

COUNCIL WORK SESSION – December 9, 2014

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with all members present. Also present were Councilmen-elect Pacheco, Mundell, and Johnson.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation on the Council Chambers Audio and Visual Upgrade Project. Michael Szewczyk, IT Manager, introduced David Thorsen with Nordic Sound, the successful vendor who has prepared a proposal for this project. Mr. Thorsen presented a virtual representation of the upgrades which he has proposed for the screens, cameras, microphones, and audio system upgrades. The total cost of the project is \$114,690. Councilmembers asked if additional television screens could be located along the sidewalls of the Chambers to try and provide additional viewing opportunities for audience members at Council meetings. Council directed staff to prepare a contract with the vendor to include the additional screens.

City Manager Patterson introduced Charles Walsh, Chairman of the DDA Board, to present their request for special funding to support their implementation plan for the Downtown Improvement Program. Mr. Walsh requested that Council allocate \$200,000 over two years to support staffing needs at the DDA to move forward with the implementation of the Downtown Strategic Plan which includes 8 projects. The highest priority project is the development of a Downtown Plaza at the corner of David and Second Streets. Council agreed to move forward with developing a contract for services with the DDA for two years.

Community Development Director, Liz Becher, presented Council with a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission for a change in the Form Based Code applicable in the OYD and South Poplar Street Corridor to allow roof signs. She asked Aaron Kloke, from the Planning Division, to present the proposed amendment. Aaron explained that the new language would contain specific restrictions on the size and location of the roof signs and that all applications for roof signs in the District would be reviewed by the Architectural Review Committee. Council agreed to move this proposal forward for public hearing and consideration at a regular Council Meeting.

City Manager Patterson introduced Carolyn Griffith, Recreation Division Manager, to present a proposal for installation of a splash pad in place of the wading pool in Marion Kreiner Park. Carolyn noted that city staff has met with representatives of the neighborhood adjacent to Marion Kreiner Pool and they have been supportive of the proposal. Council questioned the estimated cost for the removal of the wading pool and installation of the splash pad but agreed to move forward with the development of bid specs for the project.

The City Council members who will be serving beginning in January 2015 discussed the process for selecting Council Leadership. It was decided that individual members would complete secret ballots for Mayor and Vice Mayor after nominations were received and then the City Attorney and outgoing Mayor Meyer would count the ballots and return with the results. The final vote on Leadership would occur at the January 6th Council Meeting. Nominations were taken for Mayor and included Councilman Powell and Councilman Sandoval. Councilman Hopkins and incoming Councilman Mundell were nominated for Vice Mayor. After the ballots were counted

the City Attorney announced that Councilman Sandoval was selected as Mayor and Councilman Mundell was selected as Vice Mayor.

Councilman Bertoglio noted that recent meetings with the WAM Board had resulted in adoption of a reorganization plan to have 6 different regions represented on the WAM Board where currently there are only 3 regions. Natrona County and Fremont County will be in one region. He encouraged members of the Casper City Council to consider running for one of the open seats representing this region. City Manager Patterson agreed to coordinate with the other communities to put together a proposal for representation from this district.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.