

COUNCIL WORK SESSION
February 26, 2013

MINUTES

Casper City Council met in work session at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 26, 2013. Present: Councilmen Bertoglio, Cathey, Goodenough, Hedquist, Hopkins, Meyer, Powell, Sandoval and Mayor Schlager.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation from Angela Emery, Executive Director, Platte River Trails Trust, regarding the upcoming Wyoming State Trails Summit, June 27-29, 2013, in Casper. The Platte River Trails Trust is facilitating the planning for this first statewide trails meeting, and has committed \$5,000 to the cost of hosting the Summit. Ms. Emery requested the City become a sponsor.

Council discussed the proposal, and agreed to provide \$5,000 from Council Goals funds to sponsor the Wyoming State Trails Summit.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation from Doug Follick, Leisure Services Director, on the upcoming projects for the outdoor pools. This summer, the Mike Sedar swimming pool will be reconstructed as a “regional” facility to serve up to 300 individuals in a large, interactive pool similar to the Paradise Valley pool. Funding for the new construction is coming from Optional 1% Sales Tax funds set aside for pool maintenance projects, and from other funds identified from the Natrona County School District project at Kelly Walsh High School. The District’s project will result in the demolition of the East Casper Community Pool, leaving the community served by three pools this summer. Staff is investigating the possibility of a third “regional” pool to replace the Marion Kreiner and Washington Park swimming pools at some future date.

Mr. Follick also provided the Council with an update on the recent presentation to the Wyoming High School Athletic Association for the 2015-2018 State competitions for volleyball, wrestling, track and 1A/2A and 3A/4A basketball. Casper was the only proposal submitted for these events. Casper was awarded the contract, with the same provisions as the previous award for 2011-2014.

City Manager Patterson presented a request from Joe Hayek, representing the Colony Townhomes development in west Casper, to rename a street to Schilling Court after an individual who had served as the President of the homeowner’s association since 1983.

Mayor Schlager excused herself from the discussion, based on her personal relationship with Mr. Hayek.

After a brief discussion, Council asked that staff provide some recommendations on guidelines to address these kinds of requests so that there will be some consistency in the City’s response. This request will be considered at a future date, after such time as guidelines have been adopted.

City Attorney Luben presented a report to the Council on the proposed amendments to the ordinance pertaining to driving while under the influence. Council asked questions regarding the changes and agreed to move forward with the second reading of the ordinance.

At 6:15 p.m., it was moved by Councilman Hopkins, seconded by Councilman Hedquist, to, by minute action, adjourn into executive session to discuss contract negotiations. Motion passed unanimously.

At 7:40 p.m., it was moved by Councilman Bertoglio, seconded by Councilman Sandoval, to, by minute action, adjourn the executive session. All Council members voted aye, except Councilman Goodenough who voted nay. Passed.

City Manager Patterson distributed copies of the conference center feasibility study prepared by the Strategic Advisory Group. Council questioned whether the study was predicated on the conference center being located in Downtown Casper. The City Manager assured Council members that the initial direction to the consultant was to provide an opinion as to whether a conference center in Casper would be successful. No specific location was included in the scope of work. The study indicated that in order for the conference center to be successful, it would need to be located in close proximity to the downtown. A specific site recommendation was not a part of the study.

Councilman Hedquist noted that he had several concerns with the assumptions included in the report, and with the original cost estimates that were part of the recommendations.

City Manager Patterson asked that any questions regarding the information in the study be presented to him for further research and response.

There being no other business, the Mayor adjourned the work session at 8:10 p.m.