

COUNCIL WORK SESSION – August 12, 2014

The Mayor Meyer, presiding, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with all members present.

Mayor Meyer asked City Manager Patterson to begin the discussion of the EDJPB Application for a Wyoming Business Council Grant, which was a request for a Resolution of Support from City Council. City Manager Patterson introduced Scott Sutherland, the applicant, from Granite Peak Development to explain the grant application.

Granite Peak has been discussing opening up 40 acres of land in the McMurry Business Park for development with the Wyoming Business Council. Both parties believe that if the lots are ready it will bring in many other commercial businesses. Economic Development Joint Powers Board will be the applicant and they were just asking council to support the application. He explained this was a zero risk support.

City Manager Patterson stated that the City had no other grant applications that would be competing with this application.

Mr. Sutherland then explained where the lots would be located, the associated cost and the amount they were requesting, and also where the funding would come from if approved by the Wyoming Business Council.

Council indicated that they would support a Resolution going to a formal Council Meeting.

Next, Mayor Meyer asked City Manager Patterson to discuss the consent agenda item. He introduced Bill Luben, City Attorney, to explain the history of a consent agenda.

Mr. Luben began by explaining the different agenda items such as ordinances, resolutions, and minute items. He then discussed how and what was routinely placed on consent. He stated that it was then reviewed by Council Leadership on Thursday afternoons.

The agendas are then sent out to Council on Friday. Council has until Tuesday at 12:00pm to move items off consent, but that the Council is encouraged to move items by noon on Monday in order to help Administrative Services in preparing the script agenda.

Councilman Sandoval asked if there was some chart breaking out these agenda items. Mr. Luben stated that aside from Council's Handbook there was no other chart, as it does not lend itself well to a chart type of break-down.

Mr. Luben then explained that recently, Staff has been trying to bring items first to a work session to see whether it would be on consent. He explained that very routine items were not brought to Council before being placed on the agenda for consent.

Council then discussed possible changes in the process in order to ensure items were appropriately placed.

Council decided that they would endeavor to view the agenda between Friday and Monday, and then let staff know by 12:00pm on Monday. However, they will have the ability to pull something off consent until Tuesday at noon. Council also decided that they would email Mr. Patterson or Staff to let them know about the item that has been pulled, and then City Staff should email all of Council to indicate that someone has requested an item be pulled off consent.

Next, Mayor asked Mr. Patterson to introduce the next item, Community Promotions. Mr. Patterson introduced Fleur Tremel, Assistant to the City Manager, to discuss this item. Mrs. Tremel stated that several months ago Council indicated they had an interest in looking at the guidelines and amending as necessary to ensure that Community Promotion funding is done properly.

She explained that the guidelines provided do come from Wyoming State Statutes. She then stated that changes could be made to the guidelines to make them clearer as to when funding would be provided and approved.

Council indicated that the intent of Community Promotions according to the guidelines is to enhance economic development, and/or improve the quality of life of residents of Casper.

Vice Mayor Powell stated that this second prong would allow funding to almost every applicant and that he focuses more on the first prong. He suggested that the second prong be removed.

Councilman Bertoglio stated that in certain instances it is beneficial to have both prongs, especially for facility and in-kind service applications.

Vice Mayor Powell then stated that that was actually why he wanted to discuss it to decide if there was a way to differentiate on what was needed to obtain funding based on whether the applicant wanted cash or facilities and in-kind services.

Mrs. Tremel indicated that a change in wording could be made and that she could include another section to differentiate between these types of funding. She suggested that she amend the guidelines and email them to Council the next day so that Council could okay the new guideline prior to Staff mailing them out on Friday. Council indicated that this was how they would like to proceed.

Mayor Meyer then asked that Mr. Patterson begin the discussion on the SLIB application for a State Revolving Fund Loan for Baler Building at the Casper Regional Solid Waste Facility. Mr. Patterson stated that Cindie Langston, Solid Waste Manager, was there to present the application and that she had some breaking news to share with Council.

Ms. Langston stated that the breaking news was that they had received approval from the EPA to apply for a loan based on the fact that this improvement would directly affect the ground water. She explained how Jason Knopp, City Engineer, had written the grant application to show the direct effect the solid waste facility has on ground water.

Ms. Langston stated that the Baler Building has not had any major renovations since 1997. She stated that when the building was built in 1984, it was meant for 250 tons per day on the floor, and that currently they were getting 350 tons per day. She stated if Council gave their approval they would be able to submit this application and receive the funds to update this building and improve it so that it would be able to meet the new demands of the facility, especially now that the facility was being used by other communities.

Councilman Cathey asked why rates were being raised for City residents to allow other regions to use our facility. Ms. Langston stated that the amount rates were raised for citizens were actually suppressed because of the waste coming in along with charges from other entities. Councilman Cathey stated that this needs be explained how much the rates would go up without these other entities.

Ms. Langston then updated Council as to the situation of the Balers.

Council indicated they would support this grant application going to Council.

Mayor Meyer then asked Mr. Patterson to introduce the MPO - Title VI Updated Policy Language.

Mr. Patterson then introduced Andrew Nelson and asked that he discuss this item. Mr. Nelson began the discussion stating that Title VI of the Civil Rights Act says that there will be no discrimination based on race or origin.

He stated the updates today are a few administrative items and then system-wide service standards to inform Council for their consideration. Mr. Nelson stated that System-wide Service Standards and Policies form a guiding document for the performance of the transit program. He explained the standards were there for on-time performance measures, distribution of transit amenities, and vehicle load.

He stated that they were looking for a Resolution approving these changes from Council.

Council said they would support a Resolution to be presented to them at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Meyer then moved on to the discussion of the Renewal Contract with Turnkey Services, Inc., for oversight of Rocky Mountain Power Infrastructure Improvements through December 31, 2015. Mr. Patterson explained that since he has been with the City the City has used the services of Wally Trembath. He then asked Mr. Luben to explain this.

Mr. Luben explained the history and the meetings which have occurred with Rocky Mountain Power. Because this substation is to be created, they would like to retain Mr. Trembath's services. Mr. Luben stated that Mr. Trembath's contributions have helped this process in numerous ways. He then discussed the expertise that Mr. Trembath brings to the table.

Council stated they would like this to go to a Council Meeting for their review.

Finally, Mayor Meyer as asked Mr. Patterson to begin the discussion of the Ordinance Amendments for the Code of Ethics, and removal of Officials Provisions of the Casper Municipal Code.

Council discussed the changes. They decided it should be put on the agenda for the next council meeting, but not on consent so they would be able to have further discussion.

Council then went around the table and informed each other of meetings they had coming up.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.