

COUNCIL PRE-MEETING
Tuesday, March 1, 2022 5:30 p.m.
Casper City Hall - Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Purchase of SCBA Regulators
2. Contractual Police Services Management
3. 2023 Interim Topics
4. Agenda Review

Mayor Pacheco began the pre-meeting session at 5:35 p.m. with Councilmembers Cathey, Engebretsen, Freel, Gamroth, Johnson, Knell, Pollock, Sutherland and Mayor Pacheco in attendance.

1. Purchase of SCBA Regulators

City Manager Napier explained that the Fire-EMS staff would like to use CARES act funds to purchase additional regulators so firefighters do not have to share regulators. The purchase would also include 5 SCBA units as well. Councilmember Knell spoke in opposition to the purchase. Councilmember Engebretsen and Vice Mayor Freel spoke in favor of the purchase.

Councilmember Pollock asked for an update on the CARES act funding. City Manager Napier stated that the City has roughly \$11 million in CARES fund to spend and that as it is money that has been reimbursed to us, we have few restrictions tied to the spending. Councilmember Pollock followed up by asking about the time requirements associated with the expenditures. Mr. Napier said the City has latitude with the funds. Councilmember Pollock asked if Council could be provided a holistic picture of the planned expenditure of the remainder of the funds to they can be leveraged for the best possible uses. Mr. Napier indicated that staff will follow up with that.

Council provided a thumbs up for the purchase of the regulators and SCBA equipment.

2. Contractual Police Services Management

City Manager Napier described a request from the Police Department to use a management company to run the operational end of Police contracted services. Currently community groups request off-duty Police support for events, which demands staff time to organize and manage. Staff is proposing that a management company handle the logistics which would free up staff time and would offer additional liability coverage for the City as well as the community group utilizing the service. He further explained that the costs of the management services would be a 10% surcharge.

Councilmember Pollock asked if all Police services would need to go through the service, for example could community promotion events still be handled by staff. Mr. Napier said staff could still manage our own events.

City Manager Napier shared that City staff would no longer need to chase down payment or handle billing community groups directly should this service be utilized. He said it would be to our advantage because the management service would pay for billed staff time as soon as services were performed, rather than waiting until the community group paid.

Councilmember Cathey asked if the service would be put out for bids. Mr. Napier shared that because this is a professional services contract, no further action is needed, as Police Chief McPheeters has vetted the business in question.

Councilmember Gamroth asked about the current rate of utilization. Chief McPheeters listed some of the more common groups that contract Police services and said it typically involved 800-1000 hours of contracted time annually, all of which is 100% off-duty Police officers.

Councilmember Pollock requested that the item be left off the consent agenda when Council considers the matter so user groups can provide feedback. Councilmember Pollock asked if staff currently is compensated for the administration time involved in managing the program. Mr. Napier said the administrative services are not billed to the users.

Chief McPheeters described the services offered by the management company which include on-line scheduling and posting of events, geo-fencing and notification of user groups of the arrival of officers and a \$13 million dollar umbrella coverage per incident.

Council provided a thumbs up for bringing forward contractual Police services management. Mayor Pacheco also asked if Council would like to consider the matter by having the item not on the consent agenda, and they provided a thumbs up for that as well.

3. 2023 Interim Topics

City Manager Napier explained that legislative committees work during the off season on different matters and staff can recommend topics to WAM or the management council for consideration. Topics he suggested could be promoted include the following: missing persons; enhanced crime legislation (bias crime); alcohol statutes; and funding autonomy. He provided brief explanations of each of these topics. There being no questions or comments Mayor Pacheco asked if City Manager Napier could move forward with these topics, Council provided thumbs up.

4. Agenda Review

Mayor Freel moved on to agenda review. No one had any questions or concerns on the agenda.

Mayor Pacheco adjourned the pre-meeting at 5:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING
A Municipal Corporation

Fleur Tremel
City Clerk

Ray Pacheco
Mayor