog to the website and encouraged any council member to contribute to their blog if they are interested; the Book Direct reservation system that is free to the lodging community is averaging about 1400 direct connects a month; social media posts to get topics out in front of the consumer with more timeliness for instance the Today show recommended Crested Butte in its "Five Places to Travel This Fall" segment and they were immediately able to get this link out to the consumer; their social media stats; conducting a photo shoot throughout the Gunnison valley this summer with a professional photographer at all the events as well as staff photos; e-mail marketing efforts; their Expedia campaign; and the success of their Colorado Vacation Guide insert program and working with the publisher going forward to change it to a four page insert, but they're not sure if the publisher will allow them to do that so they are looking into other alternatives if that doesn't happen. Councilor Riggs asked if the publisher was receptive to the four page as opposed to eight page insert and Ms. Loughman believed that the publisher was really trying to sell the eight page insert but they couldn't get anyone else to buy into the eight page section so they offered them a different alternative. They are working through the details with the publisher on this. Councilor Steinbeck mentioned that it's exciting to hear those kinds of statistics. Mayor Drexel inquired how large Ms. Loughman's staff was and complimented her and her two full time employees for being able to accomplish so much. City Manager Coleman offered the City's inventory of marketing photos for their use, and he asked if the properties that are able to take part in the Book Direct program are Chamber members, as well as the long range plans for funding. Ms. Loughman updated Council that when she gave her quarterly report to the County Commissioners she expressed her concerns and her desire to understand the review that is in process. The County Commissioners and the TA Board will be meeting on October 28nd to talk about this report. Council thanked Ms. Loughman for her report.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: 2015 Budget City Wages/Compensation Discussion. City Manager Coleman stated that staff continues to work on the budget. Finance Director Collins explained where the data comes from, the process to gather the necessary information that the City uses to implement the changes in compensation and the goal to get the employee to the midpoint of their range. There are eleven steps for each employee which includes the entry step. Councilor Hagan asked why step four is the midpoint. City Manager Coleman explained that during the first four years of employment the employee is gaining the knowledge for their position. By year four the employee is at the point where they should be able to competently perform their job. Mayor Drexel asked how this affects retention. City Manager Coleman stated that he believes that compensation is just one of many factors that affect retention, and the City is fortunate to have many long term employees. Finance Director Collins continued to go over in more detail the information in the

Council packet including: the percentage of the total wages, the different communities that are surveyed for information, and the pay plan itself. Changes continue to be made and the proposal is to implement to 85% of the employees step in order to be able to balance the budget. Every employee will receive at least a \$500 increase to account for the increase in the insurance premium. Discussion ensued and clarification continued on why these adjustments are necessary to stay in budget, how they get to the figures for the different positions, the complicated nature of wage planning, different aspects of the budget as a whole, different capital expenses, and sales tax revenue projections.

Ordinances and Resolutions: None.

City Attorney: Kathleen Fogo. Absent.

City Manager: Ken Coleman reported on the following: the incident command vehicle is being outfitted for internet connectivity; the school was vandalized; Parks Master Plan consultants will do a site visit; the heat exchanger has condensation in the exhaust pipes that continues to be a problem as it is acidic in nature; tree grinder is at the tree dump; City Hall remodel is coming along, there are two HVAC crews working; and the leak survey is done. He asked Council their preference on when they would like to meet with the WSCU President and what topics they would like to discuss. Discussion ensued. The consensus was to meet with President Salsbury on Thursday, October 2nd at 8:00 a.m. The Council members outlined the following topics: Councilor Steinbeck, the safety of students and promote important events; Councilor Hagan, the possibility of sharing calendars or putting a link on their calendar to ours; have them be part of the master planning process; Liaison Ballesteros, growth and retention; Councilor Ferguson, what role does WSCU see the City play with their growth and success; Councilor Riggs, Georgia street corridor project to connect the campus to downtown; Mayor Drexel, how can we help tell the City's story to help with growth; and City Manager Coleman, an honest presentation of our assets and how can we be ambassadors. Council would like a two hour, meaningful discussion. City Manager Coleman also reported that he had the pleasure of attending the CML meeting in Cedaredge with Councilor Steinbeck, and a meeting at WSCU about House Bill 1319 which is the distribution of state funds for education.

Acting City Manager: Public Works Director Tex Bradford highlighted the following information that is detailed in the reports that were included in the council packets: City ditch pipe will go in after they shut the ditches down on October 1st; bike pedestrian path on 135 will be moved to the 2015 budget; tree grinding is underway; trails blading has begun today; he will be going to Lincoln Nebraska for meetings on Thursday; water leak detection is going on, and they have found 17 leaks so far and are determining the severity of the leaks; and the windows have been ordered for the ranch house. Mayor Drexel asked about when someone does certain research projects do they contact Public Works. Director Bradford stated that they do get contacted from time to time. City Manager Coleman thanked Director Bradford and his staff for all the work that they do.

Deputy City Clerk: Tara Kindall. Nothing to report.

WSC Liaison: Stefano Ballesteros reported that they are very busy getting ready for Homecoming; they are working on the parade, the route will be the same as last year, and it will be this Friday from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Non-Scheduled Citizens: Mayor Drexel asked the visiting students if they had any questions. Chris Rourke asked if the wages and compensation for the next budget year would be at 100%, but that will not be decided until next year. City Manager Coleman mentioned to the visiting students that the City has an internship program with WSCU.

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

Councilor Steinbeck: reported that she attended the CML meeting in Cedaredge with the City Manager, and it was very informative and a good opportunity for the communities to share with one another; she also attended the Insurance Committee meeting; and is working with the WSCU Alumni for Homecoming.

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Councilor Hagan: reported that he also attended the House Bill 1319 outreach meeting; he attended the RTA meeting last Friday, and there was quite a bit of feedback about losing the bus stop in Crested Butte South; he also attended his first Water Conservancy District meeting last night which had two interesting reports.

Councilor Riggs: reported that she attended the RTA meeting where they renewed their contract with the Executive Director and Truex Management Services, they discussed adding a late night bus from Gunnison to Crested Butte, they reviewed their various bus services, the Friends of Flights summer program will be expanding to winter and next summer as well, they approved a consultation contract with Magellan Strategies and Summit Information Services to do research and outreach to look at a ballot question that would increase the funding for RTA, and the RTA has allocated \$25,000 to the senior transportation project. It might be beneficial to arrange a joint discussion with the County, RTA, and City concerning the senior transportation project.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson: reported that the comprehensive plan is moving forward with meetings happening and a community survey to go out; he attended a Chamber Board meeting and their annual banquet is October 17th; he also spoke with Region 10 broadband project consultants and they feel our fiber optic backbone linking public entities is very good; and the Gunnison Valley Observatory public viewing season ended last Saturday.

Mayor Drexel: reported that he went to Disneyland with his son and grandchildren and had a great time.

Adjournment: Mayor Drexel called for any further discussion, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 9:08 P.M.



Mayor



Deputy City Clerk