

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

April 23, 2013

MINUTES

Casper City Council met in work session at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, April 23, 2013. Present: Councilmen Bertoglio, Hopkins, Goodenough, Sandoval, Hedquist, Powell, Cathey and Mayor Schlager. Absent: Councilman Meyer.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Tom Brauer, President of the Casper Area Economic Development Alliance (CAEDA) Board of Directors, requesting Council adopt a resolution of support for CAEDA's 5-year strategic plan. Council agreed to move the resolution forward to the May 7, 2013, Council meeting for formal consideration.

Police Chief Chris Walsh and Metro Animal Control Manager Tori Cutrell presented a report on the proposal to amend the City's ordinances to allow chickens and bees in residential areas. Council discussed whether there should be a permit process so that Metro Animal Control knew where these animals were being housed, and could conduct an inspection to make certain that the applicant was in compliance with the ordinance.

Bunky Loucks provided some information regarding the State regulations on bee keeping, and noted that bee hives had to be registered with the State Department of Agriculture in order to maintain the safe distances between hives, and to regulate the types of bees that were being introduced into the State.

Councilman Hedquist asked that the ordinance contain a requirement to notify all of the property owners within 300' of the applicant to allow them to express any concerns they might have with the introduction of these animals into their neighborhood.

Council agreed to have this proposal move forward, and asked staff to draft an ordinance which would include the provisions regarding notification of adjoining property owners, coordination with the State regulations, and draft permit forms and draft educational materials to be distributed by Metro Animal Control

Liz Becher, Community Development Director, and David Hough, Special Projects Coordinator, presented a report on a proposed parks master plan. Council indicated support for moving forward with a master plan, but asked that it be done in-house. They agreed with the need for public engagement, and Councilman Hedquist volunteered to serve as Council's representative on the advisory committee to develop the plan. Council asked that staff include a survey that would ask residents what features they would like to see included in the parks. Council also supported getting Casper College students involved in development of the plan.

Michael Szewczyk, Information Technology Manager, and Adam Hiatt, IT Technician, demonstrated iPads, with the intent that these units might replace the laptops that Council is currently using to access their packets at home and at the Council meetings. Features that were included will provide the bookmarking capability, as well as the opportunity to add notes to the

margin. Council was also concerned about being able to access their packets from previous meetings to check on actions taken. They were assured that the iPads had sufficient storage capacity to archive their packets, including any notes that were made, for a significant period of time. Council agreed to move forward and order six of the units for Councilmen Sandoval, Hedquist, Powell, Cathey, Meyer and Goodenough. Mayor Schlager already has a new iPad, and Councilmen Bertoglio and Hopkins did not want to change from the laptops at this time. All agreed that they would try the iPads, with the intention that paper packets would not be needed.

Councilman Goodenough asked that staff work with the Natrona County School District on changing the time restrictions on the school zone signs, to recognize that for many of the students who are dropped off at elementary schools in their neighborhood in order to catch a bus to their school of choice, may actually be on the sidewalks before the designated start time. City Manager Patterson agreed to discuss this issue with the school administrators at the next quarterly meeting.

Mayor Schlager reminded Council about the 7:00 a.m. meeting scheduled for Friday, April 26, 2013.

There being no further business, Mayor Schlager adjourned the work session at 6:30 p.m.