

COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.  
City Hall – Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Council Meeting Follow-up
2. Massage Therapy – Continued Discussion
3. Disability Council Fundraiser
4. Downtown Parking Citation Status Update
5. Agenda Review & Mayor Freel’s Proposed Item
6. Legislative Review
7. Council Around the Table

Mayor Freel called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Bates, Cathey, Freel, Hopkins, Johnson, Lutz, Pacheco, and Powell. Councilmember Huber was absent.

Mayor Freel shared that former Councilmember and Mayor Richard “Dick” Shamley had passed away this weekend. He spoke about his contributions to the community and held a moment of silence in his honor.

Mayor Freel welcomed Casper Youth Council Vice chair, Bryce, to the meeting.

City Manager Napier provided an update on the status of the massage therapy ordinance and deferred to Councilmember Cathey and City Attorney Henley for further information. Councilmember Cathey spoke about the most recent meeting with massage therapists earlier in the day. He indicated that the definition of massage therapist in paragraph C. of 8.04.100 concerned the committee members because it included titles such as massagists, masseuses and masseurs. He also shared that there were concerns with paragraph D. of Section 9.04.240, and whether the grandfathering provision should allow people to either have schooling or take an examination, rather than requiring both. He also said that staff and committee members are generally pleased with the ordinance. Mayor Freel asked about the concern with the definition of massage therapist and the need for the additional titles. Councilmember Cathey said committee members felt the terms weren’t commonly used and may not be necessary. City Attorney Henley indicated that the specifics in the definition would protect the massage therapists and would better make prosecution easier if any dishonest businesses tried to skirt the law. Councilmember Cathey suggested that this explanation would likely be acceptable to the committee.

Councilmember Powell asked if the licensing was going to be issued to individuals or by business. City Attorney Henley indicated that business would be licensed for businesses affecting public health and that individuals would be receive a permit. Councilmember Powell asked if the ordinance would address prostitution. Councilmember Cathey shared that a separate ordinance would need to be considered to deal with prostitution and City Attorney Henley confirmed that another ordinance was being drafted. Councilmember Powell asked additional questions about the satisfaction level of the committee and Councilmember Cathey clarified.

Councilmember Hopkins shared his concerns with the grandfathering section of the ordinance. Mayor Freel agreed but also asked if the requirements would be minimized if the grandfathering clause was too liberal. Councilmember Hopkins asked how changing the first paragraph of section D would impact items 1-5 after it. Councilmembers discussed what the results would be of using or, rather than and, pertaining to the schooling and testing requirements.

City Manager Napier said that staff could bring this forward for a public hearing and City Attorney Henley clarified that a public hearing date would need to be established. Councilmembers provided a thumbs up.

Lieutenant Dabney described the process used by staff to cite parking infractions and spoke about the evaluation and trial of different equipment to increase the accuracy and efficiency of the process. He stated that the primary programs being considered were Brazos, Vigilant, and Genetec. He addressed the pros and cons of these systems. Councilmembers asked about the systems and other potential uses of the software, which Lt. Dabney addressed. Councilmember Bates asked about contested tickets and both Lt. Dabney and City Manager Napier indicated that while there may be some issues, the citation complaints have been dramatically reduced.

Zulima Lopez, Risk Manager, indicated that the two members of the Casper's Council of People with Disabilities (CCPD) scheduled to speak this evening were currently not available to address Council. Ms. Lopez described the proposed fundraiser suggested by the CCPD, which would involve local businesses selling a "Heros of COVID-19" calendar. She provided details about the design and purpose of the calendar and shared that the group was looking to use the generated funds to educate committee members, to provide recreational opportunities much like a Make A Wish program, or to provide transportation vouchers or tokens to community members. Councilmember Cathey asked about the 501(c)(3) status of the group and why Council is being consulted on this matter. Ms. Lopez indicated that the group is not currently a 501(c)(3) entity. City Manager Napier shared that the group may consider changing their status later, but that donations to the City or its entity may still be a donation that can be written off. He also shared that because the group works on the City's and Council's behalf, and they would be selling the calendars under the City's name in a quasi-manner, it was important that Council be made aware of the fundraising.

Councilmember Powell asked about the status of the transportation survey that had been distributed with the water bills. Ms. Lopez stated that a subcommittee was reviewing them, and would be identifying recommendations that could improve transportation for those with disabilities. Mayor Freel asked if staff needed direction at this time. City Manager Napier indicated that nothing was needed at this time. Later in the meeting, City Manager Napier introduced Austin Berlin, Chairman of the CCPD, to discuss their work and answer any additional questions. She thanked Council for their time and efforts to support the CCPD.

Next, Council reviewed the agendas for upcoming regular Council meetings and work sessions. Mayor Freel indicated that he has a proposed item involving contract review regarding the poor performance of contractors. He shared that at least two large projects seem to be surpassing the timeframe for completion, so he had asked staff about the process involved in assessing liquidated damages. He stated that he would like to give staff time to prepare information on project completion, liquidated damages, seasonal shutdowns, and extensions. He shared that the two projects he has questions about are the Platte River Revival and the Ice Arena, and he would

request that staff come before Council to address these concerns. Councilmember Cathey shared his knowledge of how the State of Wyoming manages their list of qualified bidders and asked if Council may want to consider this type of process. Councilmember Hopkins asked that change orders also be discussed when this topic is brought forward. Mayor Freel asked that a presentation on permit requirements be added to a work session agenda. Councilmembers discussed the importance of obtaining building permits. Councilmember Bates asked if information could be provided to Council regarding prohibiting vertical metal siding on residential homes. City Manager Napier responded that this information will be provided in the Info Packet this week, and further discussion can be added to a work session agenda if necessary. Mayor Freel also asked that strategic planning be added to the upcoming agenda items for 2021.

Next, Council went around the table to discuss their respective board and committee meetings and share ideas and concerns related to public matters of interest. Councilmember Powell emphasized the importance of wearing masks amid the coronavirus pandemic, and stated that he will not attend any public meetings where masks are not mandatory. The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING  
A Municipal Corporation

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Fleur Tremel  
City Clerk

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Steven K. Freel  
Mayor