

COUNCIL PRE-MEETING

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 5:30 p.m.
Casper City Hall - Council Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. December 24 Meeting (cancel?)
2. ●Council Leadership Nominations
●Schedule Straw Poll (November 26 Work Session?)
3. Moneta Divide
4. Wyoming Business Council Grant (November 26 Work Session?)
5. Sole Source – Polymers for the Wastewater Treatment Plant
6. Annexation Update – South Poplar Street Properties
7. Agenda Review

Mayor Powell began the pre-meeting session at 5:30 p.m. with Councilmembers Bates, Cathey, Freel, Hopkins, Huber, Johnson, Lutz, Pacheco, and Mayor Powell in attendance.

Mayor Powell asked if Councilmembers would consider canceling the December 24, 2019 work session because a number of members would be absent. Council supported canceling the meeting.

Mayor Powell spoke regarding the time and logistical demands of serving as Mayor. He stated he would like any Mayoral candidates to address Council about their interest in the position and ability to serve. He then spoke about the State Statues regarding the salary for Councilmembers and the Mayor, and requested feedback on increasing the Mayor's salary in the future. Council discussed the matter. Councilmember Pacheco spoke in favor of a two-year term for Mayor. Councilmember Lutz suggested the one year Mayoral term may be was due to the staggered terms each member serves. City Manager Napier indicated that staff would look into the details of the term and changing the salary of the Mayor role.

Mayor Powell asked Council for direction on his participation at a meeting regarding the Moneta Divide gas project. He stated that this project would directly impact the communities of Shosoni and Riverton, but it would also require City infrastructure to support workers living and visiting Casper. He also spoke about the current environmental debate because water pumped from the project would eventually flow into Boysen reservoir. Councilmember Bates expressed concern about potential environmental impacts. Councilmembers Hopkins and Huber both shared that they were comfortable that environmental controls in place would safeguard the reservoir. Councilmember Cathey reminded everyone that most of the tax benefits from the project would benefit Fremont County. Council expressed support for the Mayor to attend the meeting.

City Manager Napier asked if Council would consider adding the Wyoming Business Council Grant for the river project to the November 26, 2019 work session. Council supported adding the item to the agenda.

City Manager Napier addressed the major concerns of property owners in the South Poplar Street area being annexed into the City which included; connecting to the City's sewer system, zoning of the area to allow ownership of animals, and increased costs. Councilmember Hopkins asked about sewer charges and City Manager Napier stated that those still using a septic system would not be charged sewer rates. Mayor Powell shared that he attended a community meeting on the annexation of these properties which went well and was positive. He also stated that zoning the area (UA) Urban Agriculture would address many of the concerns of the residents in the area.

Andrew Beamer, Public Services Director, explained of the need for a sole source purchase of polymers for the wastewater treatment plant due to the equipment being calibrated to those specific polymers. Council supported moving the item to a future Council meeting for formal approval.

Mayor Powell adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING
A Municipal Corporation

Fleur D. Tremel
City Clerk

Charles Powell
Mayor