

COUNCIL PRE-MEETING
Tuesday, February 1, 2022 5:15 p.m.
Casper City Hall - Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Municipal Court Update
2. WyoStar II State Investment Pool
3. Investment Policy
4. Agenda Review

Mayor Pacheco began the pre-meeting session at 5:15 p.m. with Councilmembers Cathey, Engebretsen, Freel, Gamroth, Johnson, Knell, Sutherland and Mayor Pacheco in attendance. Absent: Pollock.

1. Municipal Court Update

Municipal Court Judge Cally Martinez updated Council on the status of things in Municipal Court. She provided information about plans to improve court security, community service options (in lieu of fines), the upcoming impaired driving conference, and training opportunities for staff.

Councilmember Knell asked about Municipal Court staffing levels. Judge Martinez said that the number of cases handled by the court is more typical of circuit court rather than a municipality and that additional staffing would improve the efficiency of the court.

Councilmember Gamroth inquired about previous concerns that legal counsel had not be available because of limited staffing. Judge Martinez explained that the public perception is that everyone has the right to free legal services but actually free court-appointed counsel requires the recipient to be indigent and only applies when the crime is an offense that could result in jail time. She also explained that assistance is provided if an individual has significant mental health issues.

2. WyoStar II State Investment Pool

Acting City Manager Johnson provided background information on the WyoStar and WyoStar II state investment pool accounts and indicated that this matter is on the consent agenda for the regular Council meeting. Council did not have any questions.

3. Investment Policy

Acting City Manager Johnson provided information that had been requested by Council regarding the rules and guidelines involved in hiring an investment broker/dealer/custodian for the City's funds. She suggested that finding the best returns and lower fees may require hiring outside of Casper. Councilmember Knell was opposed to non-local service. Vice Mayor Freel said that staying local may mean not getting the best terms. Councilmember Gamroth asked about allowing local preference with a set threshold for the preference. Acting City Manager Johnson suggested that the 5% local preference used for construction projects may not transpose well with the current low rates of return. Councilmember Gamroth agreed and stated it would still be ideal to compare all terms of potential brokers/dealers/custodians. Councilmember Cathey shared that the fee structures of the service may be a better metric. Councilmember Knell asked if Council will be

provided details before the investment broker/dealer/custodian is selected. Acting City Manager Johnson confirmed that Council will be consulted prior to a selection being made.

4. Agenda Review

No one had concerns with the agenda.

Mayor Pacheco adjourned the pre-meeting at 5:41 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING
A Municipal Corporation

Fleur Tremel
City Clerk

Ray Pacheco
Mayor