

COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Tuesday, February 10, 4:30 p.m.
Casper City Hall
Council Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. Oil & Gas Updates by BLM
2. Proposed Amendment to Annual Action Plan – HUD
3. Natrona County Health Department Overview and Budget Review
4. New YMCA Building
5. Presentation on Financial Report
6. Future Agenda Review

COUNCIL WORK SESSION – February 10, 2015

Mayor Powell called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmen Cathey, Hopkins, Johnson, Mundell, Pacheco, Sandoval, Schlager and Mayor Powell. Councilmen Hedquist and Hopkins were absent.

The first item on the agenda was Oil & Gas Update information provided by Stephanie Connolly, High Plains District Manager, BLM. February 19th will be a workshop to moving forward with the project. Over 400 letters have been sent to residents inviting them to this workshop. She addressed questions of City Manager Patterson and Council.

Liz Becher, Community Development Director, requested Council's direction on proposed amendments to the FY 2013/2014 and FY 2014/2015 Annual Action Plans, for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, and authorization of the submission of the same to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Staff proposes to re-allocate this funding to the abatement and demolition of two (2) severely blighted properties in low-income census tracts and to support the build-out of additional housing units at Life Steps Campus. Staff is requesting Council consider establishing a public hearing for early March to approve the suggestions presented.

Councilman Mundell requested clarification on future planning of Life Steps and has concern of the additional restroom facilities. Liz Becher indicated this is exactly the reason for wanting to redirect HUD monies as there are many opportunities for buildings "E" and "F". For instance, projects would include an additional 15 units, upgrades to gutters, and ADA upgrades. Building "D", siding and preservation upgrades have already occurred. Liz Becher invites Council to tour the facility upgrades and discuss future planning.

Next on the agenda, Kelly Weidenbach, DrPH, MPH, Executive Director, City of Casper-Natrona County Health Department (NCHD), provided an introduction to the department's programs and services and an overview of the current fiscal year's budget. There is no specific request at this time; however, NCHD hopes that the City will consider a funding increase for the health department, especially if the supplemental budget request via state legislature falls through. The health department's FY16 budget is currently being drafted and will be submitted

to the City Manager by March 6, 2015. Mayor Powell shared with new Councilmembers, the historical involvement of contributions by the City. Dr. Weidenbach addressed questions from Council and offered details on the community impact of the services offered by NCHD.

Brent Kleinjan, CEO of the Casper Family YMCA, presented a proposed building project set to begin construction in the Summer of 2015. Details of the project and design were presented to Council. Additional information regarding programs and services the YMCA provides that make this project essential to the Casper community was also presented. YMCA requested funding from 1% funds to assist in the building and public improvements of this project.

Peter Wold, YMCA Campaign Co-Chair welcomed Council for a tour. Mr. Wold indicated the facility is presently not ADA compliant and is not ready for the future needs of Casper's citizens. The Board of Trustees has been established for fundraising efforts to benefit the two phases of growth and improvement to the facility. The YMCA is currently over 70% of their private campaign fundraising goal with the possibility of at least two additional large donors contributing to this part of the campaign. Tom Brauer President, CEPI presented site plans for the facility and discussed the urgency of the project start date (during warmer weather). Councilman Sandoval complimented the use of local companies for the project.

Susie McMurry, Campaign Co-Chair indicated this is a great community project. Ms. McMurry respectfully requested from Council consideration of funding for a total of \$2 million dollars to assist with the project. Tom Brauer addressed City Manager Patterson's inquiry on the cost of the split between the capital infrastructure portions that need to be performed on city roads/utility, to be around \$1.6-\$1.8 million dollars (included in the \$2 million dollar request). Councilman Mundell thanked the board for their efforts on this project. Susie McMurry addressed Council's inquiry that the remaining funding will come from the community.

Mayor Powell called for discussion on the YMCA funding request. Councilman Cathey felt the roads and utility portions of the project are obligations of the city to facilitate. Mayor Powell appreciates the community support of health the Casper Recreation Center offers and feels the YMCA has a similar mission and would accommodate the additional needs of the community. Due to the urgency of this project, Council voted unanimously thumbs up to proceed with the \$2 million dollar request with 1% unallocated funding. Councilman Cathey voted thumbs up with a caveat requesting a breakout of costs for water relocation, traffic light, and retaining wall construction. Tom Brauer agreed to present this additional information.

Next, Summary Financial Reports were presented to Council by Assist City Manager and City Clerk, V.H. McDonald. These reports are produced monthly and provided to Council on a quarterly basis. Keeping an eye on sales tax, figures are down from last year. Mr. McDonald addressed Council questions. Council thanked Assistance City Manager McDonald for the presentation.

Council then reviewed future agenda review. City Manager Patterson shared detail with new council on the budget amendment process.

Mayor Powell inquired to Council regarding request to allow for a late application for 1%#15 funding for consideration. Randy Hein personally called City Manager Patterson to apologize for the delay in the request to assist the Elks with funding for ADA access. Council approved the late submission to be allowed for consideration.

The town of Ten Sleep may be interested in an old fire engine the City of Casper has available. Councilman Cathey suggested loaning the fire engine for a few months to Ten Sleep prior to putting out for bid. Council agreed unanimously.

Councilmen Cathey, Johnson, Mundell, Pacheco, Sandoval and Mayor Powell provided brief updates from various board meetings attended and upcoming events of interest. Mayor Powell gave special mention and thank you to Adbay and those involved with the new Casper brand.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING
A Municipal Corporation

V. H. McDonald
City Clerk

Charlie Powell
Mayor