

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Council Pre-Meeting

November 5, 2013

6:00 p.m.

A Pre-Meeting of the City Council of the City of Gillette, County of Campbell, State of Wyoming, was held on Tuesday the 5th day of November 2013, in the third floor conference room of City Hall, pursuant to due notice and call. The Presiding Officer called the meeting to order and upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Council Members present: Forrest Rothleutner, Louise Carter-King, Robin Kuntz, Ted Jerred, Kevin McGrath, and Council President Opseth.

Council Member absent: Mayor Tom Murphy.

Staff present: J. Carter Napier, City Administrator; Charlie Anderson, City Attorney; Pam Boger, Administrative Services Director; Kendall Glover, Utilities Director; Dustin Hamilton, Development Services Director; Jim Hloucal, Chief of Police; Tom Pitlick, Finance Director; Michael Surface, Senior Planner; Wayne Lindgren, Utilities System Analyst; Dan Bridges, Lead Controls Engineer; Mike Porter, Network Administrator; Christy Schomer, Grants Specialist; Joe Lunne, Public Information Officer; Patti Davidsmeier, Community & Gov't Relations Manager; and Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk.

### Warm Up Items

Councilman Kuntz reported a letter received from Conoco Phillips and stated that a good gesture would be to have the Mayor send a reply.

### Regional Fiber Optic Alternative Study Discussion

City Administrator Napier explained that Items 2 and 3 on the Agenda would be captured together in the same discussion. At the recent NEWY Meeting, there were several presentations concerning fiber technology. During the meeting, it was expressed by a few Council Members that the presentations were confusing and requested the topic of fiber technology be placed on an agenda for discussion to better understand the context. Network Administrator Porter gave a brief demonstration of how fiber technology works and the need for a data center to be located in the Gillette area. Mr. Napier then touched on projects that are on the horizon. The City is well connected as far as government buildings go. However, in order to increase bandwidth, and obtain opportunities from backhauls, the City needs to better understand how to incentivize and pull the private sector into service provision opportunities. What staff is proposing is to put together a study that is funded through the Business Council; CCEDC has agreed to provide the match that would be necessary to approach the Business Council for those funds necessary for the study that will help improve the services available, hopefully, from the private sector, to our local businesses and possibly the residences at some point. The match is approximately \$35,000, with the total package approaching \$80,000, if the full request is received from the Business Council. Mr. Napier went on to say that last week, the Governor unveiled, what he calls, the Unified Network Project; and in his estimation the State is trying to connect all of the State facilities, as well as the college's, so they can enjoy the benefits that the City of Gillette does locally with the connectivity that our facilities

have. City Administrator Napier informed Council of a Resolution approved by the City of Sheridan regarding support of the Governor's Unified Network Project, and encouraged Council to support the upcoming Resolution for Phase I and II that will be proposed at the November 19th meeting. Utilities Director Glover gave an update on the Broadband Summit he had attended in Cheyenne. He informed Council of discussion concerning the novelty that Wyoming has to offer and to the attractiveness of future expansion from a Data Center's stand point. Mr. Napier then spoke of a third project coming forward, which is working with the cities that are underserved with that type of backhaul access to put together design options that will get the eastern part of the State connected back into some of the other information hubs such as Billings and Rapid City.

#### Agenda Item Review

The group discussed the upcoming agenda items for November 5, 2013.

#### Executive Session

It was moved by Councilwoman Carter-King and seconded by Councilman Rothleutner to move into an Executive Session regarding personnel. Roll was called on the motion with the following results. Council Members voting aye: Carter-King, Kuntz, Jerred, McGrath, Rothleutner, and Council President Opseth. The Presiding Officer declared the motion carried.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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Tom Murphy, Mayor

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ATTEST:

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Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk  
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