

**OCTOBER 4, 2016**

**CITY OF GUNNISON COUNCIL**

**7:00 P.M.**

**SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

The City Council Special Session meeting was called pursuant to Section 5.2 of the City of Gunnison Municipal Home Rule Charter, by a letter, dated September 27, 2016, from Mayor Richard Hagan to City Clerk Davidson.

Mayor Hagan called the Special Session meeting to order at 7:04 P.M., with Councilors Sovick, Drexel, Morrison and Schwartz present along with City Manager Forrest, City Clerk Davidson, Parks & Recreation Director Ampietro, IT Director Lee, Community Development Director Westbay, Finance Director Cowan, WSCU Liaison Howard, several citizens and the press. City Attorney Fogo was absent. A Council quorum was present.

**Consideration of Minutes of September 13, 2016, Regular Session Meeting.** During discussion, Councilor Schwartz stated the word “form” needs to be changed to “from” in the second paragraph, fourth line, on page five.

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion to approve the September 13, 2016, Regular Session meeting minutes as amended.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Pre-Scheduled Citizens: Pat Sterling and WSCU Native American Student Council Members; Re: City Holiday Designation.** Ms. Pat Sterling and Mr. Timberlin Henderson from the WSCU Native American Student Council addressed Council. Ms. Sterling asked Council to change the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day in the City of Gunnison. Ms. Sterling discussed the following: Columbus didn't discover the Americas; there were over 50 million indigenous natives living in the Americas in 1492; the Vikings had already settled in North America; Columbus started trans-Atlantic slavery of native peoples; future students will benefit from learning about the indigenous peoples; we don't need to honor Columbus with a special day; there are many cities that have already made the holiday name change; and we don't need to get on the bandwagon but to do it because it is right. Mr. Henderson then addressed Council. He introduced himself in his native Navajo language. Topics he addressed include the following: honoring Columbus Day is a lie since he didn't discover America; as a child he was reminded by his elders that the day is a day of mourning for their native ancestors; we need to honor the lost cultures; and he would like this night to be one of action, to honor the respected ancestors of the native peoples. Council thanked Ms. Sterling and Mr. Henderson for their comments and told them the resolution would be considered later in the meeting.

**Action on City Tree Grinding Contract with Spallone Construction in an Amount Not to Exceed \$60,000.** This item was discussed at the September 20, 2016, Work Session meeting.

Councilor Morrison moved and Councilor Schwartz seconded the motion to approve the 2016 Tree Grinding Contract with Spallone Construction in an amount not to exceed the budgeted \$60,000.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Action on Region 10 Broadband Project Part I-Phase II Engineering Authorization from City to Proceed.** City IT Director Mike Lee addressed Council. Phase 2 of the Region 10 Broadband Project is ready to begin the design/engineering phase. The City, County, Crested Butte, Mt. Crested Butte, GVH and WSCU, now need to authorize the project to move forward so that the committed funds can be expended as the matching funds for the DOLA Grant award. The City of Gunnison's total match commitment is \$40,410 and of that amount, \$4,041 is needed for the design/engineering phase. Those funds were approved by Council in the 2016 adopted budget.

Councilor Drexel moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion to authorize the City Manager write a letter authorizing Region 10 to proceed with the Phase II design/engineering phase of the project, per the MOU pending the other valley partners have committed to the funding and given the authorization to proceed as well.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

A short discussion on what would happen if no fiber was available between Montrose and Gunnison. Director Lee stated the Western State proposed line would be needed even more.

**Resolution No. 11, Series 2016; Re: Authorizing Purchase of Real Property for Additional Central Business District Parking.** Councilor Schwartz introduced Resolution No. 11, Series 2016, and it was read by title only by the City Manager.

During discussion, CD Director Westbay informed Council that adding additional parking to the Central Business District was a component of the 2015 Strategic Plan document. There are 26 additional parking spaces proposed on the property being purchased.

Councilor Schwartz moved and Councilor Morrison seconded the motion that Resolution No. 11, Series 2016, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON,** be introduced, read, passed and adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Possible Resolution No. 12; Re: City Designation of Holiday.** Councilor Morrison introduced Resolution No. 12, Series 2016; and it was read by title only by the City Manager.

During discussion, Councilor Sovick expressed some concerns. He asked if the renaming was just an admission that we screwed up. Mr. Timberlin stated it is more of a day of remembrance and education about the native ancestors and their culture and contributions.

Councilor Morrison moved and Councilor Schwartz seconded the motion that Resolution No. 12, Series 2016, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, RECOGNIZING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS “INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY” IN THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, TO CELEBRATE AND RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS, DIVERSE CULTURES AND TRADITIONS OF ALL NATIVE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS,** be introduced, read, passed and adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.

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

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Parks & Recreation Semi-Annual Departmental Report – Director Dan Ampietro.**

Director Ampietro gave Council a follow-up report on the information included in their packets and addressed the following: the Department has seen personnel changes in the past six months resulting in many employees hired from within; the skate park lights are in the process and the timer shut off will cost less than \$900, thus keeping the project within budget; 2 of the restrooms have been installed along City trails and the Legion Park restroom is in process and the new unit should be ready to be set the end of October; the Grand Opening of the new dog park will take place on October 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:15pm, with a fun walk from Escalante down the new trail to the dog park; the Park & Recreation Committee are off to a good start and are looking at capital projects such as the Lazy K parcel, and are evaluating the recreation enterprise funds that may need fee adjustments in the next year to be more self-supporting. Council thanked Director Ampietro.

The Special Session meeting was adjourned at 7:59 P.M. Council went into a Work Session meeting.

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Mayor

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City Clerk