

**DECEMBER 9, 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 Attorney Fogo, City Manager Coleman, City Clerk Davidson, Finance Director Collins, WSCU Liaison Ballesteros, Electric Supervisor Dowis, Water & Sewer Supervisor Doherty, an interested citizen and the press. A Council quorum was present.

**DECEMBER 9, 2014**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Receive Public Input on Proposed Amendments to 2015 City Utility Rates.**

Mayor Drexel opened the public hearing at 7:00 P.M. and stated it is Tuesday, December 9, 2014, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 201 W. Virginia Avenue in Gunnison Colorado. Present at the public hearing are myself, Mayor Bob Drexel, City Councilors Carolyn Riggs, Stu Ferguson, Anne Steinbeck and Richard Hagan, City Attorney Kathleen Fogo, City Manager Ken Coleman, City Clerk Gail Davidson, Finance Director Wendy Collins, Electric Supervisor Will Dowis, and Water & Sewer Supervisor Joe Doherty.

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to receive input on the Proposed Amendments to the 2015 City Utility Rates. Colorado State Statutes only require a Public Hearing on the Amendments to the City Electric Utility Rates. However, City Council welcomes input on any of the proposed 2015 utility rate amendments.

Mayor Drexel asked for Proof of Publication. City Clerk Davidson stated a copy of the proof of publication was included in Council's packets and the original affidavit has been included in the City's official records.

Mayor Drexel then called for City Staff comments and recommendation. City Manager Ken Coleman stated that Staff supports the proposed rate changes and believes they are appropriate. Electric Supervisor Will Dowis stated that the proposed 5% increase will help cover the increased costs of purchased power from our electric supplier, the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN). The rates are a pass-through for the customers. Councilor Hagan asked if the rate negotiations with MEAN are complete. Supervisor Dowis stated the negotiations on the support energy costs are still on-going. Water & Sewer Supervisor Joe Doherty stated the water rate increase is 5%. The rates haven't been adjusted in 6 years and the costs for supplies has steadily increased. The City has reduced operating expenses and this has affected maintenance and operations. The 5% increase is well justified. The sewer rate increases are essentially for the same reasons as the water. They are a 3% increase. Changing laws increases operating costs as the City has to pay for additional testing and treatment processes. Supervisor Doherty stated the refuse rates are a 1% decrease from the existing rates. Mayor Drexel thanked Mr. Dowis and Mr. Doherty.

Mayor Drexel called for any input from the public. There were no comments. Mayor Drexel asked if any letters, emails, or other comments were received from the public to be entered into the record. City Clerk Davidson stated that no additional comments were received.

Mayor Drexel called for any final comments and hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing at 7:17 P.M.

**Consideration of Minutes:**

**Regular Session Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2014.**

Councilor Riggs moved and Councilor Ferguson seconded the motion to approve the Regular Session Meeting minutes of November 25, 2014, as submitted.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

Roll call vote, abstain: Hagan. He was not present at the meeting.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**Pre-Scheduled Citizens:**

**Gunnison/Crested Butte Tourism Association Quarterly Report – Pamela Loughman.** Ms. Loughman and Tourism Association (TA) Vice-President and Board member Jacob Calicut came forward and addressed Council. The following items were discussed: summer travel trends; the date gathered on resort community comparisons provided by Destimetrics; taxable sales in May, June and July, were up in Mt. Crested Butte and Crested Butte; the winter marketing efforts include information in annual ski journals, in-flight magazines, on-line with Expedia, the Colorado Tourism Winter Guide, and directed digital advertising; mobile phone advertising is being targeted; several journalist familiarization tours are being planned; the TA will be at the tourism show in Chicago in January where there were 20,000+ participants last year; the TA has been invited to participate in the “Go West Summit” to be held in Colorado Springs this year and that includes international tour operators that will familiarize themselves with this area; the use of Facebook and other social media has been a huge success in marketing the Gunnison Valley; and the TA website performance has increased each month. City Manager Coleman thanked Ms. Loughman for her work over the years and Council wished her well in her future endeavors.

**New Business:**

**Action on 2015 City Manager Employment Contract.** The contract was reviewed at last week’s Council Work Session meeting. There were no changes to the document.

Councilor Ferguson moved and Councilor Steinbeck seconded the motion to approve the 2015 Employment Agreement with City Manager Ken Coleman and for all of Council to sign said Agreement.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Contract for Service with Gunnison County, Re: Whitewater Park Improvements GOCO Grant.** Finance Director Collins addressed Council. The Contract is for the City’s \$3,000 in matching funds for the County’s GOCO Grant for Whitewater Park Improvements. The funding was already approved by Council but a Contract is needed for the expenditure of those funds. The funds will be taken out of the Economic Development Budget line item. The County’s receipt of the GOCO Grant funds is contingent upon the City giving the \$3,000. Council agreed the Whitewater Park is a great community resource.

Councilor Riggs moved and Councilor Ferguson seconded the motion to approve the Contract for Service with Gunnison County for the GOCO Grant-funded Whitewater Park Improvements and to authorize the Mayor to sign said Contract for Service.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance and Resolutions:**

**Resolution No. 12, Series 2014, Re: Canceling December 23, 2014 Regular Session Meeting.** Councilor Steinbeck introduced Resolution No. 12, Series 2014, and it was read by title only by the City Attorney.

Councilor Steinbeck moved and Councilor Ferguson seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. 12, Series 2014, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, CANCELING THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING THAT WAS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 23**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 11, Series 2014, Re: Amending City Electric Rates; 2nd Reading.** Councilor Ferguson introduced Ordinance No. 11, Series 2014, and it was read by title and with Section 1, by Councilor Ferguson.

Councilor Ferguson moved and Councilor Steinbeck seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 11, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON AMENDING THE RATES TO BE CHARGED BY THE CITY OF GUNNISON ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT FOR ELECTRICITY CONSUMED**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 12, Series 2014, Re: Amending City Water Rates; 2nd Reading.**

Councilor Riggs introduced Ordinance No. 12, Series 2014, and it was read by title and with the rate tables in Section 1, by Councilor Riggs.

Councilor Riggs moved and Councilor Ferguson seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 12, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON FIXING THE AMENDED RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR WATER SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF GUNNISON, AND AMENDING THE RATE TABLES IN SECTION 12.40.020 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON TO REFLECT THE NEW SERVICE RATES**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 13, Series 2014, Re: Amending City Sewer Rates; 2nd Reading.**

Mayor Drexel introduced Ordinance No. 13, Series 2014, and it was read by title and all of Section 1 with the rate tables, by Mayor Drexel.

Mayor Drexel moved and Councilor Steinbeck seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 13, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON AMENDING THE MONTHLY RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE AND THE FEES CHARGED FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE, SEPTIC TANK, AND POTABLE TOILET WASTE TREATED BY THE CITY OF GUNNISON**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 14, Series 2014, Re: Amending City Refuse Rates; 2nd Reading.**

Councilor Hagan introduced Ordinance No. 14, Series 2014, and it was read by title with Section No. 1, by Councilor Hagan.

Councilor Hagan moved and Councilor Ferguson seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 14, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON AMENDING THE MONTHLY RATES CHARGED BY THE CITY OF GUNNISON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR REFUSE AND RECYCLING SERVICES**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 15, Series 2014, Re: Setting Mill Levy; 2nd Reading.**

Councilor Steinbeck introduced Ordinance No. 15, Series 2014, and it was read in full by Councilor Steinbeck.

Councilor Steinbeck moved and Councilor Hagan seconded the motion that Ordinance No 15, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE SETTING A TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 16, Series 2014, Re: Approving 2015 City Budget; 2nd Reading.**

Councilor Hagan introduced Ordinance No. 16, Series 2014, and it was read along with Section 2, by the City Attorney.

Councilor Hagan moved and Councilor Steinbeck seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 16, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROPRIATING AN ANNUAL BUDGET**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance No. 17, Series 2014, Re: Additional Appropriations to 2014 City Budget; 2nd Reading.** Councilor Ferguson introduced Ordinance No. 17, Series 2014, and it was read by title along with the Budget Revision column of Section 1 by the City Attorney.

Councilor Ferguson moved and Councilor Steinbeck seconded the motion that Ordinance No. 17, Series 2014, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, ADOPTING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted on second and final reading this 9th day of December, 2014.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**City Attorney Kathleen Fogo:** No report this evening.

**City Manager:** Ken Coleman informed Council of the following items: it's been warm so the ice in the shaded outdoor rink is not quite ready; the Parks & Rec Master Plan survey is out to the statistical residents and should be open to all residents on December 15<sup>th</sup>; the Paths to Parks GOCO Grant application has made the final cut and we are awaiting final word; the Night of Lights was well-done and was well-attended; the New West Grant application has been submitted for the highway corridor planning; and the annual Rudolph Round-up at the Community Center will take place on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Acting City Manager City Clerk: Gail Davidson Semi-Annual Department Report.** City Clerk Davidson reviewed the following: the annual rotation and destruction of past-retention records took place in August; the City saw the successful completion of the Coordinated General Election with Gunnison County for the marijuana ballot questions; she has worked with WSCU Liaison Ballesteros and the WSCU interns regarding municipal government processes; she continued her work as the City representative on the Gunnison Valley Observatory Board and the GVO had a successful 2014 viewing season; she continues work with the Youth City Council and the students have given their input on the Comprehensive Plan Update and on the Parks & Recreation Master Plan process; and she has a great department team in Deputy Clerk Tara Kindall and Municipal Court Clerk Melissa McLeod. She couldn't accomplish all that happens without their hard work and competent skills. Council and the City Manager thanked City Clerk Davidson and her staff for all of the work they accomplish for the community.

**WSCU Liaison:** Stefano Ballesteros reported he attended the Celebration of Scholarship event today. There were some great presentations. The Student Government Association has granted \$2,500 to cover a shortfall in the operations of the RTA late-night bus. The intramural hockey finals will take place at the City rink tomorrow evening.

**Non-Scheduled Citizens:** None.

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

**Councilor Riggs:** reported she attended the Tourism meeting this morning. The RTA gave a presentation on marketing for the March flights. Also discussed was the use of social media marketing. The RTA, TA and Staff are looking at strategies for marketing the winter flights. Pamela Loughman's resignation was accepted and the Executive Director hiring process will start

taking place starting in January. The new Marketing Board will hire the new director. A 7 member selection committee will appoint the Marketing District Board members. The LMD Board will be sending a letter to Council outlining the proposed strategies. Councilor Riggs also requested the Council talk about the City's role in marketing efforts with the LMD Board representative. She will be attending the RTA meeting in Crested Butte on Friday in Crested Butte and will be attending the Christmas Party on Friday.

**Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson:** reported the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on a Conditional Use application. The preliminary Comprehensive Plan Survey results are being tabulated. He will give Council an update on the Region 10 broadband project at the January 6<sup>th</sup> Work Session meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson then informed Council Erik Niemeyer gave a donation to the Gunnison Observatory in connection with the annual Gunnison Arts Center Gala Auction viewing.

**Councilor Steinbeck:** stated she attended the Night of Lights and it was one of the best ever. The City tree is perfection. The crew did a fine job on the tree and on traffic control for the event. She would like the Christmas decorations extended along Highway 50 all the way to the west City limits. She will be attending the Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority meeting tomorrow. They are in the last stages of bonding of the Crested Butte project.

**Councilor Hagan:** stated he attended the Gunnison Arts Center Gala on Saturday night and it was a good, well-attended event. He will be attending the Upper Gunnison River Board meeting tomorrow and the RTA meeting in Crested Butte on Friday.

**Mayor Drexel:** reported Region 10 has \$20,000 available for small business loans at a low interest rate. He attended the Mayors'/Managers' meeting that was hosted by the Community Foundation. It was a productive meeting. The County gives the Foundation their annual non-profit funding and then the Foundation grants out the funds via an application process. The Mayor then asked if there is still a WSCU President's Advisory Board. Councilor Riggs stated she would inquire about that group.

**Adjournment:** Mayor Drexel called for any further discussion, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 7:56 P.M.

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Mayor

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City Clerk