

COUNCIL WORK SESSION – March 11, 2014

The Mayor Meyer, presiding, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with all members present except for Councilman Powell and Schlager.

Mayor Meyer asked City Manager Patterson to tee up the discussion on the new PSCC. City Manager Patterson informed Council that it is coming along well, and that Council would be invited to the ribbon cutting. He also informed Council that this has come in under budget. Mr. Patterson then invited Chief Wetzel from the Police Department to update Council on the PSCC.

Chief Wetzel informed Council that the location of this is in the NERD gas building on Landmark Dr. He explained that this facility will provide a dual function: the multi-jurisdictional dispatch center, and a Public Safety Operations Center. He then explained that this project is roughly \$900,000 under budget. He also stated that they plan to move-in and be operational around April 14-18, 2014.

Chief Wetzel then discussed the building improvements, and how the build-out costs were incorporated into the lease. Next, he showed the consoles and dispatch stations. Chief then explained the information technology aspects of the Center. Finally, Chief Wetzel discussed the pending redundancy development which is being done in the Center. He explained how they are making changes in order to maintain redundancy and increase the capabilities by switching to a Host-Satellite system.

Councilman Goodenough suggested that the City keep the copper wire so that if computers went down there would be a backup. Chief Wetzel stated that we do have a backup, which would not work as well, but would and could be used if there was a failure in the system, and that was using radio system.

Councilman Cathey asked if the Dry-Chem would destroy the electronics when used to put fire out. Chief Wetzel deferred to Fire/EMS Chief King who stated that yes the Dry-Chem would destroy the technology. Councilman Sandoval asked whether the EOC could be used for serious events such as the Zombie apocalypse. Chief Wetzel stated that the EOC would still be in the County building and the PSOC would serve a role but not be the place where people would go for aid.

Councilman Bertoglio asked where employees would enter. Chief Wetzel stated that they would enter in the north side of the building and it would take a few swipes to enter.

Mr. Patterson then thanked Lt. Freel for his hard work on this, as it was assigned to him by Chief Walsh. He also thanked Chief Wetzel for getting up to speed with this so that he could do the presentation.

Mayor Meyer then asked City Manager Patterson to tee up the next item. Mr. Patterson invited Chief King of the Fire/EMS Department to discuss the 2013 Casper Fire /EMS Annual Report.

Chief King began by discussing the SWOT analysis which was done. Chief stated the most important thing any Fire Department can do to modernize is reduce calls. This is achieved through risk reduction activities. Chief King then discussed one of the City's programs which was voted #2 in half the nation. This program is the life jacket program the Fire/EMS does, where citizens can check out a life jacket for free and bring it back to a drop off. He then discussed the drowning deaths.

Chief then stated that 2013 was the busiest that the Fire Department has ever seen. He then explained that Casper Fire has a total response time of 4 minutes and 53 seconds.

Chief then discussed the technology which strengthens the Fire/EMS Department.

Chief King then explained that the EMS services were seen as strengths in the SWOT analysis.

Mayor Meyer then moved onto the discussion of Ambulances for Fire Stations. Mr. Patterson asked Chief King to explain this item as well. Chief explained we would lease space to Wyoming Medical Center so they could run their ambulances out of fire stations. The first will be at Fire Station 2, for \$1000.00 a month. Mr. Patterson said this is excellent work as it will help.

Chief King then suggested Council take a break for a treat in the lobby, where the Drums and Bugle Corps would play for the Council.

Chief King then went into the discussion on the Proposed Changes to the Casper Municipal Code Regarding Residential Fire Alarms. Mr. Patterson stated that the City would be bringing an ordinance to Council and that the ordinance would basically ensure that resident keep their alarm systems up to date and do checks to reduce the number of false alarms. Chief King stated that we need to build something into the ordinance that would allow the Fire/EMS Department to say that after having so many false alarms Fire would not have to respond.

Councilman Cathey asked whether residents would have to obtain a permit in order to install an alarm system into their home. Chief King stated that would be addressed when it went to a formal Council meeting. Lt. Freel stated that any alarm you put in would require a permit from the Police Department and there is a \$10.00/year fee.

Councilman Hedquist asked to be excused from the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Mayor Meyer informed Council that John Masterson would represent Council and the City of Casper in the Federal Lawsuit.

At this point Council went around the table. Councilman Sandoval had nothing to report. Councilman Bertoglio stated that he has a CAEDA meeting on Thursday. Councilman

Goodenough went to the Drug Court meeting, but did not have a lot to report from this meeting. He stated next month the meeting would be at the Drug Court and so he would have more information at that time. Councilman Hopkins has an Amoco Joint Powers Board meeting this week. Councilman Hopkins asked whether the City had looked into a salt reuse policy. He discussed a design that would be multi-use where there would be a drain system to recover salty water and then this water could be recycled so the City could re-use the salt. Councilman Cathey has nothing to report. Mayor Meyer stated he had nothing to report.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.