

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Special Meeting

July 8, 2014

6:00 p.m.

A Work Session meeting of the City Council of the City of Gillette, County of Campbell, State of Wyoming, was held on Tuesday the 8th day of July 2014, in the 2nd floor Community Room at 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, Tim Carsrud, Louise Carter-King, Ted Jerred, Robin Kuntz, Kevin McGrath, and Mayor John Opseth.

Staff present: Kendall Glover, Acting City Administrator; Charlie Anderson, City Attorney; Pam Boger, Administrative Services Director; Dustin Hamilton, Director of Community Development; Jim Hloucal, Chief of Police; Tom Pitlick, Finance Director; Joe Lunne, Public Information Officer; Patti Davidsmeier, Community & Gov't Relations Manager; and Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk.

### Green Bridge Project Tour

City Council Members, Members of Campbell County Economic Development, Acting City Administrator Glover, City Attorney Anderson, Public Information Officer Lunne, and Community & Gov't Relations Manager Davidsmeier attended a tour of the Green Bridge Project. Jim Ford gave a presentation during the tour.

The meeting reconvened in the second floor Community Room at 7:04 p.m.

### Warm Up Items

Mayor Opseth asked for warm up items. Councilman McGrath inquired about political signage. He stated that a County employee, who is married to a City employee, asked him to place one of his political signs in their yard. The City employee stated that they were directed by their supervisor that they cannot place political signage in their yard. Councilman McGrath disagrees with the City Employee's Handbook in regard to this issue as it was the County employee who requested the sign. Councilman McGrath feels this is freedom of speech. Acting City Administrator Glover stated that the Senior Leadership Group discussed what active campaigning means and during the discussion, yard signs were discussed. The SLT Group decided that yard signs displayed in a City employee's yard could be seen as actively campaigning. City Attorney Anderson explained the Hatch Act. Mr. Anderson went on to say that these laws are intended to provide protection for a municipal employee more than they are intended to limit their freedom of speech. After further discussion, Mayor Opseth suggested to wait until City Administrator Napier returned and continue this discussion then. Until then, the City employee will need to comply with the City Employee Handbook.

Councilman Kuntz asked the Council to re-think the crosswalk at Frontier Avenue due to the opening of the new skate park. He stated that he has seen children crossing 4-J Road to get to the skate park and is concerned for their safety. He then brought to Council's attention a Zip Line that was placed at Sage Bluff's Park and feels this was a great idea. He reported that the sidewalk on Oakcrest Drive is broken.

## Action Item

### ORDINANCE 3830

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 17-60 OF THE GILLETTE CITY CODE CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCOUNTED UTILITY SERVICE FOR INCOME ELIGIBLE SENIORS AND DISABLED PERSONS

It was moved by Councilwoman Carter-King and seconded by Councilman Rothleutner to approve the foregoing Ordinance on third and final reading. Mayor Opseth asked for discussion. There was none. Roll was called on the motion with the following results. Council Members voting aye: Carsrud, Carter-King, Jerred, Kuntz, McGrath, Rothleutner, and Mayor Opseth. The Presiding Officer declared the motion carried.

## Action Item

### RESOLUTION 2473

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING UNDER THE WYOMING TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM, (TAP) PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

It was moved by Councilwoman Carter-King and seconded by Councilman McGrath to approve the foregoing Resolution authorizing the filing of an application for funding under the Wyoming Transportation Alternatives Program, (TAP) Program, administered by the Wyoming Department of Transportation. Mayor Opseth asked for an explanation of the request. Director of Development Services Hamilton explained that the first phase consisted of rapid flash beacons at all of the school crossings. This grant application is for the next round of funding, which will finish that project. Staff is estimating that \$167,000 remains to finish up an additional six locations. If awarded, and with the City's 20% match, it would cost the City approximately \$33,400 to complete the signal component of the Safe Routes to School Project.

## Boys' and Girls' Club Exterior Lock Funding Discussion

Administrative Services Director Boger informed Council that the City of Gillette will be taking ownership of the old Lakeview School at the end of July. The exterior locks of the building belong to the School District and they want to take the locks. There are 31 doors on the perimeter of the building, along with two additional buildings, that will need to be secured. Staff's estimate of the cost for replacing the exterior locks is between \$8,000 and \$10,000. Ms. Boger also wanted Council to be aware that the money was not included in this year's budget. However, the funding could come from the Facilities Maintenance budget and, if needed, an amendment could be done at a later date. Karla Brandenburg and Wes Armstead explained that all interior locks will also need to be changed, however, they understand this is not the responsibility of the City of Gillette. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to provide the funding and directed staff to move forward.

## Annexation Update

Acting City Administrator Glover and Director of Development Services Hamilton gave an update on the annexation of the Southern Industrial Addition Annexation. City Attorney Anderson stated that there are annexation agreements in place with most of the property in the annexation area. A data base has been

developed to include the property owners. A letter was sent to the property owners, reminding them that they had signed an annexation agreement and within the agreement, they agreed to sign a petition if the City asked them to do so. Mr. Anderson reported that there has been a terrific response with approximately 45% of the property owners returning petitions. Once the petitions have been received and approved by the City Clerk, a date can be set for the public hearing.

#### Review July 15th Agenda Items

The group discussed the agenda items for the upcoming July 15th meeting.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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John Opseth, Mayor

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

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Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk

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