

## COUNCIL WORK SESSION

April 15, 2013

### MINUTES

Casper City Council met in work session at 3:30 p.m., Monday, April 15, 2013. Present: Councilmen Cathey, Goodenough, Hedquist, Hopkins, Meyer, Powell, Sandoval and Mayor Schlager. Absent: Councilmen Powell and Bertoglio.

Police Chief Walsh introduced Shawna Griffin, the new Public Safety Communications Center Manager. He also responded to Council questions regarding Facebook comments criticizing the recent euthanasia of animals at Metro Animal Control. Tori Cutrell, the Metro Animal Control Manager, was also present to answer questions.

At 3:40 p.m., the Mayor called a recess in the meeting to allow the City Council to tour the Municipal Golf Course maintenance building and view the aerial truck at Casper Fire-EMS Station No. 1.

At 4:50 p.m., the meeting was reconvened with all members present.

Marge Cole, Executive Director, Casper Area Transportation Coalition, provided an update on CATC and *The Bus*.

Doug Follick, Leisure Services Director, presented a request for funding from Excess Optional 1%#13 Sales Tax funds for a new maintenance building at the Municipal Golf Course. After discussing the merits of the proposal, Council indicated support for the request and asked that the project also include demolition costs for the old clubhouse building, and construction of a new restroom facility on that site, which are estimated to cost \$150,000. This project will be included in a future public hearing on use of Excess Optional 1%#13 Sales Tax funds.

Council discussed the proposed purchase of a new aerial fire truck, utilizing \$1.5 million in Excess Optional 1%#13 Sales Tax funds. There was general agreement that this purchase was important and should move forward to a public hearing on use of Excess Optional 1%#13 Sales Tax funds.

Rick Harrah, Public Services Director, presented a recommendation from staff to terminate the yard waste collection pilot program and repeal the ban of yard waste from the regular collection containers. Staff has determined that there is not sufficient support from the community to move this forward. Staff will be developing a new educational program to encourage mulching and composting of yard waste as a way to divert this material from the waste stream. Council indicated support for this approach.

David Hough, Special Projects Coordinator, presented a report from the Community Development Department on the current ordinance for notification of adjoining property owners in zoning and subdivision applications. After some discussion, it was decided to leave the current requirement of a 300' radius in place.

V. H. McDonald, Administrative Services Director, presented a report on a proposal to increase the Rocky Mountain Power franchise fee from 4% to 5%, and to dedicate the proceeds to support economic development. Council discussed potential use of the funds to finance line extensions or to provide sustainable funding for Casper Area Economic Development Alliance, Inc. Council asked staff to develop a proposal which would open the section of the franchise agreement which deals with the franchise fee for further consideration.

City Manager Patterson asked Council for feedback on the current process for handling requests from nonprofits for funding for operations and for capital projects. Council agreed that they prefer to leave the current process in place, which provides for distribution of Community Promotions Funds twice a year, and consideration of other requests during the annual budget process.

Fire Division Chief Tim Cortez presented a proposal from the Casper Fire-EMS Department for a formal EMS Collaborative Paramedic Health Care Initiative, in cooperation with Wyoming Medical Center. This is intended to support efforts to improve the overall delivery of preventive health care to citizens through clinics and services out of the five fire stations. Council indicated their support for the proposal.

Councilman Cathey asked that second reading of the ordinance pertaining to smoking in public places be postponed to May 21, 2013, since he will be out of town on May 7, 2013. Council agreed to the delay.

At 8:43 p.m., it was moved by Councilman Sandoval, seconded by Councilman Meyer, to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, potential litigation and contract negotiations. Motion passed unanimously.

At 9:45 p.m., it was moved by Councilman Bertoglio, seconded by Councilman Hopkins, to adjourn the executive and work sessions. Motion passed unanimously.