

**AUGUST 23, 2016**

**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 Hagan with Councilors Sovick, Drexel, Morrison and Schwartz present along with City Attorney Fogo, City Manager Achen, City Clerk Davidson, Acting City Manager/Community Development Director Westbay, Finance Director Cowan, Parks & Recreation Director Ampietro, Police Chief Robinson, WSCU Liaison Howard, Incoming City Manager Forrest and the press. A Council quorum was present.

**Consideration of Minutes:**

**August 9, 2016, Regular Session Meeting**

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion to approve the Regular Session meeting minutes of August 9, 2016, as presented.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Pre-Scheduled Citizens:**

**Presentation on “Managing Results” – Marv Weidner.** Marv Weidner, his wife and business partner Marty Weidner and incoming City Manager Russ Forrest came forward and addressed Council. Mr. Forrest explained he has had experience with Managing Results LLC (MR LLC) at the County. The plan is to create a management system that focuses on customer needs, strategic results and determine what’s most important for budget development and establish accountability. A Council retreat is needed by the end of September to create a clear platform for action for the budgeting process. Marv and Marty Weidner then addressed Council. Items they discussed included: they have worked with over 75 jurisdictions in the last 10 years including municipalities and county governments; they have 18 years’ experience in the business and live in the Gunnison Valley; in Gunnison there is a need to identify core key strategic results that are needed and then focus on obtaining those results; a plan will give staff and management a framework to get results for the customers; the budget will fund the customer experience not fund the organization as it is currently structured; it’s all about the customers and community needs; and employee performance system will be established; employees will feel invigorated in this process; MR LLC will interview each councilor in-depth and then hold a facilitated retreat the end of September; and the roles of council and the manager will be defined. A brief discussion ensued. After the vote, Council determined September 27, 2016, to be the date for the retreat session.

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion to approve the expenditure of \$8,000.00 from 2016 budgeted Strategic Plan Implementation funds for the Interim Strategic Planning Session Scope of Work and to authorize the City Manager to sign the contract with MR LLC.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

**Set Public Hearing on Transfer of Ownership Retail MJ Store from East River Management, LLC dba Growhouse Gunnison to Best Buds Inc., 811 N. Main Street, Gunnison.** City Clerk Davidson informed Council the City has received its first transfer of ownership application for a retail marijuana store. The City Attorney and Staff have reviewed the application and the fees have been paid.

Councilor Morrison moved and Councilor Schwartz seconded the motion to set Public Hearing for 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 201 W. Virginia Ave., Gunnison, CO on the Transfer of Ownership Application from Best Buds, Inc., for the Retail Marijuana Store located at 811 N. Main Street in Gunnison, CO.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Action on Support of Gunnison Chamber of Commerce Resolution, Re: Visitor Center Operations.** Council asked Chamber Executive Director Eric Freson if the Board had taken action on their resolution. Mr. Freson responded the Chamber Board approved and passed the resolution at their meeting this morning.

Councilor Schwartz moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion to give Council's support for the Gunnison Chamber of Commerce Resolution regarding the visitor center operations and funding.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Action on City Manager Mark Achen's Letter of Resignation.** City Manager Achen stated it's been an interesting and enjoyable time working in Gunnison. All of Council thanked Mark for his service as City Manager.

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Schwartz seconded the motion to accept City Manager Mark Achen's letter of resignation, to be effective August 28, 2016.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Resolutions and Ordinances:** Mayor Hagan asked that Resolution No. 9, Series 2016, be added to the agenda at this time.

Mayor Hagan introduced Resolution No. 9, Series 2016, and he read it in its entirety.

Mayor Hagan moved and Councilor Schwartz seconded the motion that Resolution No. 9, Series 2016, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, RECOGNIZING AND THANKING MARK ACHEN FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY**, be introduced, read, passed and adopted this 23rd day of August, 2016.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

All of City Council thanked Mark Achen for his service to the City of Gunnison and stated it's been a privilege to work with him. Council then presented him with a signed book of the Colorado 14'ers and a Gunnison belt buckle handcrafted by local artist Gail Sovick. City Manager Achen stated it has been an honor to work with Council and the community and thanked Council for the Resolution and the gifts.

**Executive Session:**

Pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(e): the purpose of which is for determining positions relative to matters that may be subject of negotiations; developing strategies for negotiations; and instructing negotiators.

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Schwartz seconded the motion to go into Executive Session the purposes of which is for determining positions relative to matters that may be subject of negotiations; developing strategies for negotiations; and instructing negotiators.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

Council went into Executive Session at 8:20 P.M.

Council returned to Regular Session at 8:42 P.M. Mayor Hagan stated, the time was now 8:42 P.M., and the Executive Session has been concluded. The participants for the Executive Session were himself, Mayor Richard Hagan, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Drexel, Councilor Leia Morrison, Councilor Matt Schwartz, Councilor Andy Sovick, City Attorney Kathy Fogo, City Manager Mark Achen, City Clerk Gail Davidson, Community Development Director Steve Westbay, and incoming City Manager Russ Forrest. He then asked for the record, if any person who participated in the Executive Session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, he asked them to state the concerns for the record. No comments were made.

**New Business (cont.)**

**Possible Action to Direct Staff to Proceed/Conclude Negotiations.**

Councilor Schwartz moved and Councilor Drexel seconded the motion to direct Staff to enter into a contract for the purchase of real property, as discussed in the Executive Session, in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 for the transaction cost and to authorize the City Manager to sign the contracts.

Roll call vote, yes: Hagan, Morrison, Schwartz, Sovick, Drexel. So carried.  
Roll call vote, no: None.

**Reports:**

**City Attorney Kathleen Fogo:** no report.

**City Manager Mark Achen:** reminded Council about the City employee picnic this Friday, starting at 4pm at Legion Park.

**Acting City Manager CD Director Steve Westbay: Semi-Annual Department Report.** Director Westbay stated it's been a productive six months. He discussed the following topics from his written report: the Ana's Pledge Bike Safety event was a success; the formation of the Gunnison Rising Metropolitan Districts were completed; the Department has processed 16 applications in the past six months compared to 11 the same period last year; the Complete Streets project was pursued and resulted in a strong TAP grant application being developed and submitted to DCOT; fencing work continues on the Gunnison Ridges to Rivers trails segments with WSCU students conducting trail work on the Contour Connector trail segment; the VanTuyl boardwalk work will take place next spring; the final working draft plan on the Lazy-K Master Plan should be received in the next 4 to 6 weeks; a favorable asbestos test report was received on the old City shop building and a demolition permit is being prepared with demolition to take place later this fall; Building Official Eric Jansen will attend Stormwater and Floodplain conference in September to maintain his credentials as a Certified Floodplain Manager; both Fire Department and Haz-Mat trainings took place and five new volunteers were added to the active Fire Department roster; and the spring runoff was not a problem and wildfire season has been fairly quiet with only a few incidents that were controlled. Council thanked Director Westbay for his report.

**City Clerk Gail Davidson:** reminded Council there is no meeting next Tuesday. She then reviewed the meeting schedule for the November 22<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session meeting. There will not be a Council quorum due to the Thanksgiving school holiday. The meeting will have to be rescheduled since first reading of the 2017 budget ordinances has to take place with adequate time to publish those ordinances between first and second reading. She will get with Finance Director Cowan and come up with a proposed date for a Special Session meeting.

**Parks & Recreation Director Dan Ampietro:** reported he placed a memo describing the progress on the dog park at their place settings. There will be a public meeting at CharMar Park this Saturday from 11am to 1pm to gather public input on improvements to the Park. Grilled hotdogs will be provided to the participants. Lastly, the pools and Community Center will be closed from August 26<sup>th</sup> through September 2<sup>nd</sup> for the annual deep-clean of the facility. Both pools will be drained and cleaned. The cleaning should not impact the senior programs and lunches.

**Police Chief Keith Robinson:** informed Council the Neighborhood Services officers are working on the first abatement process under the new Nuisance Code that was adopted on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Western State Colorado University Student Liaison:** Jodie Howard stated she is excited to be working with Council this year. She reported the largest freshman class in many years just started classes. Council welcomed Jodie.

**Non-Scheduled Citizens:** None.

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

**Councilor Schwartz:** had no report.

**Councilor Morrison:** reported along with Richard and Bob, she attended the lunch meeting with the Lt. Governor where the OVPP and affordable housing issues were discussed. Councilor Morrison also reported the following: she met Eric Magness, the new Director of the Small Business Development Center in Gunnison; she attended two Tourism Association budget meetings and the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Beach Bash at Blue Mesa; and there is a new program that incorporates alternative therapies at the Gunnison Valley Hospital. She was unable to attend the Chamber Board meeting but asked Chamber Director Eric Freson to report on the meeting. Mr. Freson

reported the Chamber Board approved and adopted the Visitor Center Operations and Funding Resolution, they had 68 vendors at the High Octane event, 36 new Chamber members have been added since he started as Director, the annual Chamber Banquet will be held on September 16th, and the “Best of” Awards balloting is now taking place.

**Councilor Drexel:** reported, as previously stated, he too attended the lunch meeting with the Lt. Governor. He has several meeting coming up later this week.

**Councilor Sovick:** had no report.

**Mayor Hagan:** reported he attended the lunch meeting with the Lt. Governor as well. He also reported on the following: at the Upper Gunnison River District meeting last night it was reported Blue Mesa Reservoir is at 90% of capacity and Taylor Park is at 78% capacity; the interesting concept of water banking was discussed at that meeting as well as Meridian Lake water rights and a new Board Member, Rosemary Carroll, was seated on the Board.

**Adjournment:** Mayor Hagan called for any further discussion from Council, Staff or the public, and hearing none, adjourned the Regular Session meeting at 9:13 P.M.

---

Mayor

---

City Clerk