

## COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.  
City Hall – Council Meeting Room

### AGENDA

1. Council Meeting Follow-up
2. Council Straw Poll
3. Wind Turbine Art Installation Update
4. Unsafe Structures Update
5. Council Goals Update
6. Agenda Review
7. Legislative Review
8. Council Around the Table

Mayor Pacheco called the work session to order at 4:32 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Cathey, Gamroth, Engebretsen, Sutherland, McIntosh, Humphrey, Pollock, Vice Mayor Knell, and Mayor Pacheco.

#### 1. Council Follow-up

Council discussed removing the requirement for citizens to state their address when addressing Council. Deputy City Attorney Wallace Trembath stated that his office may need to do some research but did not think it would be an issue to remove that requirement. Council then discussed including age in the anti-discrimination ordinance, including if there should be an age cut off and if young people should also be included. Council discussed that they may discuss this further at the next reading of the ordinance and may choose to remove age from the ordinance altogether to be discussed on its own at a later date.

#### 2. Council Straw Poll

Next, City Clerk, Fleur Tremel, handed out ballots for the Mayor and Vice Mayor straw poll to the incoming Councilmembers and the remaining Councilmembers that will be serving in 2023. She explained that the ranked choice process outlined on the ballot ensures that an individual will only win the straw poll if they have a majority of Council's support. Council filled out their ballots, and Ms. Tremel and Deputy City Attorney Trembath left the room to count the votes. They returned and announced that Councilmember Knell won the straw poll for Mayor, and Councilmember Pacheco won the straw poll for Vice Mayor.

#### 3. Wind Turbine Art Installation Update

Next, City Manager Napier discussed possible sites for the wind turbine art installation. He stated that the partner agencies at Fort Caspar are opposed to the monument being installed there. Staff has evaluated other sites that have the size and infrastructure needed to support the art installation, and has been unable to find a suitable location. There are neighborhood parks that would work, but staff is concerned about the increased traffic in those residential areas. He stated that an option could be to use space by the Ford Wyoming Center, but he suggested incorporating the art installation into the scope of that plan first. Council discussed that choosing the Fort Caspar

location has the potential to remove that facilities' subsidy. Several Councilmembers discussed that the purpose of the art installation should not be financial but to add something to the community. Council also discussed speaking with the Amoco Reuse Joint Powers Board about using that land for the art installation. Council asked about NextEra's financial commitment, specifically for maintenance, and City Manager Napier responded that he did not think there was a commitment for upkeep or maintenance. Council discussed the possibility of a more suitable piece of wind turbine art being installed at Fort Caspar besides the wind henge design. They directed staff to look into all of these alternative options as well as to discussed funding with NextEra.

#### 4. Unsafe Structures Update

Next, Building Supervisor, Dan Elston, updated Council on the implementation of the unsafe structure ordinance. He reviewed how many cases they formally dealt with last year as well as the greater number of calls they receive. He stated that many tenants do not want to follow through with a formal complaint, because they cannot remain anonymous in the complaint. He stated that he feels like it is working well right now, but could always be expanded upon to non-rental properties. Council discussed providing a way for tenants to submit a complaint without fear of retaliation, including utilizing the 311 App. City Manager Napier stated that staff can look into utilizing the 311 App for the start of the complaint process, but it probably will only be the starting point of communication.

#### 5. Council Goals Update

Next, City Manager Napier updated Council on progress that has been made by staff to accomplish Council goals since they were developed in May 2021. He asked that Council keep in mind future goals while listening to the presentation, and introduced Pete Meyers, Management Analyst, to further elaborate on the goal progress. Mr. Meyers explained that Council had three major goals: infrastructure, public engagement, and business investment. These goals were broken down into steps and sub-steps to help staff tackle each major goal. Mr. Meyers then reviewed a spreadsheet that outlined all of these steps and sub-steps, and the progress staff has made towards accomplishing each step and major goal. Some of the infrastructure steps related to the new police facility, the Waste Water Treatment Plant, street repairs, river restoration, digital infrastructure and the stormwater system. He explained that the stormwater system will be discussed in the coming months as staff present funding ideas, including the option to set up an enterprise fund for stormwater utilities. He also discussed presentations from Zulima Lopez, Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities Director, regarding lowering the subsidies for each of the recreation facilities. City Manager Napier stated that after the final presentations are complete in January, Council will meet with staff to discuss how to substantively address the proposals to decrease the subsidy at each facility. Mr. Meyers also discussed the transit operation and steps that have been made to bring that in house.

Mr. Meyers then discussed the business investment goal to make Casper a preferred location for businesses within the region. Progress on this goal has included business incentives, recruitment activities, infrastructure enhancements, work with economic development agencies, and Casper

Snapshot. He discussed that there are constitutional restrictions to certain tax breaks in Wyoming, but that Casper is naturally business friendly because of low taxes.

Mr. Meyers then discussed the third goal of citizen engagement, and gave examples of how staff has worked to make progress on this goal. Some of the steps discussed included public outreach events, 311 App, revamping the website, managing the City's social media, and utilizing media/digital tools. Council directed staff to give them information on how to build on the current goals instead of Council just starting from scratch when developing goals in 2023.

6. Agenda Review

Next, Council reviewed the agendas for upcoming regular Council meetings and work sessions.

7. Legislative Review

City Manager Napier discussed the option to hold a legislative dinner to discuss priorities with state legislators, and Council showed interest in doing this again.

9. Around the Table

Next, Council went around the table to discuss their respective board and committee meetings as well as matters of public interest. Deputy City Attorney Trembath reminded Council that no City business can be discussed at upcoming Christmas parties, as this would violate the Open Meeting Act.

The work session was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING  
A Municipal Corporation

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Fleur Tremel  
City Clerk

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Ray Pacheco  
Mayor