

## COUNCIL WORK SESSION – July 22, 2014

Past Mayor Schlager called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmen Hopkins, Cathey, Bertoglio and Goodenough. Absent: Councilmen Powell, Meyer, Sandoval and Hedquist.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by the DDA. Kevin Hawley, Executive Director, introduced the discussion which would be presented by a consultant hired to provide recommendations regarding the creation of a tax increment financing district in Casper. Council asked questions about the proposed district and thanked the DDA for bringing the information forward.

Councilman Hedquist joined the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

The second item on the agenda was a presentation by Doug Follick, Leisure Services Director, regarding the proposed improvements which were recommended for Hogadon. The Council Committee which reviewed the report from staff asked for more detailed cost figures for the Ski Patrol Building and the Maintenance Building as the first phase of improvements. Staff is proposing the purchase and installation of a modular building to house the ski patrol. The estimated cost of the building is \$200,000 which would be funded from budgeted 1%#14 funds and one-time monies allocated to Leisure Services. The new Maintenance Building would be a steel structure which is estimated to cost \$650,000. The funding for the Maintenance Building is proposed to come from 1%#15. Staff has suggested that a savings could be realized if the site work, concrete floor and utilities could be installed at the same time that the new ski patrol building is installed. This would allow the site work for both buildings to be done at the same time and could save the project \$27,000. Costs for the Maintenance Building are estimated to be \$180,000 and a contract for this work would need to be included in the ski patrol building installation which would be coming to Council on August 5<sup>th</sup>. The funding for the extra work could be allocated from another Capital Project in Leisure Services and then reallocated from 1%#15 receipts in 2015. Council agreed to move this project forward.

Councilman Meyer joined the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Councilman Sandoval joined the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Linda Witko, Assistant City Manager, presented a report to the City Council on the 1%#15 Survey Results and Recommendations. Based on the feedback given through the survey tool, the priorities for 1%#15 were Water; Fire and EMS; Street Repairs; Police; Senior Citizen Services; Community Health Services; Parks, Playgrounds, Trails and Outdoor Sports Facilities; Human Services; Flood Prevention and River Restoration; Strong Local Economy; 1% Operation Support and Maintenance Savings Account; Swimming and Recreation; Library Books and Reserve Fund; Public Building Repairs; Public Transportation; Energy Conservation; Technology Support; Museums and Arts. The estimated receipts for 1%#15 are \$68,000,000 for the four years of the tax. Staff presented recommendations for projects that followed the priorities identified in the survey totaling \$60,000,000 in City projects with a set aside of \$8,000,000 for community projects. Council reviewed the information and discussed the

projects which were proposed. A Resolution adopting the recommendations will be presented at the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Pete Meyers, Assistant Public Services Director, presented an amendment to the Dog Park Ordinance which will allow dogs to be off leash in the new Lake MacKensie Dog Park in East Casper. Council directed that the ordinance should be brought forward to the next regular meeting.

City Attorney Bill Luben presented a request from Elkhorn Ranch, LLC for support from the City to change the points of diversion of water from the Stroud Ditch for irrigation purposes. The change would have no effect on the water rights currently allocated to the Elkhorn Ranch or the City of Casper. The City utilizes the water rights from the Stroud Ditch to provide water for the Municipal Golf Course. Council indicated no objection to the proposed change and agreed to consider the consent document at the next regular meeting.

City Attorney Bill Luben and contract attorney, Judy Studer presented proposed ordinances to address the issue of Public Service Code of Ethics and Removal of Officials and the creation of a new chapter in the City Code to establish minimum bidder qualification requirements for public improvement contracts. Council discussed the level of due process which was provided in the ordinance for Councilmembers. There was also a concern expressed to provide for the recovery of legal fees in the event that an action taken against a Councilmember would fail at the Hearing. Mr. Luben advised the Council that he was aware of only one state which this provision was included in the action to remove an elected official. Council agreed to consider the ordinance on the Public Service Code of Ethics and Removal of Officials at a regular meeting.

The discussion regarding bidder qualifications resulted in additional questions from Council on what was included in the WYDOT prequalification process and how the other proposed requirements would affect the willingness of bidders to participate in City projects. Councilman Bertoglio suggested that the proposal be presented to the Contractors for their input. This item will be brought back at a future work session.

Councilman Goodenough left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor Meyer reported on a meeting held at the Natrona County Airport by the Army Corps of Engineers regarding potential contamination which has been identified on the site of the old Airbase.

At 7:40 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.