

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Work Session

February 10, 2015

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 10th day of February 2015, 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: Tim Carsrud, Ted Jerred, Robin Kuntz, Kevin McGrath, Forrest Rothleutner, Dan Barks, and Mayor Louise Carter-King.

Staff present: J. Carter Napier, City Administrator; Charlie Anderson, City Attorney; Pamela L. Boger, Administrative Services Director; Patrick Davidson, Assistant City Attorney; Kendall Glover, Utilities Director; Dustin Hamilton, Director of Development Services; Tom Pitlick, Finance Director; Sawley Wilde, Public Works Director; Wayne Lindgren, Utility System Analyst; Dan Bridges, Lead Control Engineer; Heath VonEye, City Engineer; Brent Wasson, Lieutenant; Diane Monahan, Water Services Manager; Ry Muzzarelli, Electrician; Joe Lunne, Public Information Officer; Patti Davidsmeier, Community & Gov't Relations Manager; and Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk.

### Warm Up Items

Councilman Kuntz asked if the reverse osmosis unit is going to be used on an emergency basis, or will it be used on a daily basis. Councilman Kuntz also asked for an update on the progress of the Madison pipeline project. Utilities Director Glover reported that the reverse osmosis unit was intended to be used on a daily basis. This will allow for control of the fluoride levels. Project Manager Jensen gave an update on the progress of the Madison pipeline project. He gave an update on the various contracts, and the progress of the interconnections. He explained that liquidated damages would be imposed if the work is not completed on time.

Councilman Barks reported that he met with the Public Works Director Wilde, Sustainability Coordinator Foote, and Public Works Operation Manager Clark and asked to be an advocate for street cleaning, trash pickup, etc. He would like to work with staff to develop processes for improvement.

### Taxi Cab Ordinance

Assistant City Attorney Davidson explained the proposed DRAFT Ordinance regarding public transportation. He then explained the proposed changes that included the application process, issuing driver permits and processes, vehicle maintenance, record keeping, and alcohol use in limos. He reported that staff had met with the owners of the taxi and limo companies in January to obtain feedback from them. This DRAFT ordinance is a compilation of staff's input, as well as input from the taxi and limo owner's. Tim Hocum, City Cab, addressed the Council. He stated that he agreed with most of the proposals, however, expressed concerns regarding background checks, record keeping, vehicle inspections, and smoking prohibition. Mr. Davidson clarified the processes of the background checks and added the basis is to allow the Chief of Police, or his designee, a broad ability to determine if anything in one's past would affect them from

obtaining a permit. The background checks are broken into two processes: the first is to determine if there have been any violations with regard to operating a vehicle within the past 10 years. The second process would be a more in-depth background check, allowing the Chief of Police and the City Clerk to make a judgment call. Discussion of section 19.7(C) regarding the prohibition of smoking took place. Several Councilmen voiced their opposition to this section stating that government should not be allowed to regulate whether a business owner chooses to smoke in his business. Representatives of the Substance Abuse Coalition stated that this section was included in response to feedback the Coalition received from the public. He added that the current conditions of the taxis deter many from using them. The Coalition's primary motivation is to increase the use of the taxis because it does assist with public safety. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to remove Section 19.7(C). Discussion of record keeping and the importance of this process, as well as inspection of the vehicle upon completion of each trip, took place. After some discussion, Council directed staff to change the verbiage of "each trip" to "each shift" in section 19.7(B).

### Annual Report

Public Information Officer Lunne presented a DRAFT version of the Annual Report to Council. He reported on each Department's accomplishments and the progresses of the City in 2014. Councilman Barks thought this was excellent public relations information and asked how the information would be delivered to the public. Mr. Lunne stated the best way to distribute the information is on the City's website, the media, and print approximately 3,000 - 4,000 copies to be distributed to various locations around the community.

### Utility Rate Setting Discussion

City Administrator Napier presented information to the Council regarding the Enterprise funds and the proposed rate increases for selected Enterprise funds. After the explanation of each Enterprise fund, rate adjustments, and subsidy scenario's, Mr. Napier reported that staff is recommending a 6% increase to electric rates and a 10% increase to sewer rates. Discussion of using 1% funds for the electric fund took place. Councilman Kuntz stated that the Citizen Survey shows that the public is in favor of using 1% funds for infrastructure.

### Review February 17th Council Agenda

The group discussed the upcoming agenda items for February 17th. Councilman McGrath asked about Item 5 regarding a Resolution to adopt the third amendment to the City of Gillette Retiree Health Benefit Plan and Trust. City Administrator Napier explained the amendment. Councilman McGrath asked about the insurance fund for qualified retirees. He reported that there is no money in the account of an employee who recently retired from the City. He asked that staff look into this. Councilman Barks asked for an explanation of Item 1 and Item 11. Electrician Muzzarelli explained this agreement would allow the City to purchase power from Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) directly. City Administrator Napier explained Item 1. He stated that this is Council's opportunity to consider the renewal of all the liquor licenses for the upcoming licensing period. Councilman Jerred asked for an update with regards to the bar & grill liquor license issued to Fiesta Tequila Mexican Restaurant and the

remodeling efforts for the licensee's new location. City Clerk Abelseth explained that, unfortunately, remodeling efforts are put on hold due to unforeseen circumstances. Therefore, the licensee has requested the Council allow 90 days to possibly secure other financial means. After further discussion, Council asked that the licensee attend the Pre-Meeting on February 17th in order to update the Council on the licensee's intentions.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Special meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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Mayor Louise Carter-King

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ATTEST:

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Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk  
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